"Entrée Alpine" Panoramic Structure

ALICE (Atelier de la conception de l'espace) / Designed by EPFL Students

Location: Zermatt, Switzerland
Completion: 2009
Client: The Zermatt Festival and Zermatt Tourismus
Architects: Dieter Dietz (Professor), Katia Ritz, Daniel Pokora, Olivier Ottevaere
Type of use: Public
Photos: Joel Tettamanti

Evolver is an inhabitable sculpture erected for the Zermatt Festival. As an architectural artifact "Entrée Alpine" Panoramic Structure intervenes spatially on the panorama surrounding Zermatt and was designed and executed by a team of second-year architecture students from the ALICE studio at EPFL in Lausanne, Switzerland. Located on the edge of Lake Stelli, the structure enables visitors to engage with and observe the panoramic landscape in a new and responsive manner. Composed of 24 wooden frames that serve as the structural spine of the project, the design encases a continuous 360-degree pathway. An uninterrupted sit travels along the tubular path, providing a framed view of the site which changes according to the visitor's vantage point. Open wooden slats render the structure completely exposed to the elements.