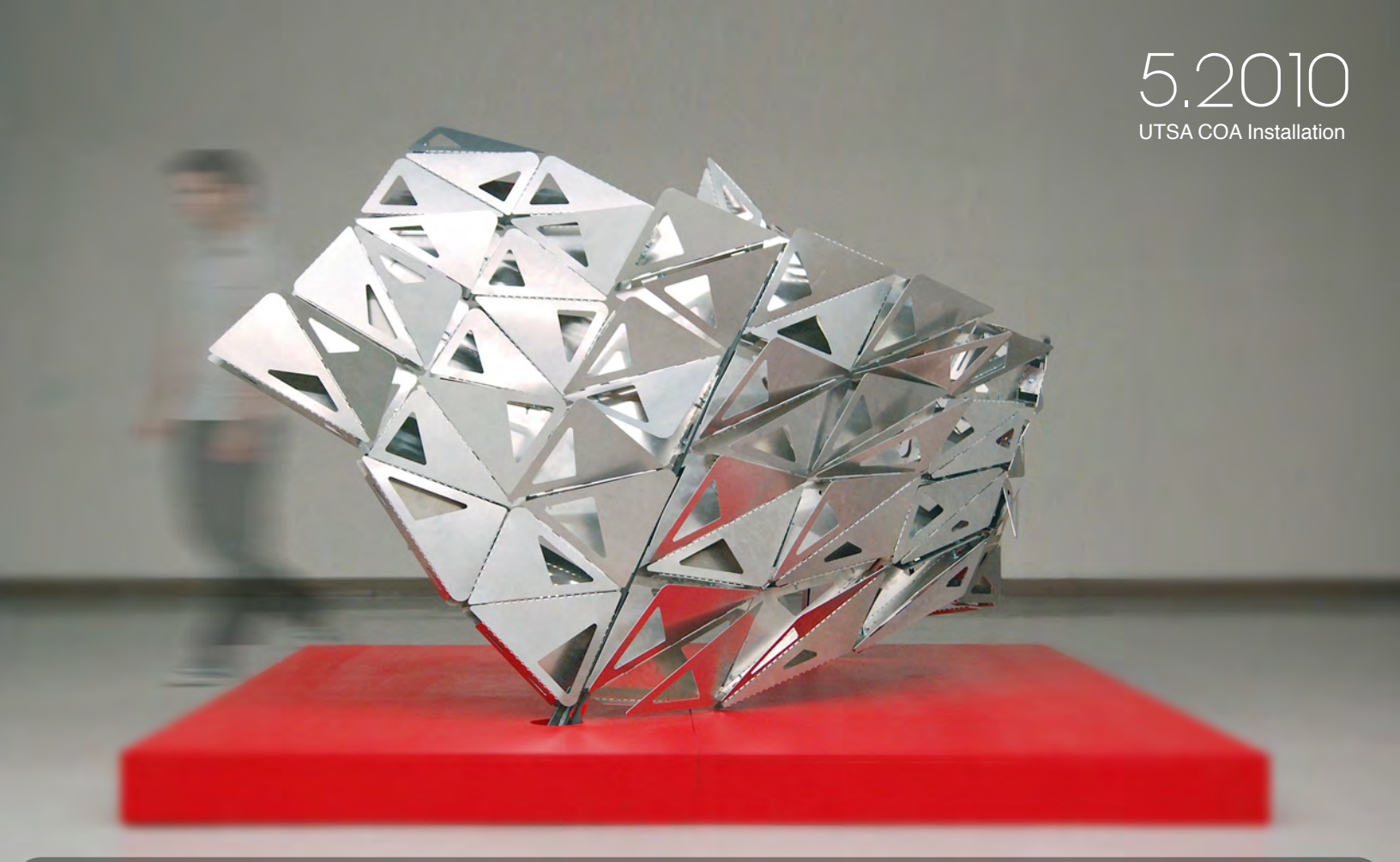
5.2010

UTSA COA Installation



Embrace

Performative Connections Research Studio

The process of building is primarily defined by assembly methods, how different elements in an overall composition come together to form a cohesive, if delineated, whole. The contemporary connection it may be argued is more nuanced and critical as assemblies become more complex and varied throughout any one construction. Oftentimes they are required to be performative, thus not merely being fixed, but adaptable and in a sense malleable.

It is our argument that the overall success of any assembly is the degree to which the connection forms a successful performative and aesthetic bond between elements. To that end we propose that all architecture at its core is a process of assembly, connections. Embrace is a project which encapsulates this idea. Made from 88 individual parts, laser cut and folded into 440 sides, attached so to form a screen, Embrace explores continuous differentiation through such a performative connection.

Studio Critics

Armando Araiza
Kevin Patrick McClellan

Industry Support

James Hetherington,
Artist/ Sculptor

Steve Jones/ Chris Jones,
Rivercity Industries, Inc.

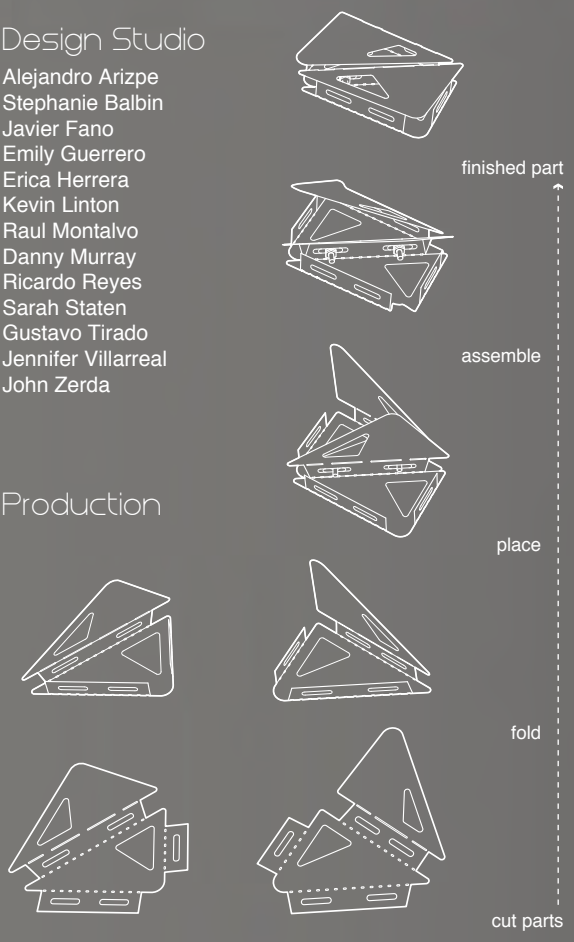
James Burkes, Phd
SwRI

James LeFlore,
Public Art San Antonio

Design Studio

Alejandro Arizpe
Stephanie Balbin
Javier Fano
Emily Guerrero
Erica Herrera
Kevin Linton
Raul Montalvo
Danny Murray
Ricardo Reyes
Sarah Staten
Gustavo Tirado
Jennifer Villarreal
John Zerda

* Production



Materials + Process

4 Sheets of 4’ x 12’ - 16 gauge (5250) Aluminum, laser cut into 88 individual parts, folded-up into 440 sides then paired into 44 units, assembled with 234 bolts + 468 washers + 234 nuts in 5 days. Designed and completed by Senior Topic Studio members in 3.5 weeks, with 7 cycles of design opimization in 1/16” cardboard and finally aluminum. Software: McNeel Rhinoceros 4.0 + Paneling Tools with AutoCAD 2010 across Mac and PC platforms.