

## **Coloured reflections: Wrapping and framing savage nature**

International Garden Festival - Reford Gardens, Grand Métis, Québec  
Hal Ingberg, architecte

For the fourth annual International Garden Festival (2003) at the Reford Gardens, a forested section of the gardens was wrapped in an equilateral triangle (20ft x 20ft x 20ft) of richly coloured semi-reflective glass – capturing three pre-existing birch trees within its confines. The form and limited dimensions of the wrapper created a sense of intimate, courtyard-like enclosure that both framed and intensified the perception of the forest. From within the enclosure, the colour of the glass established a sense of spatial definition, while its semi-reflective surface created surprising perceptual readings. This is because of the 60 degree angle of glass corner intersections, the always changing conditions of daylight and seasons as well as the position of trees within and outside the enclosure.

From outside the enclosure, the installation had a rather anomalous object quality, insofar as its form was physically understood, all the while reflecting its context of trees and visitors off of itself. It also acted as a receptor for the intensely figural shadows cast by the trees.