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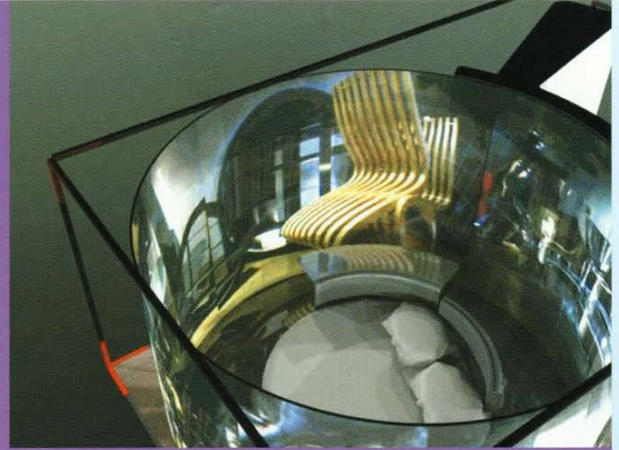
ARTICLE ABOUT RON ARAD INSTALLATION  
AT HOTEL GRAND SALONE, MILAN

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### LET THERE BE LIGHT SURGEONS

The Light Surgeons, ever determined to ignore the rules of how films should be made and shown, has created an unusual piece for a Ron Arad installation at Hotel Grand Salone, an offshoot of the Milan Furniture Fair, which saw 10 designers create thematic hotel rooms on the city of their choice. The central idea for Arad's round room, inspired by Mexico City, was a totally immersing, 360 degree projection - enter The Light Surgeons.

Chris Allen freely admits that the project very nearly fried his brain, but the results are hugely inspiring. "The main thing for us was developing the camera rig," he says. "A friend of mine, Ben Wilson, developed a circular rig with Mike Figgis for the film Hotel, so he developed our rig. We scraped together the equipment and technology to present four films simultaneously in a cylindrical room and shot on four DV cameras. We composited the footage in After Effects, creating long strips four times the width of PAL resolution, then edited simultaneously on four timelines," he explains. "And we sourced an amazing piece of hardware made by Trimension, who create flight simulators, which was developed for producing a flat image on a circular plane." Phew.