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Textiles with Roots in the Rain Forest



By JULIE LASKY Published: November 6, 2013

In 2010, Cristina Grajales Gallery in New York presented a solo exhibition of the work of Hechizoo, a textile studio founded in 2000 in Bogotá by Jorge Lizarazo, an architect-turned-weaver. Hechizoo combines native plant fibers like fique and cumare palm with nylon filament and metals to create iridescent carpets and screens.

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This week, Ms. Grajales will open "Voyages/Explorations," her second show devoted to the company. The voyages Ms. Grajales has in mind are expeditions to the Amazon to observe and collect botanical specimens. When a reporter called, she was busy transforming her gallery into a South American rain forest, but paused to describe some of the elements: decorative canoes that allude to the coca-gathering river forays of the Inga people caught up in Colombia's narcotics trade; delicately engraved copper-, silver- and gold-plated feathers, above; and low stools woven with aluminum and copper, left. "It is drop-dead spectacular," she said. Through Jan. 31. Information: 212-219-9941 or cristinagrajalesinc.com.

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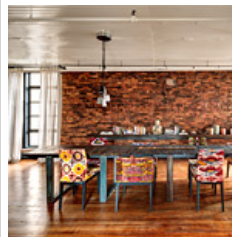
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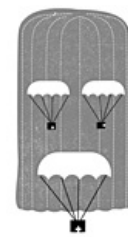
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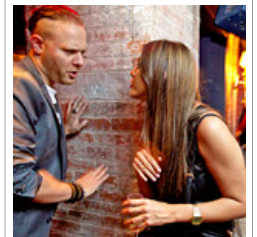
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