



**heavies** Industrial designer Paul Priestman didn't think the Design Indaba publicity images, which featured a drawing of him on a pretend bank note, looked much like him. So he asked us to take this photo so people knew who it was supposed to be.

The image – used on Design Indaba adverts and posters – almost got Paul into trouble. The drawing hailed him as the designer of the new Airbus A380 and Airbus bosses feared he might use his presentation to unveil top-secret plans for the jet's interiors. They threatened to fly down to Cape Town to sit in on his speech.



**moody** Jacques Herzog had been due to speak at this year's Design Indaba. But after having been in line to design Johannesburg's new stadium to host the 2010 World Cup final, Herzog & de Meuron fell out with the South African football authorities and is no longer on the job. So Herzog pulled out of the conference in a huff.

**headgear** More Paul Priestman: Ineke Hans picked out this fetching trilby for him on our trip to the shack districts, to protect his head from the fierce sun. But Paul thought it looked too posey and bought a drab baseball cap instead. Shame!



**cheap** Also in the shack districts, we came across a furniture-maker whose table bore a striking resemblance to Ineke Hans' Ordinary Furniture range – albeit in white-painted wood rather than Hans' black recycled plastic. And less than a tenth of the price!

**extender** French designer Inga Sempé charmed the whole Design Indaba audience with her Amélie-style cuteness. To much laughter, she told the story of how she went looking for giant telescopic radio aerials to cannibalise for the structure of a large extendible light she was designing. Every time she located a potential supplier, she would ask for the biggest aerial they had, and then say she needed something bigger. "They kept saying, you should get a parabolic antenna," she said. "You get a much better reception."



**wind-up** We found someone in the shack districts actually using a wind-up Baygen Freeplay radio! They were designed for Africa but we thought they were only used by middle-class suburban types in their potting sheds.

**slumming** Are Cape Town's shack districts becoming theme parks for Western tourists to assuage their guilty consciences? Our story about Design Indaba last year focused on the discomfort we felt travelling to a city where there was such widespread poverty yet where we were being cooped up in a luxury hotel. So we visited some shack districts and felt a lot better ... But this year we spotted this enormous sign at the entrance to a shack district which appears to brand the entire settlement as a photo opportunity.



Here's another of Ji Lee's Bubble Project images that made us laugh



**dick** We can't do an issue without mentioning Tom Dixon, can we? In his talk at Design Indaba he explained how he no longer owned his name, having sold it, fashion designer-style, to a private investor. "If I decide not to work with these people any more I'll have to call myself Dick Thompson," he said.

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Milan furniture fair | MVRDV