



TIME

An indoor cloud
created by Dutch artist
Bernimont Smilde



THE 25 BEST INVENTIONS OF THE YEAR page 55

1 Indoor Clouds

Weather's silver lining

2 Civilization Starter Kit

Building life's necessities yourself

3 Handy Screwdriver

It's got the motion

4 LiquiGlide

A surface anything will slide off

5 Home HIV Test

Identifies infectious antibodies

6 Solar Water Distiller

Efficient purifier

7 Special Gloves

Sign language

8 TechPet

Pup with a smart-phone face

9 Nike Flyknit Racer

Eco-friendly sneaker

10 Self-Inflating Tires

Grace under pressure

11 Bounce Imaging

High-tech surveillance

12 Body Armor

The right fit

13 Sony RX100

Flawless photography

14 Wingsuit Racing

A sport for batlike humans

15 Google Glass

Augmented reality, in focus

16 MakerBot Replicator 2

A 3-D printer that acts like a factory

17 Baxter

A cheaper industrial robot

18 Tesla Model S

An electric four-door does it all

19 Switchblade Drone

Portable kamikaze

20 Drifting Fish Farm

Mariculture

21 NASA's Z-1 Space Suit

Go-anywhere garb

22 Element 113

Atomic breakthrough

23 The Deepsea Challenger

James Cameron takes a plunge

24 Al Bahar Towers

Abu Dhabi cool

25 Curiosity Rover

Unlocking Mars' mysteries

THE 25 BEST INVENTIONS OF THE YEAR

PRICELESS

EXPENSIVE

INDOOR
CLOUDS

PRICELESS That's not Photoshop. The Dutch artist Berndnaut Smilde has developed a way to create a small, perfect white cloud in the middle of a room. It requires meticulous planning: the temperature, humidity and lighting all have to be just so. Once everything is ready, Smilde summons the cloud out of the air using a fog machine. It lasts only moments, but the effect is dramatic and strangely moving. It evokes both the surrealism of Magritte and the classical beauty of the old masters while reminding us of the ephemerality of art and nature.

Photograph by Cassander Eeftinck Schattenkerk