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CUBAN ARTIST COLLECTIVE LOS CARPINTEROS DESIGNS AN INSTALLATION FOR THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM



Photography courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum, London

When London's Victoria and Albert Museum charged Los Carpinteros with designing a contemporary installation for its new "Europe 1600–1815" galleries, opening to the public in December, the Havana-based artist collective conceived the large-scale, Enlightenment-inspired sculpture The Globe.

Influenced by Jeremy Bentham's 18th-century design for the voyeuristic Panopticon, a building designed so that a single person could observe everyone within it, Los Carpinteros created an immersive wood dome that offers a spot for visitors to rest and contemplate the surrounding historic artworks. Because the construction can accommodate up to 30 people, it will also be used by the museum as a site for talks and intimate salons. This is the collective's first major project for a London institution.