THE PHAIDON ATLAS OF 21ST CENTURY WORLD ARCHITECTURE

TRAVEL EDITION

PHAIDON
North America

Victor Cañas

Portas Novas House
Playa Ocotal, CR
0991  □ RES 2005

Perched on the side of a mountain spine parallel to the northeast Costa Rican coastline, this house enjoys views of islands, forest and ocean. The driveway’s pebbled surface continues inside, with slatted wooden bridges linking sections of accommodation. A curved pool’s surface, level with a polished stone patio, appears to merge with the ocean.

Benjamin García Saxe

A Forest for a Moon Dazzler
Playa Avellanas, Guanacaste, CR
0992  □ RES 2010

This house, comprising a kitchen and bedroom separated by an outdoor courtyard, is made of simple materials: locally sourced wood and bamboo, concrete, galvanised steel and a corrugated roof with noncorrosive white paint. The perimeter walls are actually screens made from circular cuts of bamboo that naturally ventilate the house.

Bruno Stagno Arquitecto y Asociados

Pergola Office Building
Radial San Antonio de Belén, 11208 Santa Ana, CR
0993  □ GOM 2004

These offices have planted vertical pergolas attached to each side of the concrete-frame structure, interrupted by the entrance and top-floor balcony. On three levels, the floor plan consists of nine 3 x 3 m (9.8 x 9.8 ft) squares. A glazed curtain wall has opening windows at desk level.