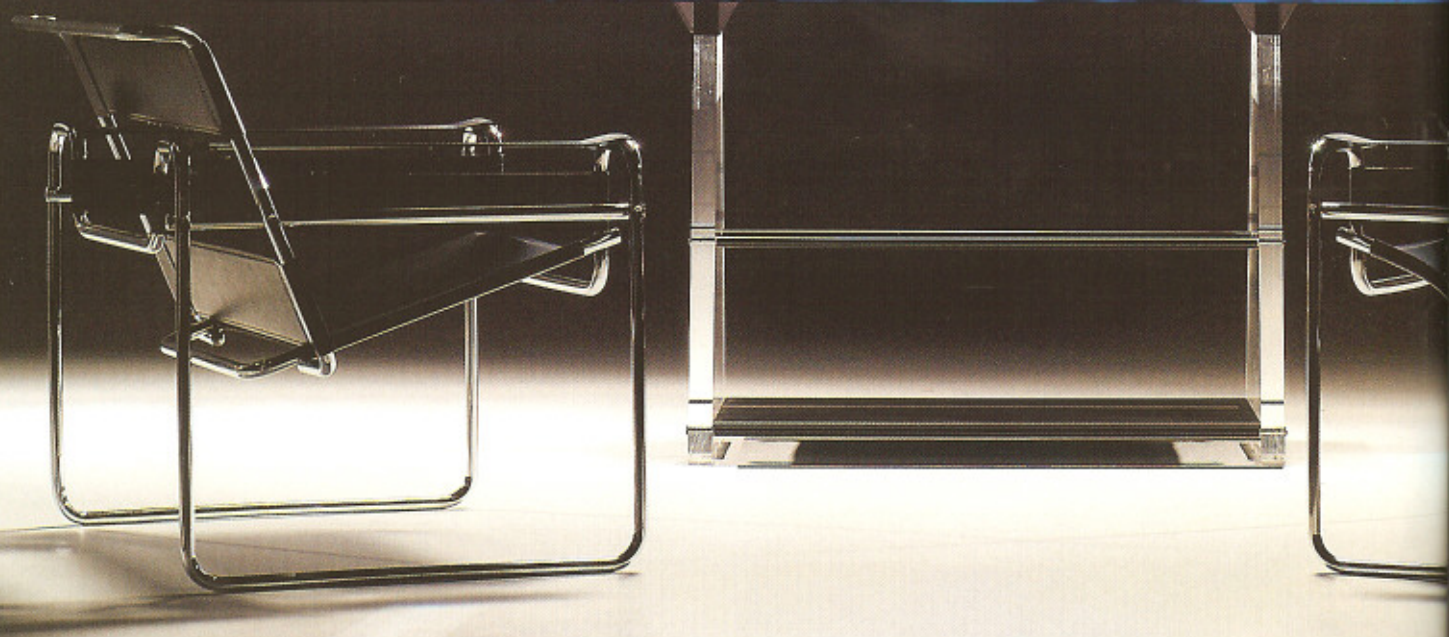
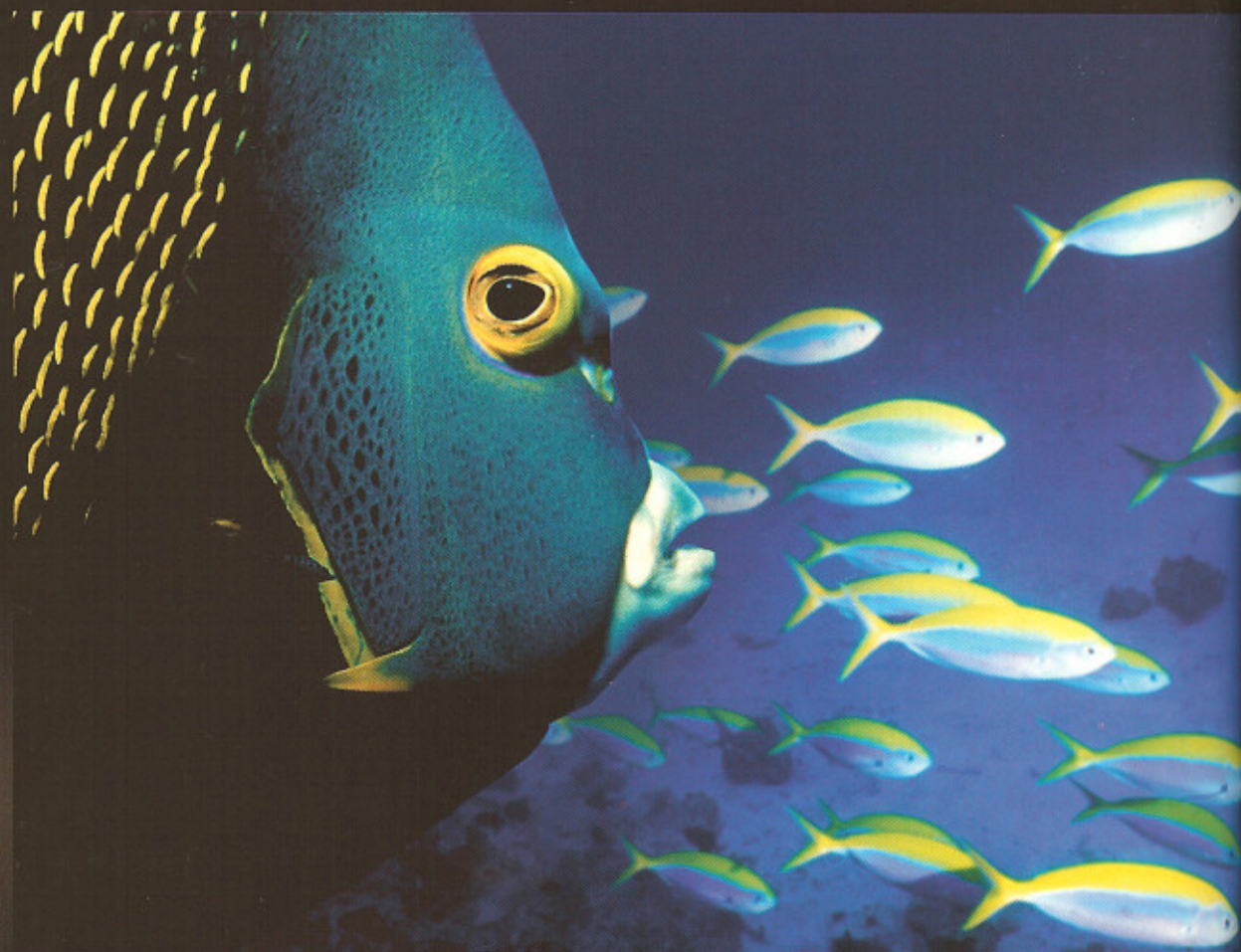


# An Ocean of Possibilities





## HOME TECHNOLOGY

- > With a Nippura high-definition rear-projector screen, your home can become a living painting in motion



**LAST FALL, NIPPURA**, the Japanese producer of the world's largest acrylic aquariums—including the ones that will be featured in the \$1.1 billion Atlantis Resort in Dubai—began shipping its 72-, 84- and 100-inch high-definition rear-projection screens to select distributors across the county. Blue Ocean—a 1.5-inch-thick wall of transparent acrylic priced between \$6,000 and just under \$14,000—is a remarkable adaptation of the technology from which Nippura has built its core business. The company's expertise in producing seamless and almost indestructible cell-cast acrylic panels up to 27 feet in width has created endless possibilities for integrating moving images into the design and decor of homes, both inside and out.

In addition to typical in-home applications, in which one of the three standard-size screens can be mounted at the front of a theater or media room using a traditional rear-projection setup, the company also offers custom screens that can be suspended in the center of a room, used as a literal wall of images to divide expansive loft spaces, or even wrapped around corners for a stunning multimedia effect. Most astonishing, however, is the versatility Blue Ocean brings to the world of outdoor home theater.

"Bringing electronic entertainment into the backyard is the ultimate in home theater diversification," says Tony Vandenberg, president of U.S. Nippura. "The acrylic requires little maintenance and can withstand exposure to the elements, prompting some architects to begin experimenting with integrating Blue Ocean into their structures." One of the most dramatic proposed applications includes a 27-foot screen and an audio and rear-projection system built into the ground alongside an Olympic-size pool. At the touch of a button, the entire system rises up, producing cinematic awe. It is also possible to virtually swim with dolphins, whales or sharks when the panels are assembled within a lap pool and moving sea-life images are projected onto the screens. Even acrylic panels custom-manufactured up to 2 feet thick (for rigidity) will maintain absolute optical clarity.

Due to its unsurpassed resolution capabilities, homeowners will find the initial investment of a Blue Ocean screen, either as an off-the-shelf unit or as the centerpiece of a custom multimedia fantasy, to be highly cost effective. "Our screens can never become obsolete," says Vandenberg. "Other screens use tiny black lines to reflect images. We use microscopic particles."

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