

You hoard magazines, just can't let them go. Problem is, you don't have the room. Enter architect/product designer Aram Lello, a fella who loves a spatial challenge. His latest caper is a sleek, stackable modular display in perspex. [www.aramlello.com](http://www.aramlello.com)



#### BRETT – THE RETURN!

After his stellar performance in our Western issue, we just had to invite camera-slinger Brett Rubin back to shoot this one too. Check out some more of his adventures at [www.brettrubin.com](http://www.brettrubin.com).

inspect these gadgets

### THE MORTAL'S GUIDE TO WOWING YOUR NEIGHBOURS

FORGET WAYNE ENTERPRISES. ANDREAS SPÄTH SAYS FLESH-AND-BLOOD SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS ARE BUSY DEVELOPING REAL-WORLD SUPER ABILITIES

**Invisibility:** Shiny camouflage cloaks covered with myriads of miniscule cameras and projectors may become a reality soon. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory has already published designs for an invisible vehicle.

**X-ray vision:** Want to look through walls? A 'sonic flashlight', invented by George Stetton of Carnegie Mellon University in the US, pressed against the wall and connected to an electronic implant in your retina should do the trick.

**Teleportation:** In 2002, Australian physicist Ping Koy Lam managed to teleport a laser beam across a distance of a metre. Now he simply needs to do the same for the  $10^{27}$  atoms in a human body and Scotty can finally start to beam us all up.

#### Controlling the weather:

Ross Hoffman of Atmospheric and Environmental Research Inc. in the US is working on how to deliver a big enough jolt of energy to a hurricane to throw it off its path. Apparently 'microwave downlinks from satellites' à la Thor's lightning bolts are promising candidates.

#### Breathing under water:

Researchers at Waseda University in Tokyo are developing artificial gills consisting of woven silicon membranes filled with a concentrated haemoglobin solution that promise to allow divers to breathe under water indefinitely.

**Superstrength:** By manipulating the genes of lab rodents, US molecular biologist Se-Jin Lee has created 'Mighty Mice' with 300% increased muscle

mass; and the artificial 'exomuscles' of battle suits being designed by Q-types at MIT's Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies are expected to be 100 times stronger than normal human muscles.

**Wall crawling:** A crack team of Italian scientists and engineers has created a carbon-nanotube adhesive that they claim will allow a person to remain attached to walls and ceilings like Spidey himself.

#### The Cyborg cometh:

Revolutionary cybernetic biotechnology that involves direct nerve-to-computer connections, including electronic implants in the brainstem, cochlea and optic nerve, will one day allow humans to control artificial limbs with their brains and enhance their aural and visual capabilities.



**Not quite so super.** Ever feel a little unappreciated? You're not alone. There are some superheroes who have appeared in real comics but have never made the superhero A-list. Consider Arm Fall Off Boy (able to detach his own limbs – PLORP – and use them as blunt weapons), Matter-Eater Lad (can eat matter in all its forms without putting on weight), and Bouncing Boy (inflates like a beach ball and bounces about). Then there's Dogwelder: he's fond of welding stray dogs to villains' faces but is not very popular with the SPCA and PETA. Somehow it all makes sense. – *Andreas Späth*