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Stay Tuned

For the gadget-obsessed out there, CES must be the closest thing to paradise, a sort of high-tech heaven. Held each January in Las Vegas, this trade show is devoted to nothing but consumer electronics. It's the kind of event that can persuade Bill Gates to deliver the keynote address. Dell, Yahoo!, Nokia and all the other big boys (2700 exhibitors in total) turn up to demonstrate the amazing things their latest digital devices can do. With all eyes directed at tiny objects full of mind-blowing technology, you'd be forgiven for thinking that the trade-show stands themselves simply pass by unnoticed. Designer Gunther Spitzley of Visionworks made sure that wasn't the case with his blindingly white stand for Etón, an American firm that specializes in radio technology. Tilted walls and zigzagging overhead planes lend the décor a sense of energy and movement that is reinforced by the snaking display counters and floating pedestals that make up much of the furnishings. Greic's Miura bar stool, all angles and diagonals, forms the perfect complement to Spitzley's spirited sculpture. Rows of radios line up temptingly on long, illuminated slits channelled out of enclosing walls. The entire stand looks as if it's being pulled in different directions by magnetic forces that are as much a source of wonder to the technologically impaired and digitally illiterate among us as the radio waves we tap into.

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Gravity Defied: The whitewashed fragments that make up the Etón stand featured at the CES show in Las Vegas, are a further demonstration of contemporary architecture's desire to defy gravity.

