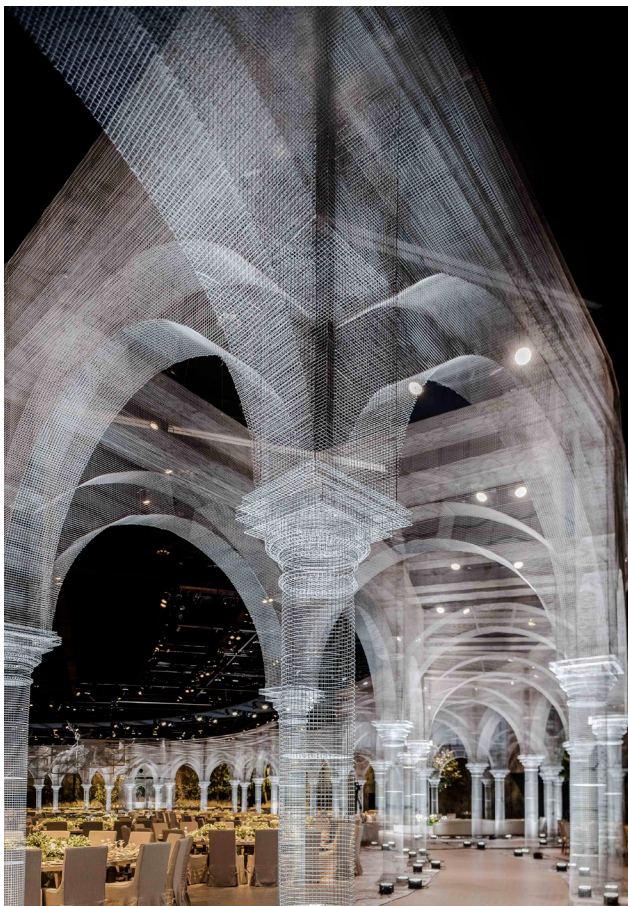
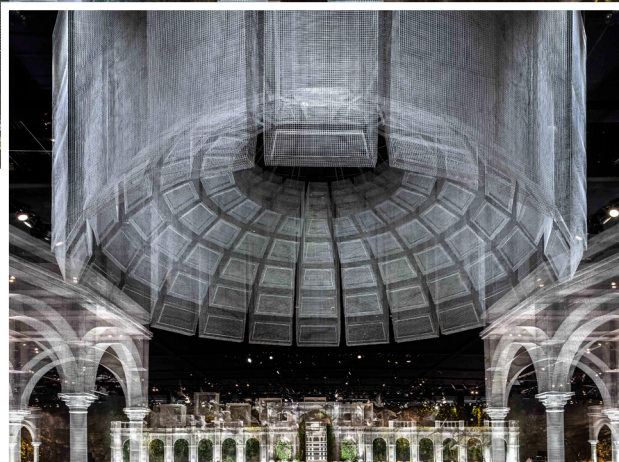




ARCHITECTURE NEWS

# Castles In The Air

*Italian sculptor Edoardo Tresoldi's hauntingly beautiful wire mesh structures walk the fine line between imagination and reality*



We wouldn't fault you for looking twice to actually believe what you are seeing. Italian designer Edoardo Tresoldi's steel cord edifices seem like an illusion – whether indoors or outdoors. His works embody the credo “larger than life,” as they are not just scale models or mere mock installations of buildings, but monument-worthy in their own right.

While most of his creations like Baroque, US and Basilica of Siponto in Italy among others have been in the open, Edoardo experimented in an enclosed setup for the first time in Abu Dhabi for a royal event. Titled “Archetype,” the tableau was imagined in collaboration with Mootassem El Baba and Marwan Maalouf of Dubai based studio Design Lab Experience. Built in the 75,000 sq ft Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, the plaza-like structure was constructed along the lines of a classical building with towering columns, arches and domes. The design language took into account the existing greenery in the space, and so birds in various stages of flight were also incorporated. What's more, the setting will also travel to various parts of the city and be installed in different locations. ♦ **Tasneem Merchant**

Website [www.edoardotresoldi.com](http://www.edoardotresoldi.com)

**Clockwise, from Top** Wire mesh birds “fly” around ethereal towers at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre; The central dome is the focal point of the entire setup; The structure reflects elements of classical style architecture with arches, spires and rotundas  
 Photographs by Roberto Conte courtesy Edoardo Tresoldi