

V&A Waterfront to test new design in rainwater harvesting technology

Aquatecture rain harvesting panels, the brainchild of South African-born designer Shaakira Jassat, collect water by diverting raindrops flowing over the perforations on the surface to the inside of the system. From there the water trickles down into a collection tank where it can either be stored for later use, or can be pumped back into a building's grey water system.

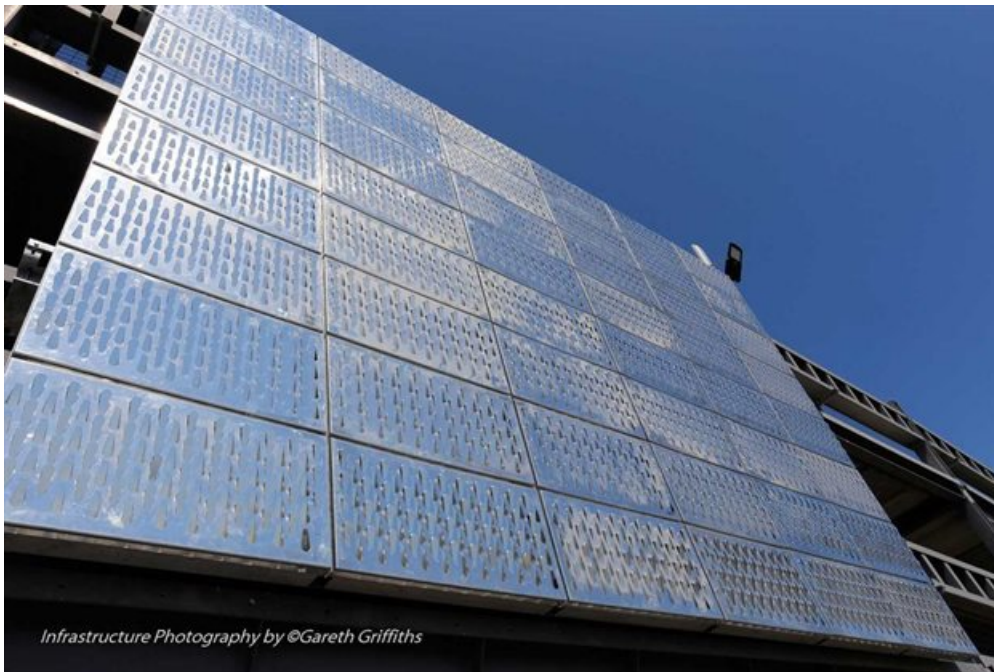
The V&A Waterfront will be among the first companies in South Africa to test this new design in rainwater harvesting technology. The panel is also currently being developed to harvest moisture from the atmosphere.



Although Jassat lives in the Netherlands now, she witnessed Cape Town's devastating drought when she attended the Cape Town Design Indaba as a speaker in 2018. She was determined to design a rain harvester that was compact and aesthetically suited to the urban environment, which is now the Aquatecture panel.

Granger Bay parking garage test facility

Manufactured from aluminium, the panels are resistant to corrosion and can be installed on the exterior of buildings or they can be used as freestanding units in areas with more open space. They will be tested at the Granger Bay parking garage over the next two years, and all water collected will be used at the Oranjezicht City Farm Market. This test facility is made possible in collaboration with Arup, Geustyn & Horak, JoJo Tanks, Baloo Plumbing and Longspan Gutters.



Rainfall data specific to the area will be collected during the testing period and measured against weather variables, for example, the direction of rain, wind, and the amount of rain that fell during each period. The panels will also be tested for efficiency and impact on the surrounding environment.

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