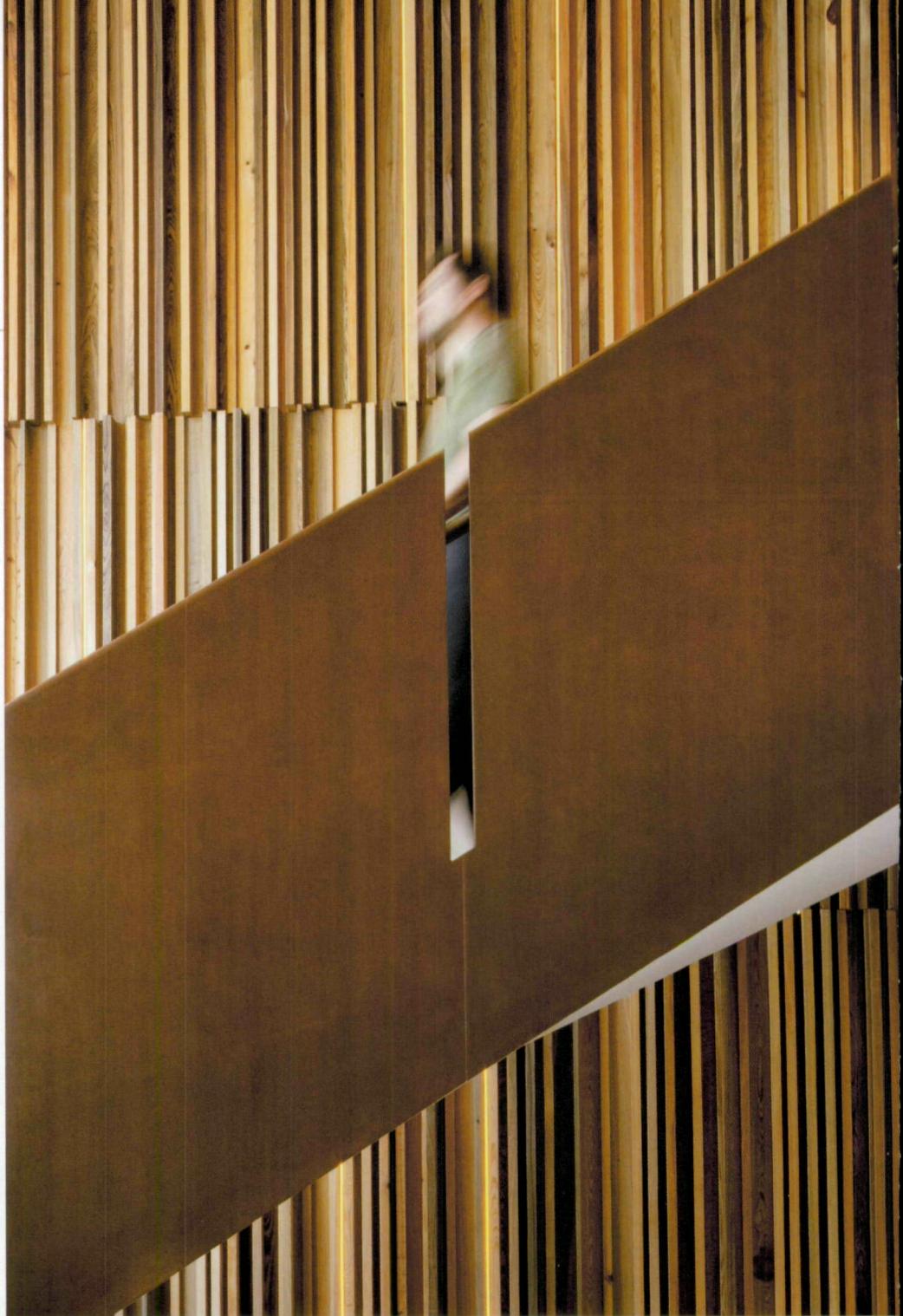


BOTANICAL TUTORIAL

Daria Pizzetta has undertaken building and renovation projects for all kinds of clients with cultural and educational missions: a performing-arts building in Brooklyn, New York, public libraries in Centereach, New York, and Savannah, Georgia, a maritime museum in Biloxi, Mississippi. Before the H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture partner started designing the Botanical Research Institute of Texas, however, she had never encountered an organization so dedicated to “conserving our natural heritage through building design,” she says. “From our initial meeting, they were steadfast in the desire to build the most ecologically friendly headquarters they could.”

The institute, which had leased municipal property adjacent to the Fort Worth Botanical Garden, asked H3 to provide a herbarium for 2 million dried specimens, a library for 125,000 volumes, laboratories, an exhibition hall, event space, an education center, a printing facility, and offices. What’s more, preservation of the earth’s resources had to inform every aspect, from orientation with regard to the



Clockwise from top: At Fort Worth's Botanical Research Institute of Texas by H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture, the main staircase's steel balustrade is painted to replicate an oxidized patina. Reclaimed from the Mississippi River, 100-year-old cypress logs yielded the planks for the lobby's feature wall. Botanically themed wool carpet defines the children's library. An office area has bamboo ceiling panels.

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