Born in Foggia, in the south of Italy, Francesco Draisci studied architecture in Florence where he co-founded the experimental design group Zoom Ahead, whose work was selected for the Biennale of Young Artists in Lisbon 1994. He spent four years with the Richard Rogers Partnership, working on a variety of projects, including the Skylight building in Frankfurt, the Millennium Dome in Greenwich and Chiswick Park. He was design and art director for the London Designersblock at the Jam Factory in September 2001 and worked with Ron Arad Associates on the acclaimed Selfridges Christmas windows in the same year. Draisci currently works as an architect and installation artist. He recently exhibited at the V&A Museum in London and the National Glass Centre in Sunderland, and collaborated with Wilkinson Eyre on a project for the 9th Venice Architecture Biennale.

'he has a real talent and is waiting for the right opportunities to reveal his full potential'

Chris Wilkinson

Francesco Draisci's competition entry for a 'dream shelter' aims to provide homeless people with a warm place to stay. Hot air from the exhausts of underground ventilation systems is drawn into a large sack and used to heat a core room containing sleeping bunks. The structure is a standard scaffolding system. Cardboard tubes act as inlet and outlet ducts and the bubble is made from lightweight polyurethane foil.