



"Beautifully conceived, beautifully detailed. Relates to nature but holds its own as architecture and sculpture and engineering."

Rudolfo Machado, AIA; Texas Society of Architects Design Awards Juror



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LOCATION Austin, Texas
SPAN 80 ft

COST withheld at owner's request
ARCHITECT Miró Rivera Architects

This pedestrian bridge connects a lakefront guest house to the owner's main residence with a primary span of 80 feet and secondary approach spans of 10 feet on either side. Inspired by the tall reeds that grow along the shores of Lake Austin, the form of the bridge recalls its natural surroundings. With simple field bends, 1/2-inch diameter steel bars serve as both bridge decking and guard rail. The close spacing and irregular lengths of the bars mimic the surrounding reeds and integrate the bridge with its site. The bent bars are supported on a light, arched superstructure composed of five nested five-inch diameter steel pipes that diverge gracefully between the spring-point of the main span and the abutment at the beginning of the bridge. Remarkably, the thin profile of the superstructure is made even thinner when viewed through the visual veil of "reeds." This unique bridge has been recognized with design awards by the Texas Society of Architects, American Institute of Architects, and Royal Institute of British Architecture.



Special

Footbridge