

IGNEA LABS

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A public art and research studio at the intersection of living structures, digital memory and regenerative systems. We are developing Living Structures: planted, self-shading public sculptures that people walk into, cooler and more humid inside than the street around them. No Living Structure has been built in the United States. We are seeking a Colorado host site, fabrication partners and funding to build the first one.

PROJECTS

Living Structures — Colorado (proposed, not yet built). Planted walk-in sculpture on the Green Wall shelving system: steel and plywood shelf-levels with soil beds, under-shelf low-waste irrigation, natural ventilation. Adapted to a semi-arid, high-altitude, heat-stressed climate. Free public workshops; all technical findings published free. Interior/exterior temperature and humidity logged continuously.

THE INFINITE GREEN — Adam Kalinowski, 2015, Wrocław, Poland (realized, prior to Ignea Labs). Commissioned for the visual arts program of European Capital of Culture Wrocław 2016. Approx. 110 m² across seven planted shelf-levels; approx. 3,000 plants of 100 perennial species; cooler and more humid inside than outside. The direct technical precedent for Living Structures. Covered by designboom, Inhabitat, Contemporisist and Public Art Review (issue 55, USA).

RAINBOW PARK — Adam Kalinowski, 2012, London (realized, prior to Ignea Labs). Commissioned by Southbank Centre for Festival of the World, curated by Cathy Mager; Queen's Walk, 16 June–9 September 2012. Approx. 50 × 7 m, 150 tonnes of coloured quartz sand, approx. 25 painted boulders. Southbank Centre estimated 7.8 million people through the site. Case study, Institute for Public Art; listed on Public Art Archive.

PRINCIPALS

Adam Kalinowski — Sculptor and Principal, Green Architecture (Poznań, Poland). MA Cultural Anthropology, Adam Mickiewicz University. ~35 years of practice; founded the Tadeusz Kalinowski Art Foundation, 1998. Participatory public art at civic scale. adamkalinowski.com

Leno Veras — Research Curator, Living Archives (São Paulo, Brazil). Manager of the historical archive of Fundação Bienal de São Paulo; general coordinator of Acervos Futuros (FNDCT/CNPq/MCTI, with the Museu do Amanhã); associate researcher, UNICAMP Center for Digital Humanities and Acervos Digitais (USP, FAPESP 2022/05946-9). PhD, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro; doctoral stage, Warburg Institute. ORCID 0000-0002-4927-0824

Mirelle Martins — Creative Director and Co-Founder (Denver metro area). Curator and producer of Kalinowski's first South American exhibition at MuBE, São Paulo, where the Living Structures collaboration began. Founding artist and Creative Director of TRIBE, Brooklyn. Performer in BLACK VELVET (The New York Times review; Stockholm Fringe Festival Audience Choice Award 2017; ArtsATL Best Out of Town Production 2018). BA Social Communication, University of Brasília, 2006. US accountable party. mirellemartins.com

STATUS AND FISCAL

Ignea Labs is a Colorado LLC in its first year of operations, with an application in process for fiscal sponsorship through Fractured Atlas, a 501(c)(3) arts service organization (not yet approved). Public-art and social-impact work sits on the sponsored side; commercial work in the LLC. No grant award is confirmed. Host site, fabrication space, plant sourcing partners, in-kind materials and cash are all open needs. Budget, timeline and institutional references available on request.

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