

Iterative Garden

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'Line garden' is a playful exploration of the possibility of using simple materials to achieve a changing temporary space. The garden questions aspects of historical of garden design and explores the potential of re-imagining and de-contextualizing contemporary mass-produced materials. The iterative nature of the project has allowed for reactive changes and explorations to be undertaken, testing material effects, spatial configurations, color combinations, and the relationships between the installation and its visitors.

The installation's main material, barricade tape, is typically used to delineate a perimeter and keep people out of a particular area. Here however it is deployed precisely to bring visitors into the space and entice them to inhabit it. The utilitarian material was applied in combination with simple wooden sub-structures, that were re-used and adapted over the years.

The spaces created encourage interaction without being prescriptive about use. While adults enjoy the comfort of the loungers and take pleasure in the moment of repose that the installation provides, youngsters use the web of tape as a maze to crawl through, frolic in and explore. As the movement of the lines of barrier tape varies greatly with the changing of the weather, a multi-sensory experience is created, from a quiet, gentle stir to the sound of a vigorous rustle accompanied by dynamic movement.

The project was a winner of an open international competition in 2014. The competition entry and the first iteration of the garden focused on an exploration of a permeable, horizontal and maze-like field created by parallel lines of barrier tape. Due in part to its popularity with the visitors, the designers were invited back the following years to re-install and adapt the garden.

In 2015 the colors of the field were altered and, reacting to a lack of shade, three new canopy elements added. As they each hang to a different datum, the canopies also gave a different experience of the barricade tape.

In the 2016 version black and white barrier tape was used inspired by razzle dazzle, a form of warship camouflage from WWI. The contrasting colors enhance the appearance of movement of the tape.

The 2017 version of the garden is entirely vertical and was the most spatial and the most engulfing of the installations. A net stretched over a rectangular frame was used to suspend the various lengths of barrier tape creating a cavernous void on the interior of the cuboid. The colors were a mix of those used in previous iterations, literally re-using the scrap material from previous years.

The opportunity to re-install the project, has allowed for an exploration of the space of the garden from a hovering horizontal field to a mixture of horizontal and vertical elements and finally to a fully vertical and enclosing volume. Consistently working with barrier tape, the changing configurations have lead to an awareness of the properties of the material and the ways that it can be deployed to heighten a multi-sensorial experience for the visitors. The four iterations have also been a way of testing color-combinations and their interaction with light, layering and spatial pattern-making. Speaking not only to these parameters as aspects of the historical art of garden design but also to the potential of re-imagining and de-contextualizing contemporary mass produced materials, the iterative project explores effects that can be accomplished with simple means.

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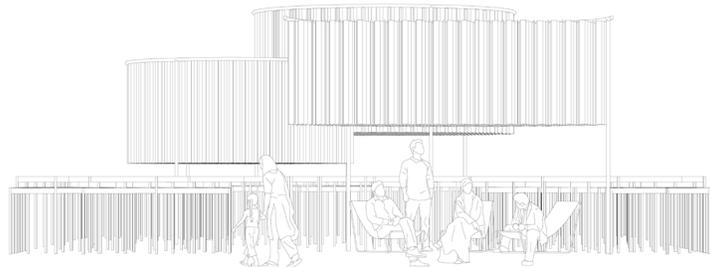
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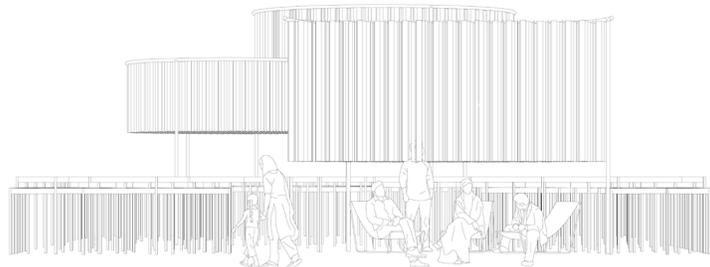
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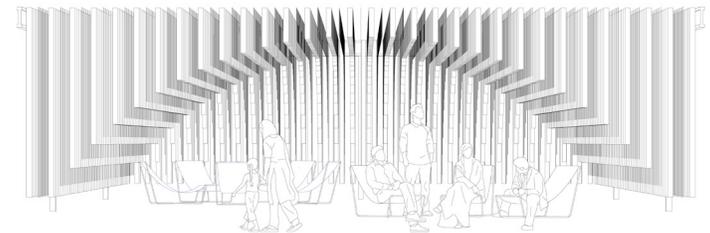
2014



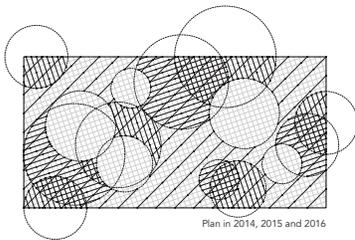
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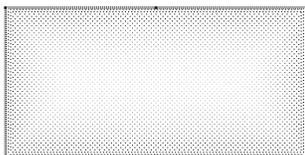
2016



2017



Plan in 2014, 2015 and 2016



Plan in 2017

The Line Gardens were installed by Julia Jamrozik and Coryn Kempster as part of the annual International Garden Festival at Jardins de Métis / Reford Gardens in Grand-Métis, Québec. Photos by Louise Tanguay, Martin Bond and Coryn Kempster