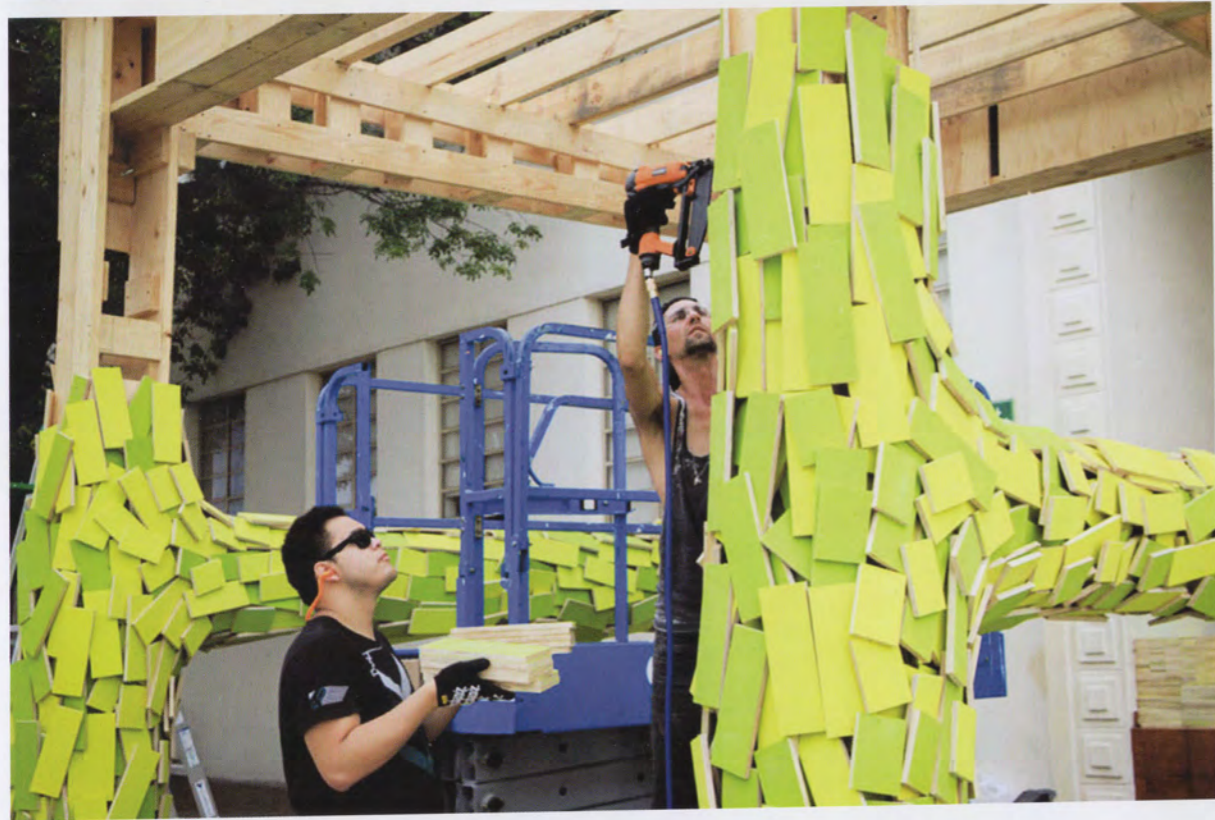




**Public Art
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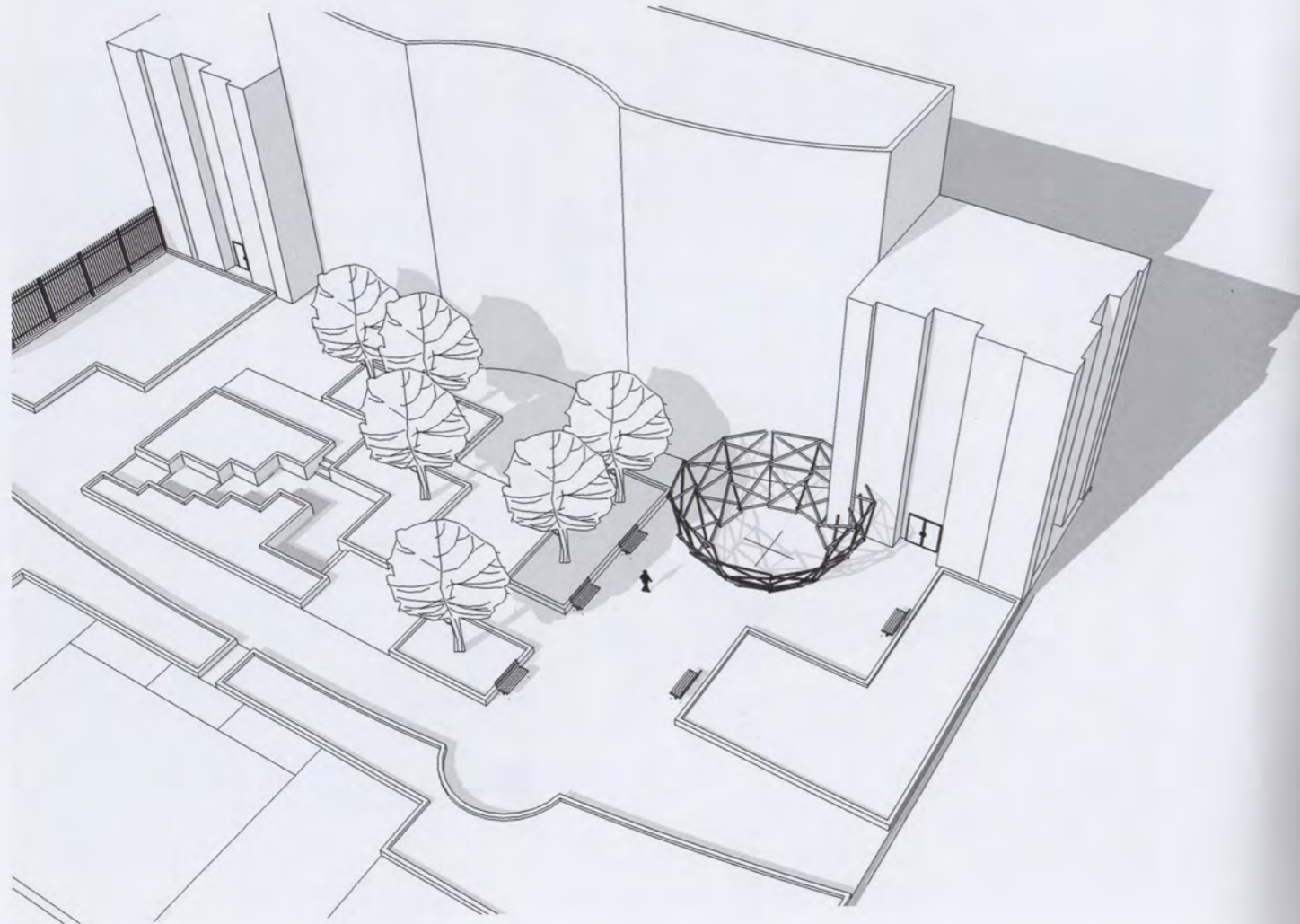
Reading Nest

Design> Mark Reigelman
Photography> Mark Reigelman
Site> Cleveland, USA

The Reading Nest is a temporary site specific installation by Mark Reigelman. The project was inspired by mythical objects and symbols of knowledge. For centuries, objects in nature have been associated with knowledge and wisdom. Trees of enlightenment and scholarly owls have been particularly prominent in this history of mythological objects of knowledge. The Reading Nest is a visual intermediary between forest and fowl. It symbolizes growth, community, and knowledge while continuing to embody mythical roots.

The Reading Nest was created with discarded wood boards that were obtained through local Cleveland industrial and manufacturing sources. A basic wooden 2 inches x 4 inches armature was built and reinforced with 200 feet of steel cable. The armature was clad with over 10,000 discarded palette boards which were held in place by approximately 40,000 nails. It took a team of 5 guys 10 full days to complete the installation. The final work stands approximately 13 feet tall and 36 feet wide.

The exterior of the nest is a combination of raw boards and golden painted boards while the interior is completely covered in golden boards. During the day, the installation offers a powerful glow and an intense experience for visitors. This color choice was inspired by the legendary Griffin. This king of beasts is said to have made nests of pure gold. The Griffin is regularly seen sculpted from stone and standing guard at the entrances of civic buildings across the country including The Cleveland Public Library.



White Cloud

White Cloud was a temporary installation created for the Cleveland Museum of Art's famed ceremonial entrance. The installation was commissioned by the Cleveland Museum of Art in partnership with Cleveland Public Art for the museum's Summer Solstice event. Comprised of nearly 100 eight-foot chloroprene weather balloons, the installation stretched over 250 feet and

stood 30 feet in the air. The installation created maximum impact with a minimum of means as it consisted almost entirely of air to form the cloud-like landscape. Dancing precariously above the ground and accompanied by light projections, White Cloud created a dreamlike tableau which temporarily transformed the neoclassical architecture of the museum's building.

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White Cloud was an attempt to recreate clouds' fragility, uniqueness, and their ability as effective shields from the harsh Summer sun on the year's longest day. White Cloud references American Midwest painter J.R. Cox's painting of the same name which displayed a voluptuous cloud hanging over a desolate landscape offering hope and a better future.



Wood-Pile

Wood-Pile was a temporary installation commissioned for the Cleveland Museum of Art's Summer Solstice Celebration. The project consisted of 18,720 recyclable polyethylene tubes and stretched over 470 linear feet along Cleveland's East Boulevard. The site specific installation was a part of

the grand opening event for the new East Wing of the Cleveland Museum of Art.

Wood-Pile paid tribute to the ancient midsummer related traditions. Reigelman was particularly impressed by the massive wood-piles collected months in advance

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for use in the most important and traditional of summer solstice events: the bonfire. The bright red installation ran along the newly finished granite and marble museum wing, creating a sense of excitement leading up to the event and provided a visual impact during the Summer Solstice Celebration.



Public art appears in every possible location imaginable, in places where people from wildly different backgrounds can pass it every day. Bursting from every seemingly normal street corner, bus station, sidewalk, public park, and plaza, public art has transformed the sterile artist-art-audience interaction of traditional art into a more intimate relationship between the artist, their art, and the audience; public participation is what completes public art. *Public Art Now* collects a broad range of projects from world-wide locations and in varying materials and styles, all of which represent public art's unlimited possibilities.



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