

Meike Ziegler
Art for human connection.



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Portfolio

Breaking patterns. Moving minds.



MEIKE ZIEGLER

She is a Creative Alchemist who designs interactive social artworks and transformative experiences that cross boundaries in unexpected and meaningful ways. Her work invites you into the unknown – guiding you to the essence of a story or moment. Each project is created to shift perspectives, spark dialogue, and open space for authentic human connection.

Her mantra 'Breaking Patterns, Moving Minds' captures her creative philosophy: disrupting the ordinary to inspire reflection and transformation. Through participatory artworks and creative rituals 'Creatuals' she explores the deeper layers of social and personal issues, inviting participants to expand their perspectives.

Alongside her own artistic practice, she gives lectures, leads workshops to encourage both personal and collective growth. She also teaches courses on creative leadership and innovation design, empowering others to unlock their creative potential.

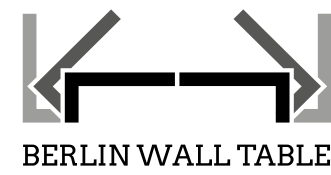
With a background in art history, graphic design, and a master in media production, Ziegler has worked in Amsterdam, London, Barcelona, and New York. In 2002, she founded her own design studio in Amsterdam. Her focus shifted to social art projects, marking her evolution into an artist. Since 2016, she has been based in Berlin.

Creatuals are unique crafted 'contemporary ritual concepts' with the focus to connect people, to mark moments and give symbolic meaning to subjects that matter_____

By translating often abstract missions or hidden stories into accessible, engaging experiences, Creatuals make the essence of the subject more relatable to a wider audience. Through participation, each individual contributes to a collective creation – whether a shared product or a communal art installation – fostering a profound sense of belonging. Creatuals spark inspiration and open up new ways of seeing the world.

CREATUAL MANIFESTO

- **Cultivating a Sustainable Social Climate:** Building a world where people feel more connected and socially engaged.
- **Creating Social Impact:** Making complex, abstract issues more tangible and approachable.
- **Designing New Rituals for Unity:** Bridging cultural divides and overcoming bias through shared, meaningful experiences.
- **Encouraging Open-Mindedness:** Promoting deeper levels of collective sharing and understanding.
- **Transforming Perspectives:** Turning negative perceptions into positive, empowering views.
- **Unlocking Creative Potential:** Guiding individuals to discover and harness their innate creative talents.



CONCEPT

FALL OF THE WALL TO TABLE

From Division to Connection

The artist transformed history into a living space for dialogue with her participatory installation Wall to Table. On November 9, 2024, marking the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, two original wall fragments were ritually pushed over to form a table at the Berlin Wall Memorial.

This act reframed the Wall from a symbol of division into one of unity. Around the table, visitors were invited to gather, share stories, and reflect on themes such as borders, freedom, and democracy. Each chair brought to the table represented personal perspectives and barriers, creating space for authentic conversation.



ART INSTALLATION: **Berlin Wall Table**

LAUNCH: **9 November 2024 during 35 years commemoration of the Fall of the Berlin Wall**

MATERIAL: **Two original Berlin wall parts (concrete, wood and steel)**

LOCATION: **Berlin Wall Memorial, Lapidarium, across Gartenstraße 88**

EXHIBITION PERIOD: **9.11.2024 - 20.11.2025**

PROGRAM: **@berlinwall_table**



WALL TO TABLE _RITUAL ACT

The two massive wall segments, each weighing seven tons, were slowly guided by cranes until they met to create a 7.5-meter-long table. The moment was accompanied by a raw, emotional performance by two individuals, expressing a journey from fear, judgment, and separation to connection and understanding. Their movements evoked the inner walls we build – barriers of fear and resistance to the unfamiliar – revealing the loneliness born of division and the universal longing for closeness and empathy.

The newly formed table serves as an open invitation for Berlin's community and visitors to come together, share experiences, and confront both personal and societal barriers. By merging symbolic action with artistic expression, the installation encouraged exploration of diverse perspectives and fostered openness in a world increasingly defined by polarization.

The Berlin Wall Table remains on view at the Berlin Wall Memorial Lapidarium from November 2024 to November 2025, accompanied by a year-long program of discussions. During the summer, a series of "Open Table Talks" was filmed for a documentary scheduled to screen at film festivals.

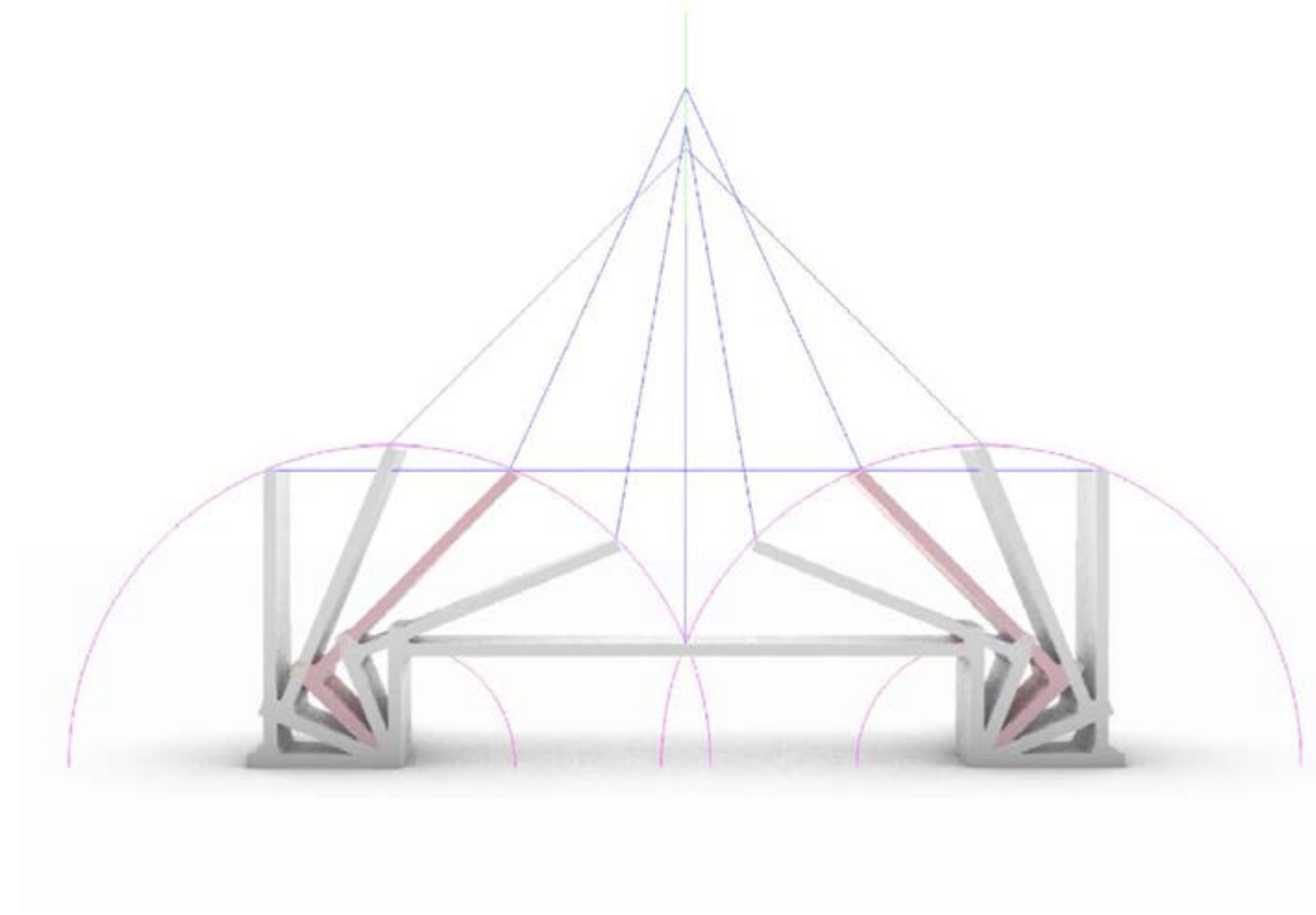


BERLIN WALL TABLE



PHOTO: SINA SPITZLEI

As the world grows more interconnected, it also becomes more divided, with visible and invisible walls – emotional, spiritual, economic, political, or internal – separating people and communities. These walls breed division and mistrust, reinforcing fear of the „other.“ Despite the timeless truth of their destructive impact, we struggle to dismantle them, often failing to replace division with dialogue and respect. Perhaps, instead of destroying these walls, we should let them fall, transforming barriers into tables that awaken understanding, unity, and collaboration.



OPEN TABLE TALKS



CONCEPT

During the summer of 2025, Meike Ziegler organized and hosted a series of twelve Open Table Talks at the Berlin Wall Table.

She invited guests and encouraged passing strangers to take a seat at the table, meet new people, and engage in discussions on themes such as Truth, Belief, Over-think, Infinity, Substance, Balance, Humanity, and more. Participants joined from all over the world, from Sudan and Ukraine to Mexico and Japan, representing all ages and beliefs. Each table group chose the theme for the next table round.

Through these encounters, we discovered that when strangers come closer, they begin to open up, truly listen to one another, and learn to accept differences while finding common ground.

All discussions and meaningful moments were captured on film and will be transformed into a documentary.

DOCUMENTARY: **Dialogue on Borders**
LOCATION: **Berlin Wall Table, Berlin Wall Memorial**
PERIODE: **May-October 2025**



HEARTBEAT FOUNTAIN



ART INSTALLATION: **Source powered by the heartbeats of Flevoland's residents.**

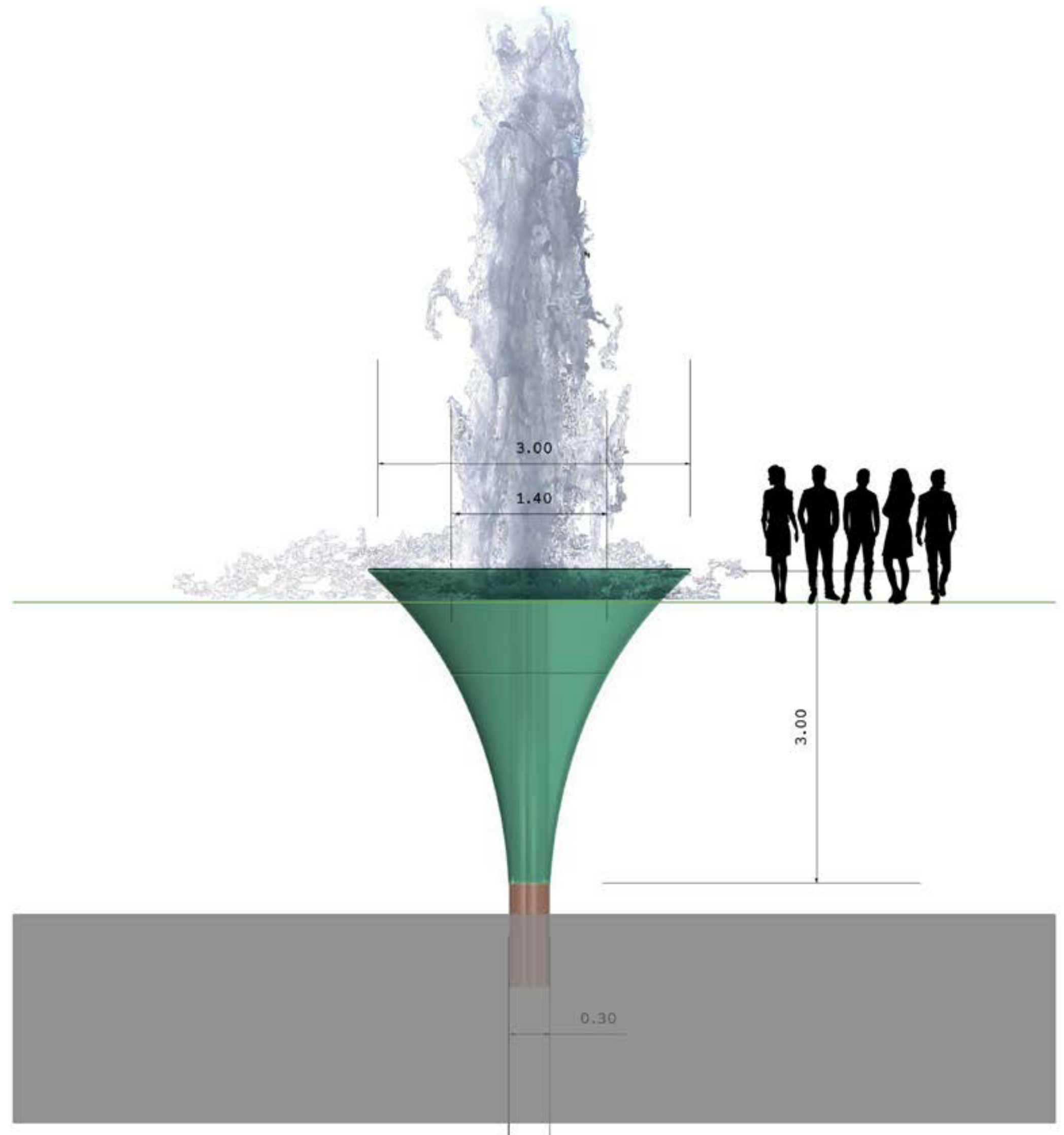
MATERIAL: **Metal vase, water pump, lake water**

LOCATION: **Weerwater Lake, Almere, Flevoland.**

EXHIBITION PERIOD: **April-May 2022**

CONCEPT

The Heartbeat Fountain is an art installation that captures the collective energy of the people of Flevoland. Located in the Weerwater lake of Almere, this dynamic water sculpture is powered by the living heartbeats of local residents.

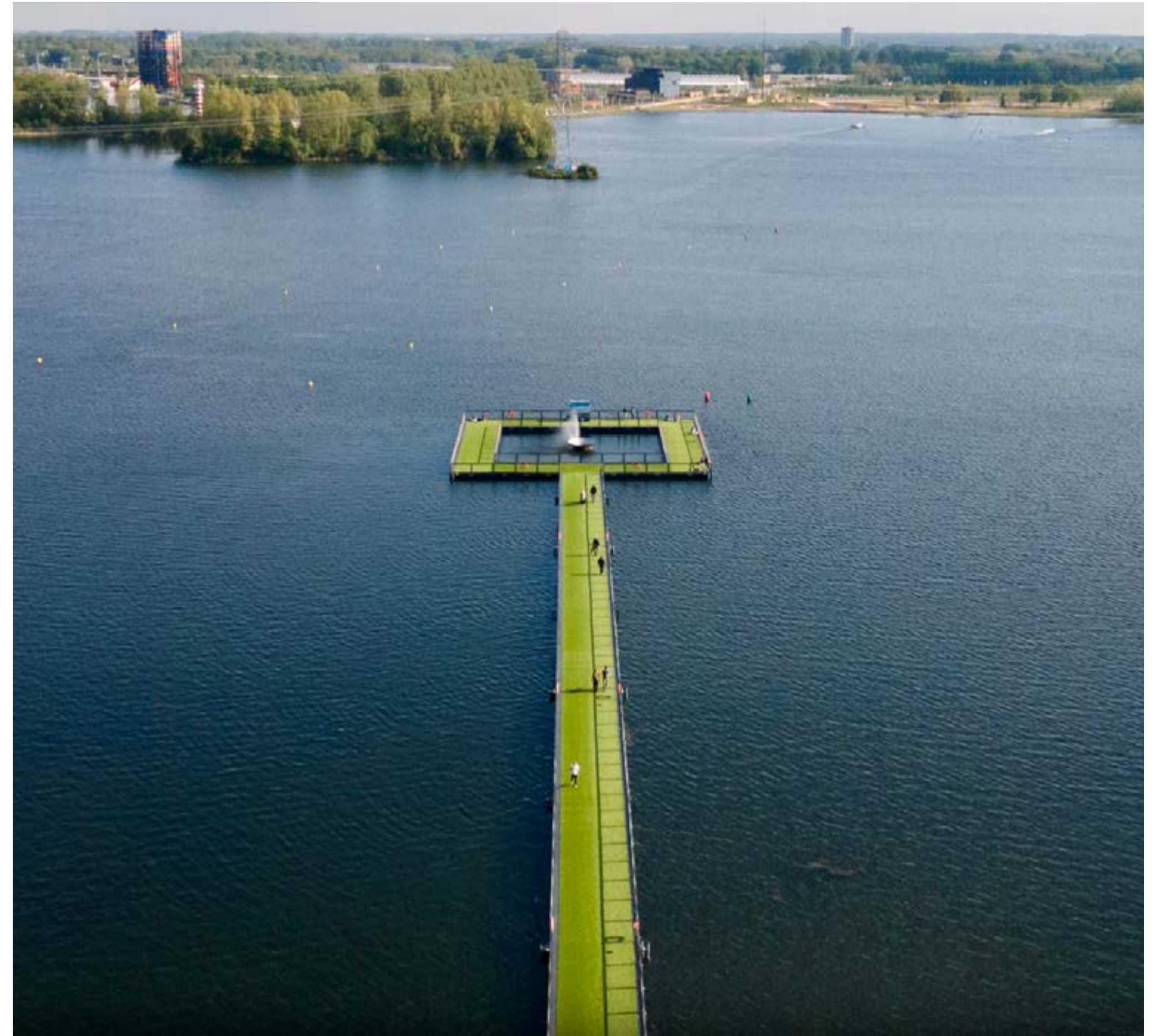


EXPERIENCE



During its six-week run, “Beat Collectors” engaged people across Almere and Flevoland, exploring what drives them and makes their hearts race. These moments were captured through pulse measurements sent directly to a water sculpture. Powered by these heartbeats, the sculpture’s rhythmic dance changes every few minutes and unpredictably erupts like a geyser, symbolizing the collective spirit and resilience of Flevoland’s community.

The “Heartbeat Fountain” stands as a testament to the power of collective human energy and the transformative potential of art. It serves as a poetic reminder of Flevoland’s unique landscape and its ongoing dialogue with the water that surrounds it. By weaving together the personal and the communal, the installation not only beautified the landscape but also deepened the bonds within the community, highlighting the power of art to connect, inspire, and elevate.



PROJECT PARTNERS

Multimedia design: Studio Parkers

Installation technique and production: Rots Maatwerk

Project management: Team of M

The installation was exhibited parallel to the launch of M. Museum and the start of the Floriade (Garden expo in Almere).

HEARTBEAT FOUNTAIN



PHOTO: MOTHERSHIP

HEARTBEAT FOUNTAIN



PHOTO: KADIR VAN LOHUIZEN

CONCEPT

SWINGS OF TRANSFORMATION



ART INSTALLATION: **Swings created of two motorbike tires**
MATERIAL: **Tires, chains, paper labels**
LOCATION: **Funeral home, London**

Swings of Transformation: A Ritual of Grief and Renewal

In a transformative act of mourning, two tires from a tragic motorcycle accident were repurposed into swings during a funeral ceremony. Once symbols of loss – the final turning points where a young man's life ended – they were brought to the service by his grieving mother. She drew a chalk line on the side of each tire, marking where his journey stopped.

Attached to long chains bearing heartfelt messages from loved ones, the tires were hung from a large tree in the family garden. This tree, a symbol of the father's enduring presence, supported the swings – now a source of joy for his two young daughters. The transformation of these objects from vehicles of death to instruments of play symbolized resilience and the continuity of life.

The ritual, a blend of memory and renewal, turned sorrow into strength. The swings, gently moving in the breeze, became living art pieces—metaphors for healing and hope, where grief and love coexist, allowing those left behind to “swing on” through their loss, finding light in the shadow of absence.



3 ART OBJECTS

TABLE OF HOPE



CONCEPT

“Table of Hope” is more than an installation; it is a living, breathing entity designed to provoke dialogue and reflection. By constructing a communal table, Ziegler creates a symbolic space for confronting difficult conversations, both personal and collective. The installation’s guiding philosophy is clear: “We must come together, share our lives, and truly listen.”

The project is dynamic and continually evolving, with each iteration carrying forward the ‘baton of hope’ to a new community. The first table, created in South Africa in 2014, remains a focal point for dialogue at the District Six Museum. In Ghana, the second table was ceremoniously hosted by King Odenaho Kwafo Akoto III at the King’s Palace. The third table, recently established in Lagos at Freedom Park, a former colonial prison, continues this legacy. The journey is set to continue in Rwanda.



ART INSTALLATION:

A communal table crafted from the hopes and dreams of people across different cultures and backgrounds.

MATERIAL:

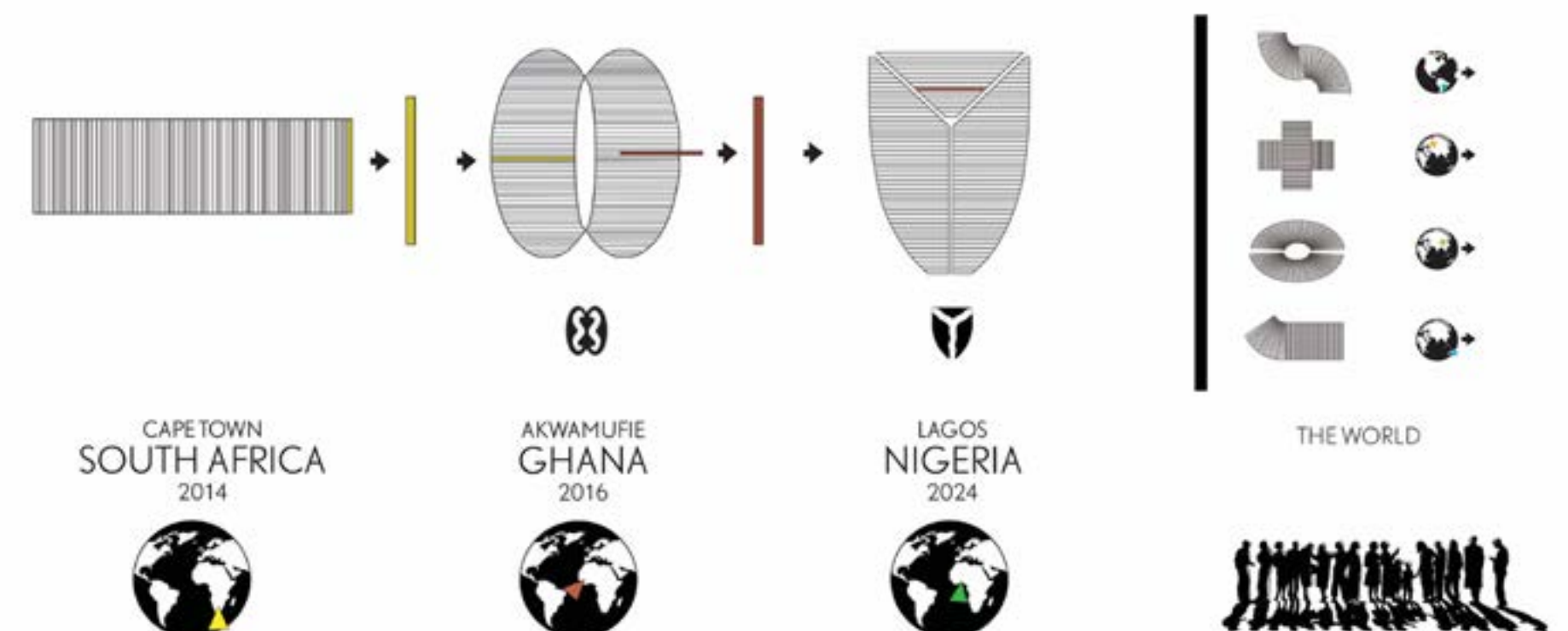
Locally sourced, symbolic wood and recycled metal – materials that hold stories and histories, repurposed into symbols of unity and resilience.

LOCATIONS:

- South Africa, 2014 / Ghana, 2016 / Nigeria, 2024

EXHIBIT / TABLE HOSTS:

- District Six Museum, Cape Town**
- King’s Palace, Akwamufie**
- Freedom Park, Lagos**



ART INSTALLATION:

A Catalyst for Hope

Crafted from 170 symbolic planks, each inscribed with hopes from community members, the “Table of Hope” conceals these messages within its structure. The hidden hopes create an invisible tapestry of collective dreams, unseen yet palpably present, symbolizing shared human aspirations.

MOVEMENT:

The Baton of Hope

“Table of Hope” is a traveling narrative, with each iteration passing a piece of itself – a fragment of the table – to the next. This transfer embodies the idea of shared hope moving from one community to the next, fostering a chain of connection and solidarity. The tables are displayed in museums and cultural heritage sites, accessible to all.



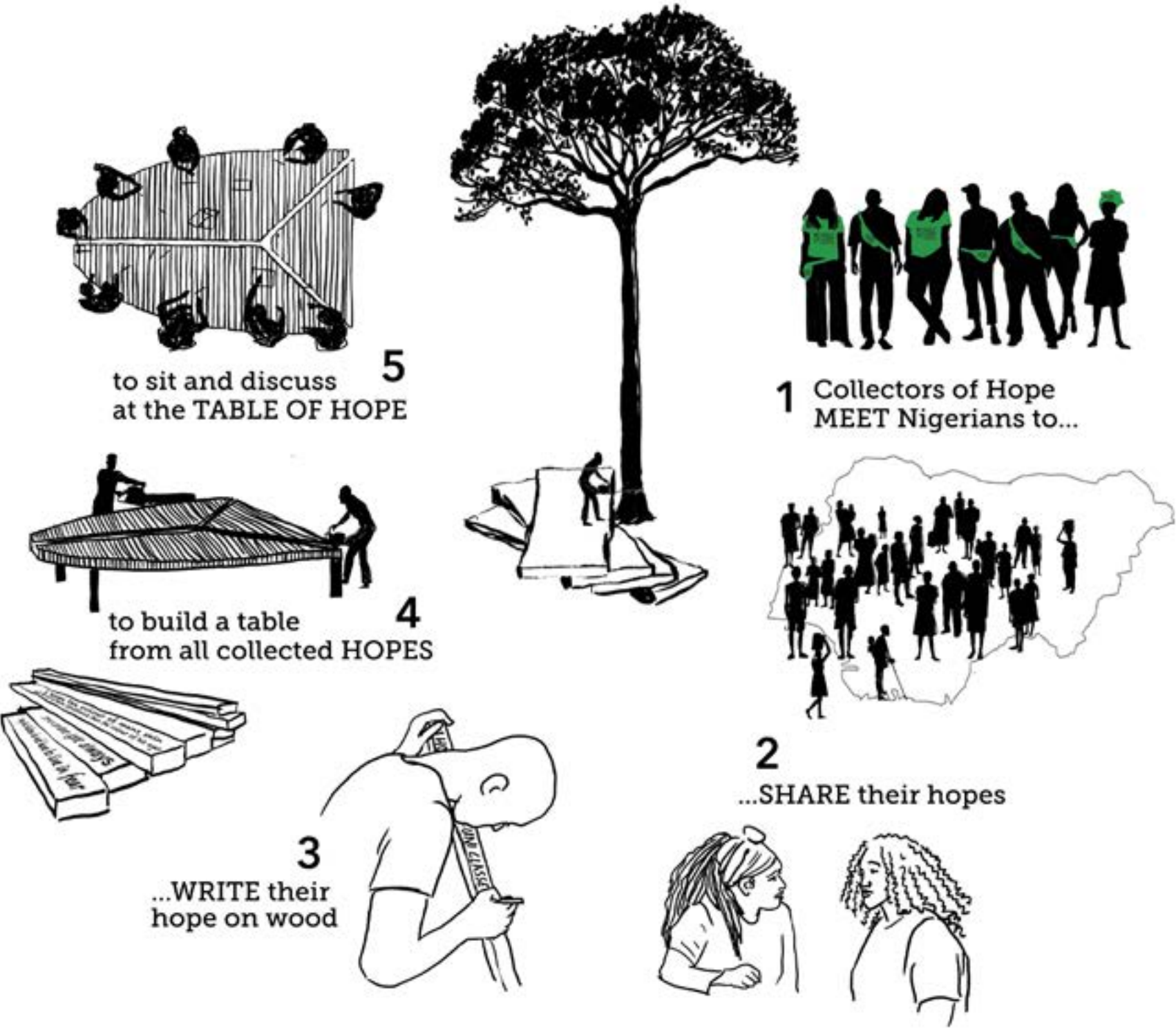
TABLE OF HOPE



RITUAL PROCESS:

Weaving Communities Together

Collectors of Hope – local students and volunteers – embark on a journey through cities, carrying planks of wood and inviting strangers to share their deepest hopes. These interactions are intimate, creating a sense of belonging and unity. The table construction itself becomes a ritual, a communal act that binds the community together.



MOVEMENT

Project 2014

Hosted by: Tina Smith, Curator
District Six Museum
Cape Town, South Africa
Table size approx. 400 x 120 cm



Project: February, 2024

Hosted by: Iyabo Aboaba
Freedom Park, Lagos Nigeria
Table size approx. 360 x 340 cm



Project 2016

Hosted by: 'Odeneho Kwafo Akoto III'
Kings Palace at Akwamufie, Ghana
Table size approx. 300 x 300 cm

PORTRAITS OF HOPE



TABLE OF HOPE

TABLE
OF HOPE
LAGOS/NIGERIA



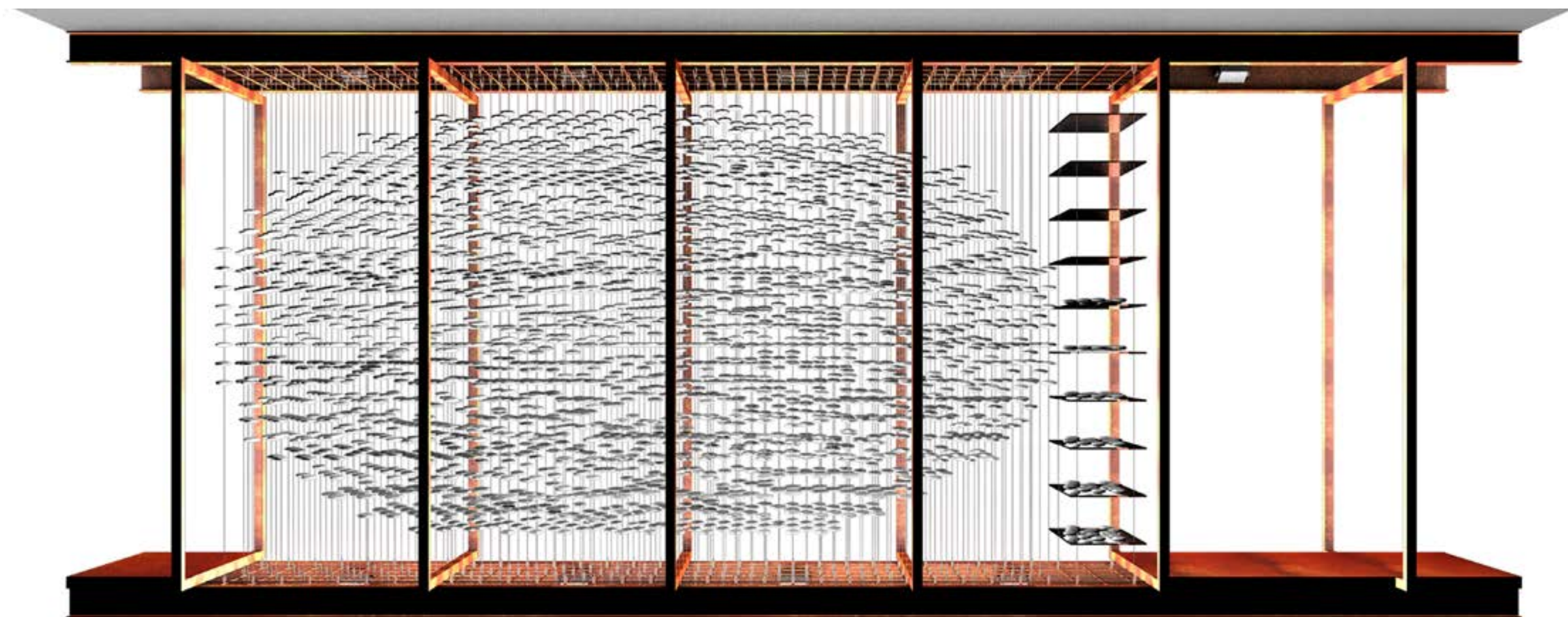
ART OBJECT: WALL OF UNIFICATION AND
PATH OF HUMAN CONNECTION



CONCEPT

HANDSHAPE PROJECT

The “Handshape Project” is a social sculpture celebrating the power of human connection. It transforms the simple act of a handshake into a powerful symbol of unity and peace, a call to transcend boundaries and embrace our shared humanity. The project invites strangers to engage in a dialogue, share their stories, and find common ground. Their handshake, made tangible through a shared ball of clay, becomes a unique imprint – an ephemeral moment turned into a lasting form.



ART INSTALLATION: **A wall built from thousands of handshapes (shaped of clay, symbolic of the connection between 2 strangers).**

MATERIAL: **Clay-cement, metal wire, steel**

LOCATION: **The Berlin Wall Memorial**

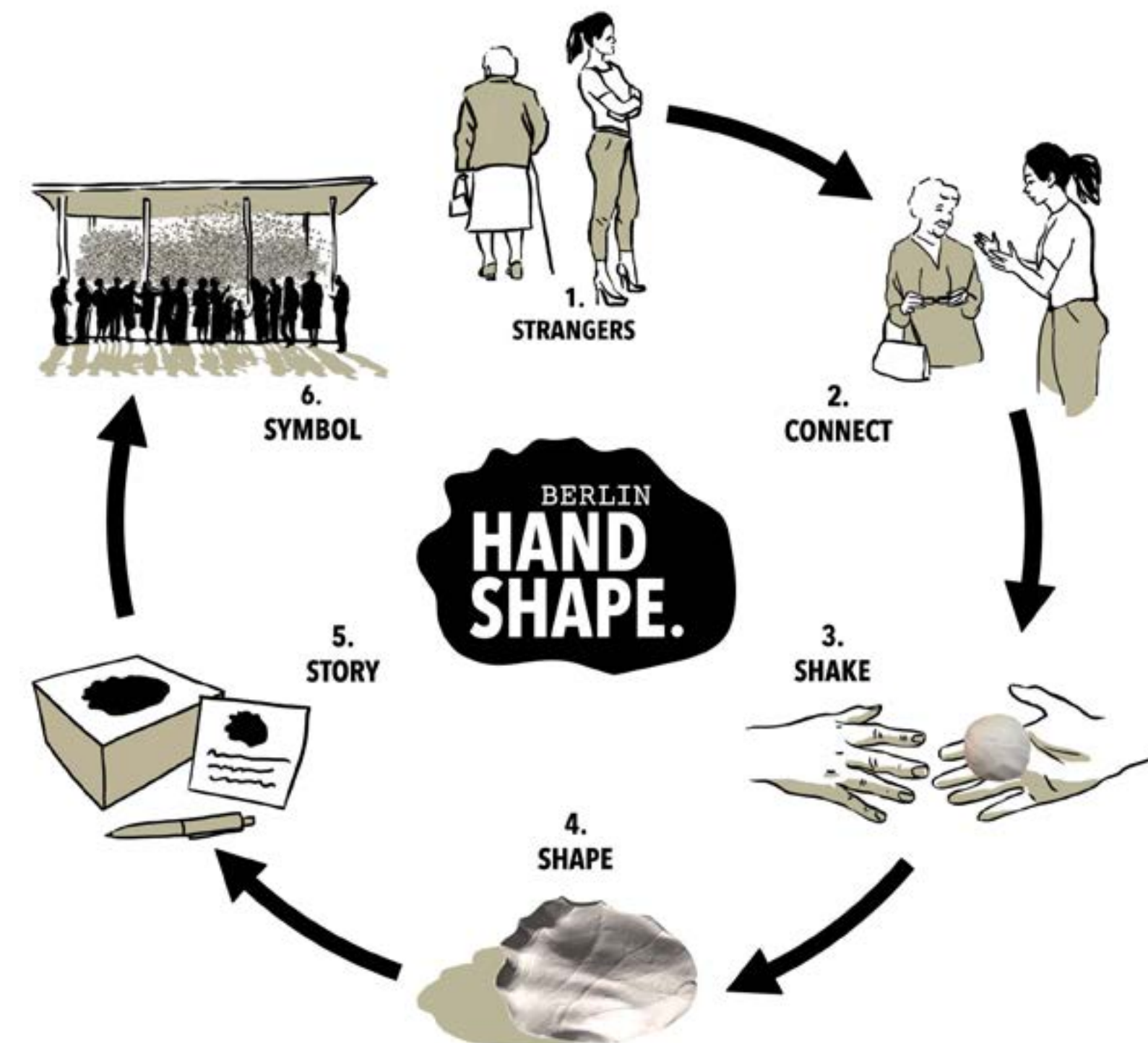
EXHIBITION PERIOD: **October 2019 - June 2023**



MONUMENT TO HUMAN CONNECTION

Over five months, 10,957 handshapes were collected from the streets of Berlin—one for every day since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. These hand shapes were assembled to create a “Wall of Unification,” a profound monument to the enduring desire for connection and reconciliation. Two installations, positioned both inside and outside the Wall Memorial, were unveiled in November 2019 to mark the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The “Handshape Project” serves as a living testament to the transformative power of human connection, standing as both a reminder and a beacon of hope for a more unified future.



PROJECT PARTNERS

The Berlin Wall Memorial Foundation

Stammpunkt

visitBerlin

HANDSHAPE PROJECT



PHOTO: KADIR VAN LOHUIZEN

HANDSHAPE PROJECT



EARTH TO EARTH



CONCEPT

Dismantling the “Wall of Unification”, a social art installation at the Wall Memorial Centre in Berlin, marks the conclusion of its three-and-a-half-year exhibition. Over a period of seven days, 3,000 unique clay hand shapes, each symbolizing a connection between individuals, was dissolved back into the earth over a period of seven days.

This entire transformation was documented through photographs and timelapse videos and later exhibited as NFTs, representing an experiment in converting tangible value into new digital forms. From the clay, a path was formed in nature – a path that symbolizes human connection.

Photo: Marijn Bax



ART INSTALLATION: **Path of Human Connection**
MATERIAL: **Clay / Earth**
LOCATION: **The Berlin Wall Memorial**
EXHIBITION PERIOD: **June 27—July 3, 2023**

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CREATUALS

LINKS:

Meike Ziegler
INSTA @meikeziegler

Berlin Wall Table
INSTA @berlinwall_table

Wall to Table (12 min video)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=Ax4l9W7E_3A

Table of Hope
Nigeria
INSTA @tableofhope

Ghana
Table of hope Akwamufie Ghana
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5avsCKuKgNk>

Table of Hope South Afrika
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4dpxITSU_I

Handshape Project
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qnn8B0aDt8I>
<https://www.instagram.com/berlinhandshape/>
<https://www.visitberlin.de/en/berlin-handshape>
<https://www.creatuals.com/handshape-project>

Heartbeat Fountain (N.F.P. Nieuw Flevo Peil)
<https://jijbentm.art/event/nieuw-flevo-peil/>
<https://www.enterthemothership.com/en/portfolio/ponton-boulevard/>
<https://www.baumeister.de/almere-kunstpavillon-studio-ossidiana/>

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