

商业装置艺术 INSTALLATION ART

王绍强 编著

Installation Art focuses on both function and aesthetics. Natural, synthetic and everyday materials are equally inspiring to people capable of exploring





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FOREWORD

A Design Discourse
Nikola Radeljkovic, For Use / Numen

With no ambition of giving an objective view of the history and current tendencies in Installation Art, one cannot overlook conceived and designed by industrial designers. Although most of these installations were presented outside the framework of what is commonly recognized as the Artistic arena, and were usually abused for this or that form of commercial use or corporate communication, it is almost impossible to deny the conceptual and visual quality of some of these works. The best of them could have probably been very successful if put in the most demanding surroundings intended exclusively for art for art's sake production, such as Venice Biennale or Documenta. Not recognized by most of the art community, the installations of Tokujin Yoshioka for Moroso or works of Bouroullec brothers for Kvadrat or Koziol are artistic installations in their own right. Even though all of them are corporate advertisements for companies producing well over the usual virtual Maginot Line between design and art.

by designers are not only of a recent date. Even Achille Castiglioni, who once said, "The designer's working method is very different from the artist's,"* produced beautiful installations for RAI in 1951 visual art series called "Expressions" in the showroom of a producer of toilet bowls After initial performances by Enrico Ciuti and Bruno Munari, in 1964 Castiglioni designed a room full of light bulbs hanging on black wires of various lengths from the floor to the ceiling. Since the showroom had glass walls on three sides, the glowing resulting in an appearance similar to one of Yayoi Kusama's spatial installations. Ron Arad, probably the greatest artist within the design community, reflects upon living in parallel worlds: "For the opening exhibition they had Richard Artschwager on one side and me on the other. And in the Pompidou Center at the same time there was an exhibition of Ettore Sottsass. And there is tremendous similarity between Ettore Sottsass and

Artschwager: they both do exaggerated patterns; they do Formica wood patterns, sort of flirting with bad taste. And I said to Artschwager, 'You know there is an exhibition of Sotsass on here.' And he said: 'Who?'"**

How it is that protagonists of close and interconnected disciplines can have no awareness of each other's work is a relevant topic which will have to be analyzed thoroughly at another level, but this fact cannot be ignored, especially since the roots of modern art and design accept no distinction between fine and applied art. In this sense, installation art, seemingly becoming a meeting point of art and design, presents a unique platform of communication. For designers, installation art is friendly territory due to designers' affinity for technology and systematic thinking. Furthermore, a certain common logic and empirical understanding of materials and production as well as knowledge of prototyping economy are byproducts of design practice. In the field of installation art, every piece is a kind of prototype and this fact is another link to design methodology. Project size, often

closer to the measurement of a building than to that of a chair, imposes the need for a static and financial responsibility, and the organization skills and blueprint discipline usually earned in Architecture. Exactly because of its complexity and materiality, because of frequent teamwork, and due to the fact that it is often situated in public space, installation art presents a new common ground for all visual artists, an open playground for interaction of authors, concepts and ideas. In the world of gated communities; of specialized "professionals;" and of purity of backgrounds and educations, artistic installations, whether done by artists, architects, designers or any creative group or person, present a truly liberating bastardization. Let us hope that in the future this cross-breeding produces even bigger and sweeter fruits.

^{*.} Record held in the aC of an address delivered by Achille Castiglion at Courtray, 19 October 1979.; taken from Achille Castiglioni complete works, Sergio Polano, Electra Architecture, 2001.

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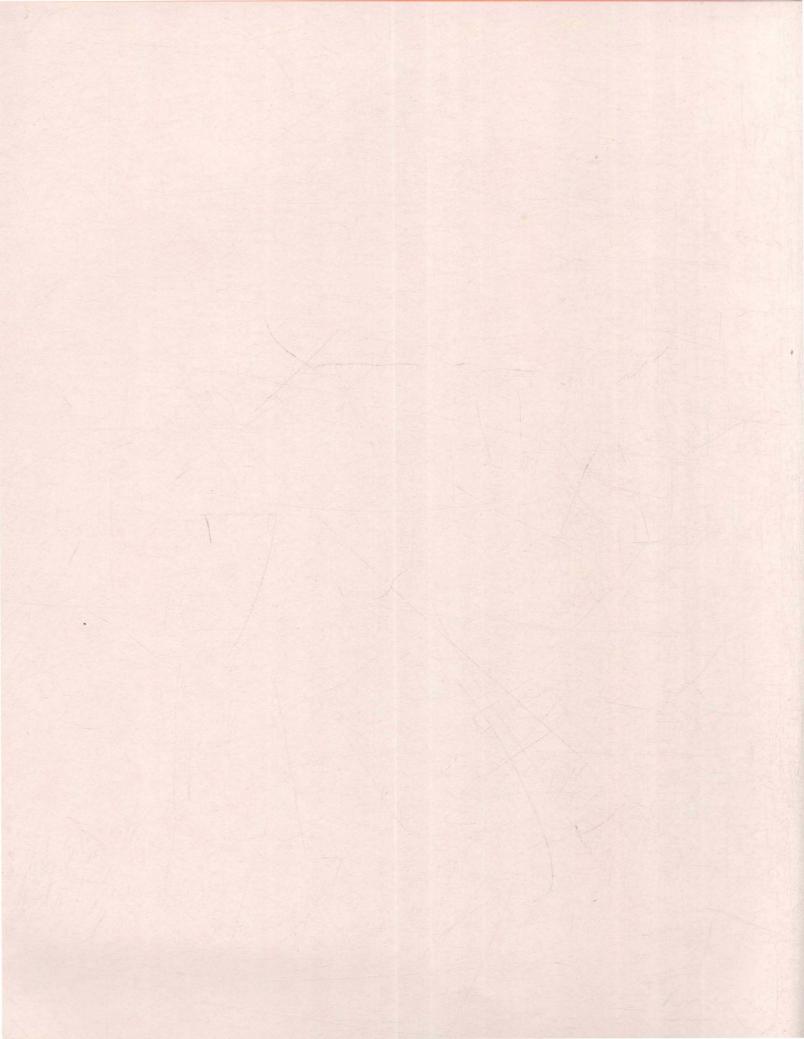
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Ecologic Bridge for Birds

Santiago, Chile



The work is the result of an art competition organized by the MOP (Ministry of Public Works). It is part of a long series of public contests seeking a closer relationship between art and road infrastructure.

The project proposal is based on the natural geographic environment of the site, located in the pathway of the Aconcagua and Maipo-Mapocho rivers; these bodies of water are a ground-level bridge between the mountains and the sea and are home to many species of birds.

The project was created in response to the belief that a highway always interferes with a natural ecosystem. The goal was to reduce the level of interference by creating an ecological bridge for birds. The result is an installation formed by eight modular metallic trees with tiny houses and accessories in their branches.

The number of birds in the dwelling determined the design and measurement of every single house and every accessory in the proposal; this process was supervised by ornithologist Verónica López.

A comprehensive study is still pending, so a senior year ornithology student will undertake this large task as his degree project, which will extend the process of the work far beyond the physical installation.

The project designers wished to create the artwork both as a physical object and as a system of relation between the project elements, between the elements and their surroundings, and with the ecosystem itself.

The project is built out of steel to withstand potentially harsh weather conditions.

The project was designed to be a replicable part of the landscape infrastructure in a way similar to that of road signage, with standard imagery that can be implemented within multiple sites.

Architect - Visual Artist> Claudio Magrini, Emilio Marín Collaborator> René Mendoza - Pablo Salas