



The Cannibal Lot

Stories from the River

SOLO

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Collective Construction

Summary

This project was a collaboration with Oxbow Architecture of Saskatoon. A structure situated by a river that has been inspired by traditional Métis craftsmanship and techniques provided a serene environment for listening to "Stories from the River" during Nuit Blanche YXE 2021.

Amidst the pedestrian flow and chaos, this structure acts as a passage of tranquility, offering a place for passersby to rest and contemplate the river, its significance to our community, its history, and its future. The audio recording by Muskwa Lerat featured Maria Campbell and Rita Bouvier as the Voice of the River. The project was supported by SK Arts while the fabrication was done in collaboration with Core Neighbourhood Youth Co-Op.

Lessons

- The installation serves as a communal gathering spot, encouraging interaction and storytelling among diverse community members, which strengthens social bonds.
- The project incorporates traditional Métis design elements, highlighting how contemporary architecture can honour and preserve cultural heritage.
- The environmental harmony emphasizes sustainable design by using locally sourced materials and eco-friendly construction techniques.
- Through narrative spaces & multi-sensory experiences, the integration of audio stories into the architectural design transforms the space into a living gallery, where art and storytelling enhance the visitor experience.
- Invites cultural dialogue through the cross-disciplinary techniques used.

