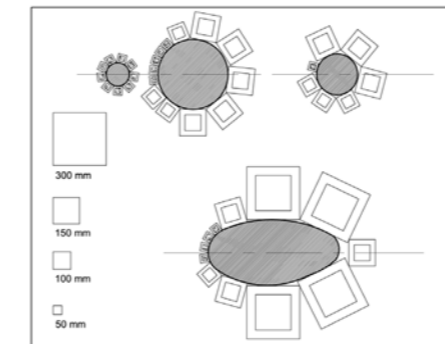
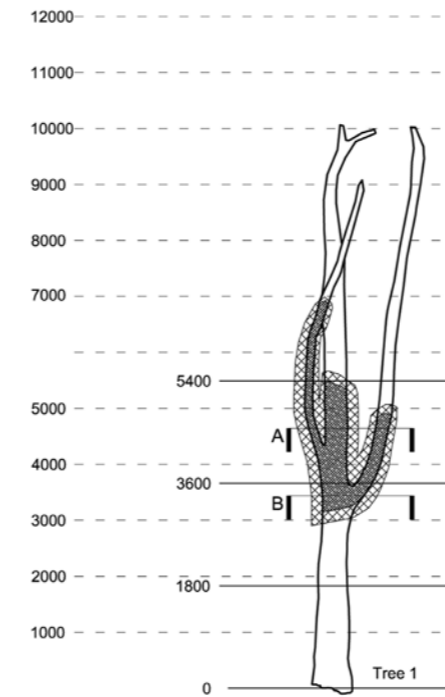
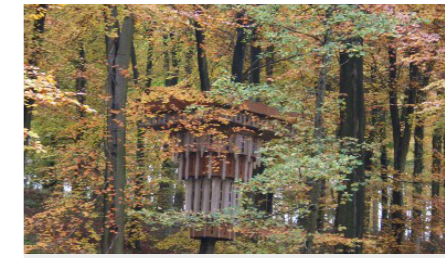
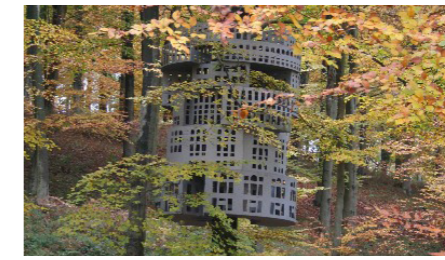


Kingswood Arts

PROJECT PROFILE

Client London Fieldworks
Location Kingswood, Kent
Size / Cost £27,000
Team Structures - Webb Yates
Fabricator - Set Squad Ltd



This Kingswood arts project, named “Super Kingdom”, consists of three striking habitats, perched loftily in trees, specially designed to encourage native and migrant animals to take up residence. The ‘luxury show homes’, modelled on the imperious palaces of Stalin, Mussolini and Ceausescu, reference both despotic, fantastical architecture and the subtler, more organic, but no less awe-inspiring habitats that animals quietly create for themselves.

Super Kingdom is part of the Hibernator Trilogy, a series of works connecting myth and science, environment and technology, the virtual and the real. The project was inspired by global concerns regarding the impact of urban development on the natural world, and the resulting human and animal displacement that this causes. Super Kingdom engages with the changing habitat and animal relocation evident in King’s Wood, a consequence of both climate instability, and the recent drive in forest management to increase bio-diversity.

As the artists’ concept was a response to the conflicting relationship of nature and the built environment’s impact on it, correspondingly the architectural design needed to superimpose the formality

and scale of monumental order onto the unpredictable organic forms of nature, but for an end user group more usually subordinated to human needs. Working closely in a flat structure the team of artist, architect, structural engineer and fabricator met at regular workshops to spin ideas around the table and collectively determine the optimal approach to this intriguing set of parameters.

“The luxury show homes are modelled on the imperious palaces of Stalin, Mussolini and Ceausescu, with the intention of providing habitat for native and non-native animal species within the forest.”

Liz Pickard, Director, Consarc Architects

Limited timescale and budget

Program and budget were limited: the entire project construction budget was just shy of £27,000, and the delivery period from concept sketches to installation just three months. The public opening ceremony was attended by over 1000 visitors.

Art Collaboration

ARCHITECTURE