

# THE HEART OF THE CITY

**AUTHOR: ANAISA FRANCO STUDIO**  
 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, 2015

The Heart of the city is an interactive public art sculpture that pulses light according to people's heartbeats. The sculpture invites several people to sit and interact with the work. It was located on the corridor of Sydney Opera House during the VIVID Light Festival in 2015.

The interactivity of the work occurs when the viewer puts his finger on the pulse sensor located in the center of the sculpture, and it begins to pulse light according to the heart rate of the user. When no one is touching the pulse sensor, the heart of the city is waiting for its next user. The work hosts 5 people sitting and one interacting at a time.

The sculpture is covered with a light skin made of flexible LED Neon flex, where half of the leds pulses according to the left heart artery while the other half pulses according to the right heart artery, which creates a unique rhythm to be experienced by the user and its spectators.

The piece aims to bring together the heartbeat of the citizens by creating a heart to the city where people

are invited to hang out and experience an expansion of their own heart shared with others.

The shape of the sculpture comes from an original human heart model, which was modified to get the desired shape for the interactive public furniture which was inspired by the human organ.

The idea was to create an organic, cozy resemblance of a heart where several people could sit and feel comfortable in the sensitive light skin curvatures.

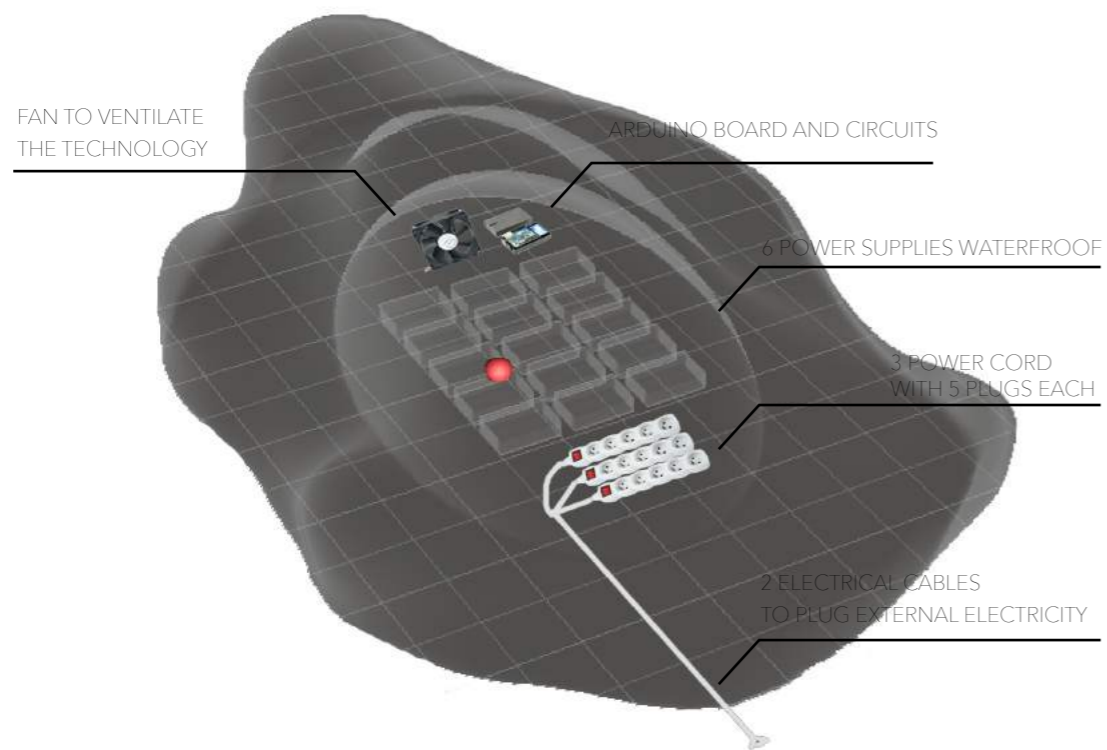
The interior structure was made by carving 3 blocks of Styrofoam using an electric chain saw and finishing with sand machines.

After the desired organic form was achieved, several layers of fiberglass and resin were added of fiberglass and resin in order to reinforce and protect the structure, which needed to carry hundreds of kilos from the led neon flex plus 6 people sitting on it.

The sculpture is robust, waterproof and durable.

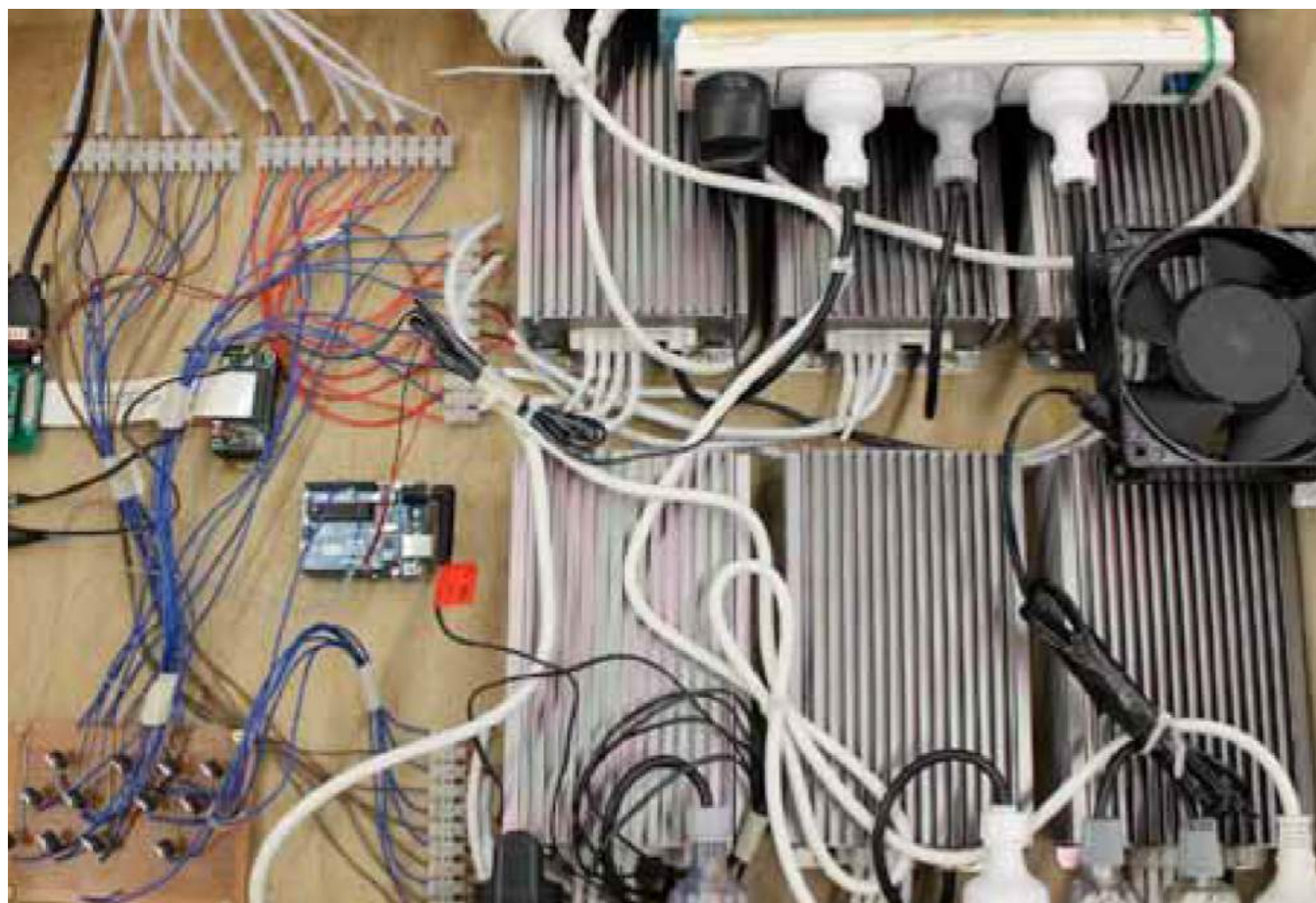
image of courtesy, Anaisa Franco Studio





▲ DIAGRAM OF THE TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED

▼ CONSTRUCTION PHASE



The sculpture contains the electronic system in a waterproof box with microcontrollers, power supplies, and a fan to ventilate the system.

The pulse sensor was located in the center of the external part of the sculpture and there are 2 cables to turn on and off the work that was located in the bottom of the shape, each one requires 10 amp of electric power. It was developed in the Design lab of UTS, the University of Technology Sydney from April 18th until May 22nd, 2015.



▼ HEART SENSOR



# SWEET REFLECTION

**AUTHORS: ANAISA FRANCO STUDIO & RODRIGO WAIHIWE**  
SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, 2016

Sweet Reflection is an interactive public art in a shape of a parametric honeycomb pavilion where visitors could obtain their chocolate or pancake portraits made with a digital food printer. The translucent cover of the pavilion was also printed using images of the people.

The purpose of this record and the autophagic act symbolized by the food came from the artist's desire to create a memorial that celebrated the ethnic diversity of the Bom Retiro neighborhood and to return that experience in the form of personalized sweets. The public can literally eat themselves.

The organic pavilion projected for the sweetness digital kitchen was developed using generative modeling and digital fabrication techniques which allow to construct an organic form from hexagonal wood structures that resemble honeycomb.

The work generates interactivity and a social participation system giving a cannibalistic outline by showing a playful idea of random construction of several layers, which transforms the facility into a kind of temporary memorial neighbourhood, assimilating

transient anthropology in printed panels and edible units.

The URBE Public Art Festival aimed to investigate the public space through artistic practices that assimilate the fusion between work and place with temporary interventions, creating a course guided by the interest of the viewer. The work was installed on the edge of Luz Park, on Prates Street, its purpose was to create a temporary memorial for the population of the immigrant neighborhood and to celebrate the ethnic diversity of the Bom Retiro neighborhood by returning that experience in the form of designed personalized sweets.

The starting point of the project was the creation of a double-curved shell that would associate with a hive and from that, with the use of generative modeling, this shell was subdivided into hexagonal panels giving rise to a reticulated structure with circular double fittings between the edges, which stabilize mainly by compression.

About 1200 unique pieces of the structure, from navy plywood, were cut into a 15 mm thick CNC milling



image of courtesy, Anaisa Franco Studio



cutter. Through the identification of the virtual model of the project, the manual assembly of the structural parts was done with the aid of a rubber hammer.

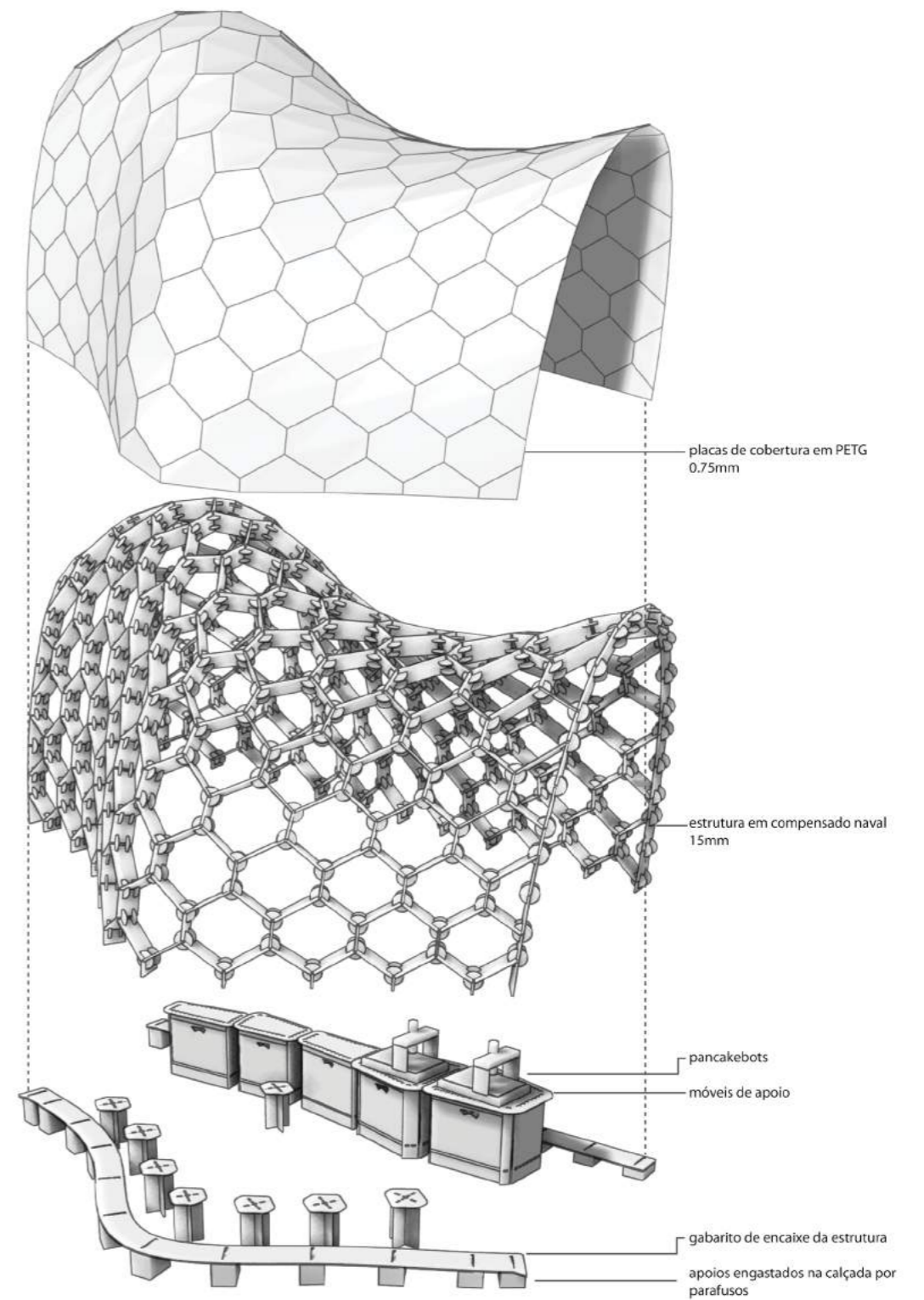
The cover of the pavilion was made of PETG plates of 0.75 mm translucent, to form a scale of the structure, which in turn was fixed through staples on the side of the structural uprights. This plastic has the double function of protecting people and electronic equipment from the elements and fixing the faces that came to stamp the pavilion. The support furniture for team use and electronic equipment - the pancake bot digital press, tablets and the printing press - were designed following the same aesthetic and the same process of generative modeling of the pavilion from the division in hexagons.

The Chacara do Jockey Park, in the western part of the city of São Paulo, was the place where the pre-assembly of the pavilion structure was fabricated and made.

The production was technically assisted by FabLab Livre SP of São Paulo City Hall and was planned to be pre-assembled into seven large parts to fit the truck, which transported the assembly site to the exhibition space. At the assembly site, the structure was fixed on a jig that rests on small boxes of navy plywood fastened to the sidewalk by means of pressure screws.

▲ PEOPLE PLAYING

▼ NIGHT VIEW



▲ CONSTRUCTIVE EXPLICATION