

Carried by cherry trees

*A small space inside a treetop,
surrounded by cherry-blossoms,
sunbeams break through the canopy,
bees swarming over my head,
a cloud of sweet fragrance hangs in the air,
breathing in, closing my eyes,
the worries fade, the stress eases,
for just a moment.
This moment is everything.*

Structure

A space 2 by 2 meters, 2 meters in the air held up not by columns or ropes but by cherry-trees which have grown, inside the structure, becoming inseparable holding it up, as long as they are alive.

The basis for the space is a steel-frame, held up (temporarily) with ceiling support (Deckenstützen) as long as the trees need to grow inside the steel frame, the (temporary) foundations are from concrete plates, which can be easily removed.

Process

Together with young adults from Volkshilfe-Jobtrain gardening and crafts group (Garten- und Handwerk Gruppe) we will build the structure under the guidance of metal-workers, transport it to the Academy of Fine Arts and raise it. The structure will be created from scrap steel (from Buntmetall, with whom I already collaborate) and then we will plant cherry trees (between 4 and 8) which we have grown in our own small nursery at Zukunftshof and every winter we will come to weave them into the steel structure, fusing them to achieve a co-creation of the cherry tree and our human labor. After 5-10 years when the trees are sufficiently strong, the ceiling support is removed in a celebration, creating a space that is held up only by the growth of the cherries.

Program

2 years of pandemic, the measures taken against it, war being waged just several hundred kilometers to the east, economic and ecological crisis have shattered the mental health of the population. Depression, anxiety, problems with sleeping and panic attacks affect an increasing percentage of the population, showing very clearly that health is not just the absence of physical illness. „Carried by cherry trees“ should give people a place to relax, calm down or share a conversation, inside a tree in the middle of the city, creating a habitat for countless non-human life.

Background

Before I attended Academy of Fine Arts, I worked as a gardener and social worker (mostly training young adults). Together with Theresa Schütz and Rüdiger Supping I initiated treecycle two years ago, where we developed a system for the greening of the city out of industrial waste. From the beginning it was crucial for me that we try to combine ecological with social issues. For two years I am working together with young adults who suffer from psychological illnesses at Zukunftshof to create an impulse for the ecological transformation of our city. The young adults (between 14 and 22 years old) come mostly from very poor families and suffer from trauma (from war, fleeing, abuse, neglect, etc.), they are part of a program of Volkshilfe who is working together with us. I try to find an approach to work that can positively influence the psychological issues of them (working together with plants, animals, mix of collective and individual work) and which at the same time create an ecological benefit. Caring for each other, caring for the land and its biodiversity is in my point of view the only way to deal with individual as well as collective trauma and problems.

The project would be part of agri_culture (<https://www.agri-culture.art/>) which is a cultural association which was initiated by me and which aims to create a new mode of culture which should focus on the fundamental aspects of human existence, the interaction of humankind with the ecosystems that support our existence. Currently we are still in the early steps, but we will cofound this project with friends in the Philippines, Portugal and Colombia, the concept is that we work in our specific land, with all its particularities of geography, culture, history, climate, etc. and through this approach a new universalism, rooted in our particularities and earth.

References:

<https://www.treecycle.at/>

<https://www.zukunftshof.at/>

<https://www.johanneswiener.com/>

<https://www.volkshilfe-wien.at/2021/07/09/kuehlende-stadt-oase-am-columbusplatz/>

<https://www.volkshilfe-wien.at/arbeit-beschaeftigung-titel-tbd/ausbildungsfit-jobtrain/>

https://www.dieangewandte.at/aktuell/aktuell_detail?artikel_id=1631442630926

https://www.meinbezirk.at/favoriten/c-lokales/gruene-moebel-am-columbusplatz_a4736171

Partners:

Volkshilfe Wien, Jobtrain

(<https://www.volkshilfe-wien.at/arbeit-beschaeftigung-titel-tbd/ausbildungsfit-jobtrain/>)

ECM Buntmetall-Schrott GmbH

(<https://www.ecm-buntmetall.com/>)

Jergitsch Gitter u Eisenkonstruktionen GesmbH

(<https://www.jergitsch.at/>)

Time Schedule

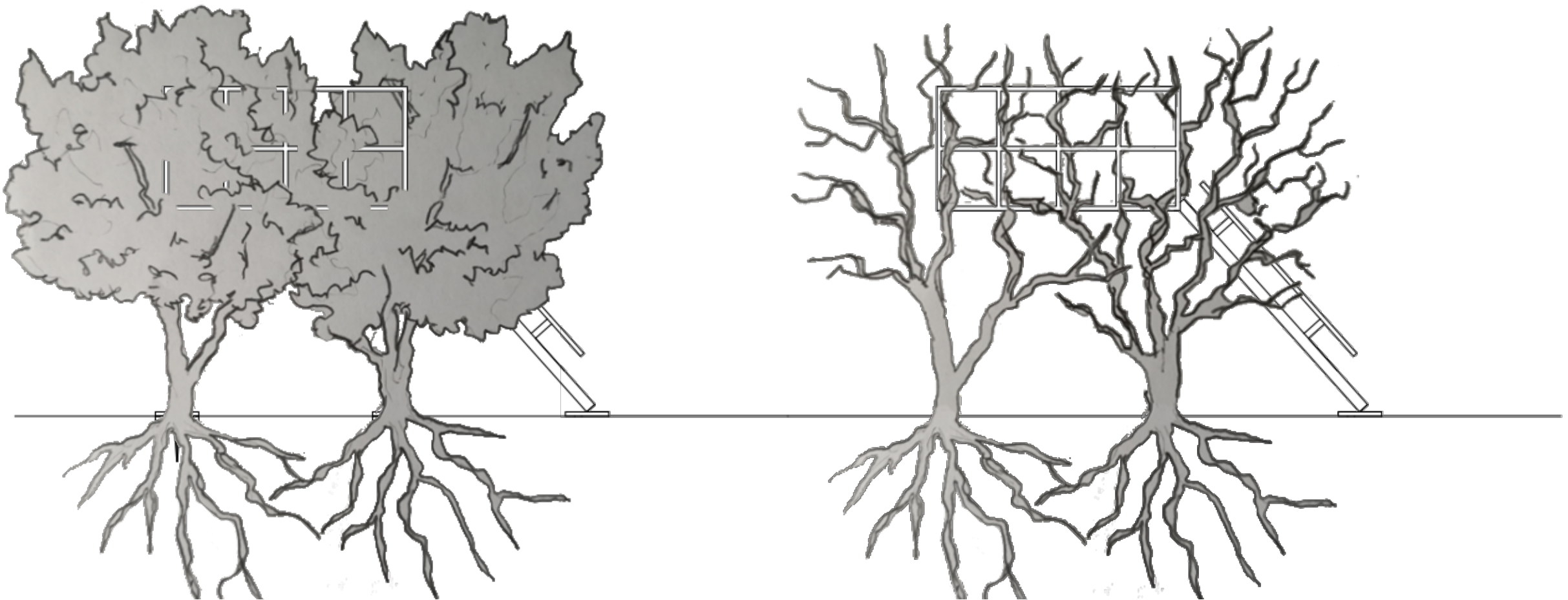
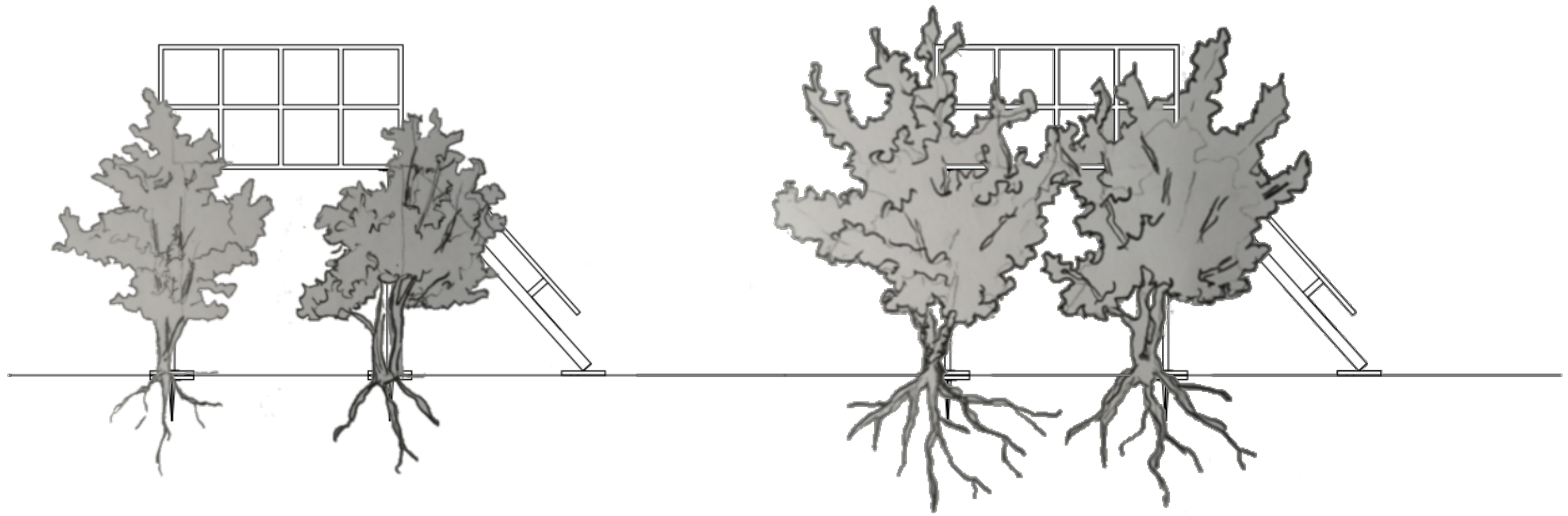
June-August '22, building the structure

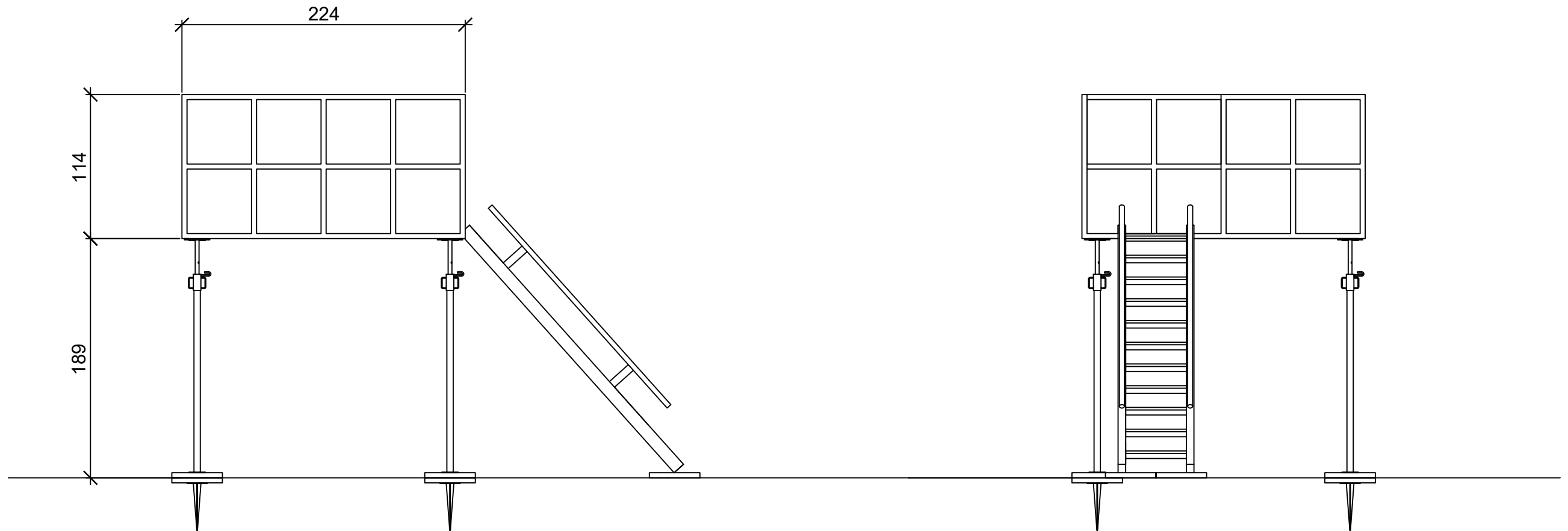
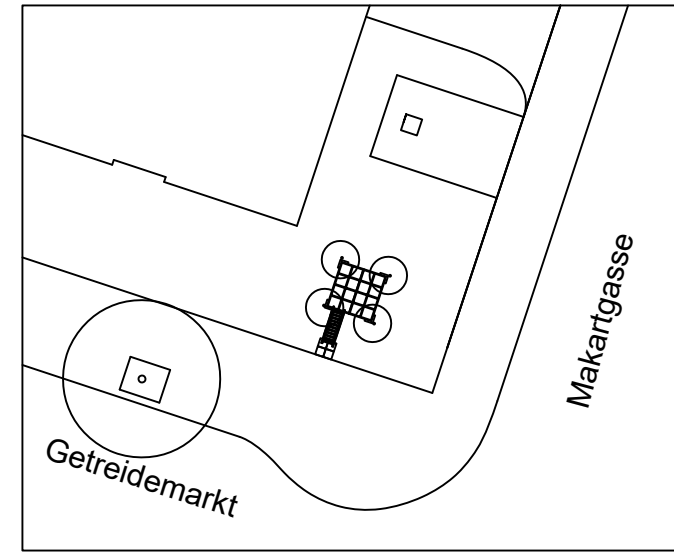
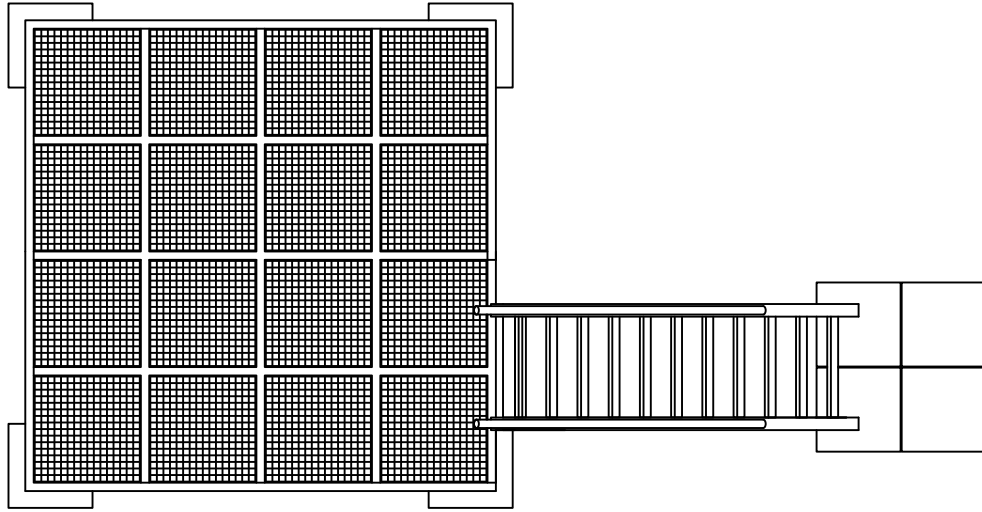
September '22, preparing the “foundations”, transporting the structure and raising it

October '22, planting the trees in a small celebration, centering the young adults from Volkshilfe

Budget

Steel from scrap-yard	1000,-
Cherry trees	400,-
transport	500,-
Professional assistance Jergitsch	1000,-
Tools, foundations, ceiling support, screws, etc.	1000,-
Total	3900,-





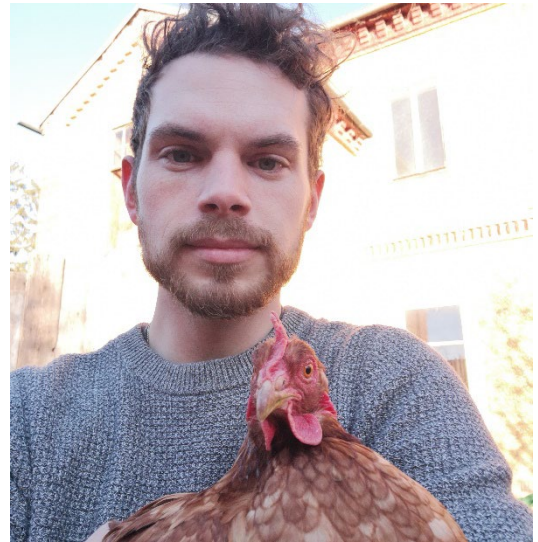
Johannes Wiener

***1992, Wien**

johanneswiener.com

wiener.ecosystems@gmail.com

Ostmarkgasse, 1210 Wien



Künstlerische Arbeit

August 2019, „Sea Wall“, Gruppenausstellung mit Poklong Anading
Manilla, Philippinen

Februar 2020 - Ausstellung, „Faces of Ecocide“,
Project Space Pilipinas, Lucban, Quezon, Philippinen

April 2020 – Installation, „The garden under the two spruces“,
Hornstein

Juli-September 2020 – „Kunst und Ökologie“ – Workshops mit Jugendlichen der Volkshilfe Wien,
im Rahmen von Kulturkatapult – einer Initiative der Stadt Wien, Wien

September 2020 – Gruppen-Ausstellung, „Wach bleiben!- Junge politische Kunst in Österreich“,
Raumschiff, Linz

März 2021 – Foto Wien, Group-Show, „Wach bleiben!- Junge politische Kunst in Österreich“,
Raumschiff, Linz

Juli-Oktober 2020 - „Kunst und Ökologie“ – Workshops mit Jugendlichen der Volkshilfe Wien, im
Rahmen von Kulturkatapult – einer Initiative der Stadt Wien, Wien

März 2021 – Urban Foto-Synthesis, Gruppenausstellung mit Angelo Iaia, Chiara Cordeschi,
Parkstreifen Taborstraße 51, Wien

April 2021 – „Geformte Erde“, Gruppenausstellung mit Chiara Cordeschi, Ziegmuseum Wien

August 2021 – Maritime Reflexionen mit Sebi Seib, T/abor, Wien

Jänner 2022, Initiator agri_culture (<https://www.agri-culture.art/>)

Berufserfahrung

Seit 2022	Landwirtschaftliche Planung und Organisation, Zukunftshof (zukunftshof.at)
Seit 2021	Mitbegründer treecycle (treecycle.at), Bereich: Ökologie, Produktion, Soziale Arbeit
2014 –2017	Volkshilfe Wien, Sozialarbeiter im Bereich Garten und Handwerk
2013 –2014	Starkl Gmbh, Gartenfacharbeiter im Bereich Gartenneuanlage
2012 –2013	Stadtgartenamt MA 42, Gartentechniker

Ausbildung

Seit 2022	Masterstudium Architektur, Akademie der Bildenden Künste Wien
2017-2021	Bachelorstudium Architektur an der Akademie der bildenden Künste Wien (2017-2018 TU Wien)
2006-2011	HBLFA Schönbrunn für Gartenbau, Zweig Gartengestaltung
2002-2006	BRG4 Waltergasse
1998-2002	Volksschule Schäffergasse