

**Being different as a Personality and being
Design Unique
requires Respect, Bravery, and Patience**

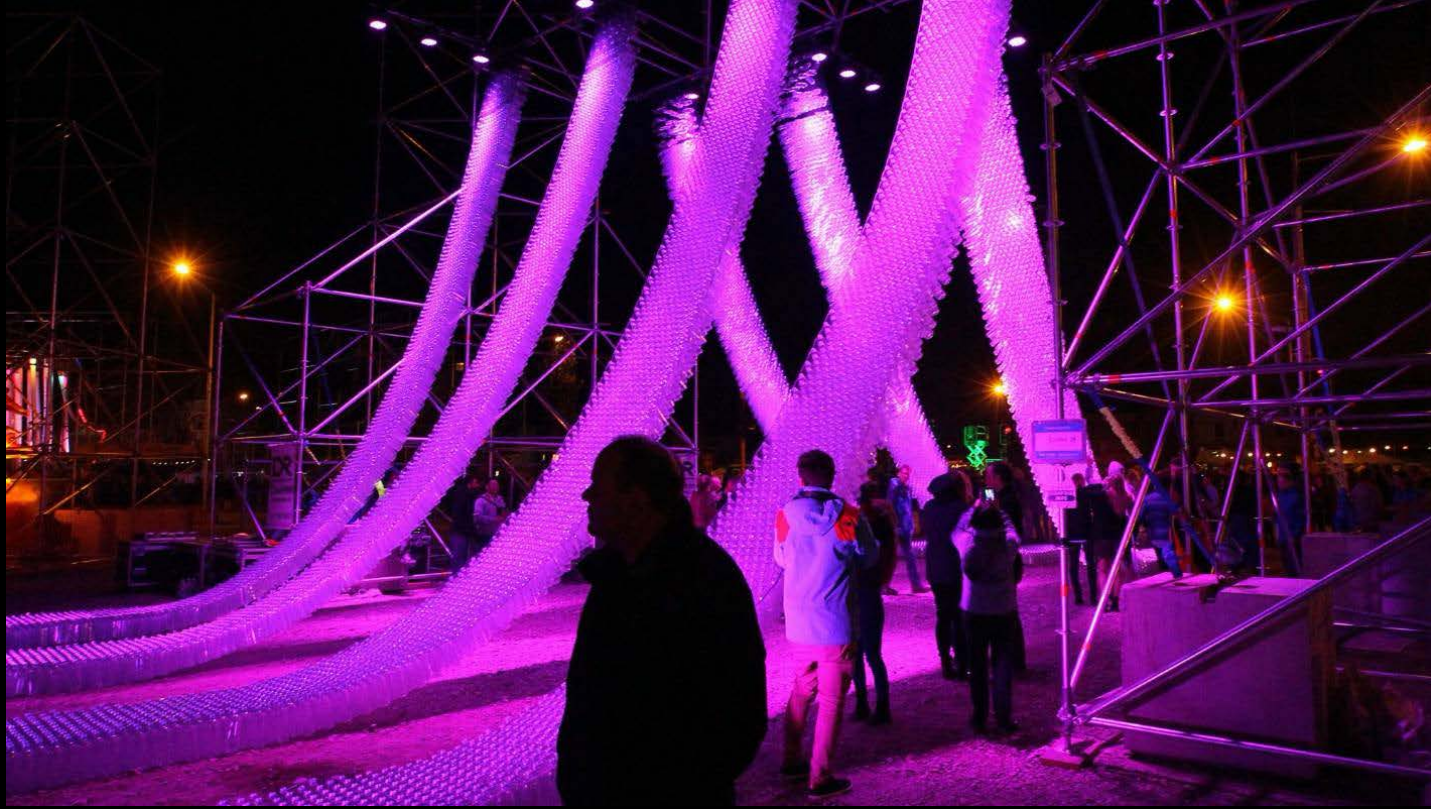
VS.

**What learnings from The New Zealand All
Blacks Rugby team can be gleaned by tertiary
Architectural Students in teambuilding and
dealing with differences**



The *Festival of Transitional Architecture (FESTA)* is a voluntary organisation that came into being after the devastating Christchurch earthquakes between September 2010 and February 2011 (the latter claiming the lives of 185 people).

“CityUps” was their 2014 version of the Event.



The *Festival of Transitional Architecture (FESTA)* was a group was set up to specifically to explore the CBD (Central Business District) voids before the ‘rebuild’ of the city could commence.



ADAM AMIES

CAMERON DUL

DASEUL KIM

DHRUTI RATHOD



KUNAL PATEL

LONETONA PEATO

RANDI FUTIALO

SALLY ZHONG



EMILY PEARCE

JASON CHHOUR

JOEL NGUYEN

KEVIN SU



SAMIN IFTIKHAR

TAJVIR SINGH

HEIMIR OSKARSSON

YUJIN NAH

Group *ING*: 16 people strong.

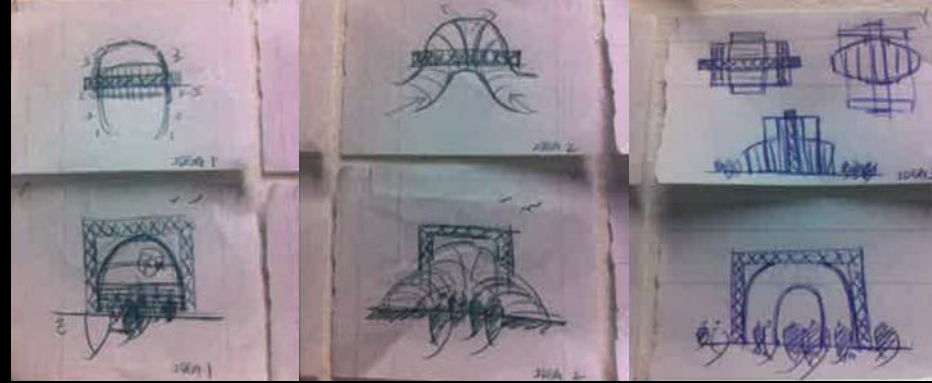
Group *ING* (for 'Inspire, Nurture, Grow').

ING's composition was six female and ten male students, with nationalities ranging through Pacific Island, Kiwi, Indian, Vietnamese, Chinese and one Danish student. The group's members ranged in age from 19 through to 25 years old.



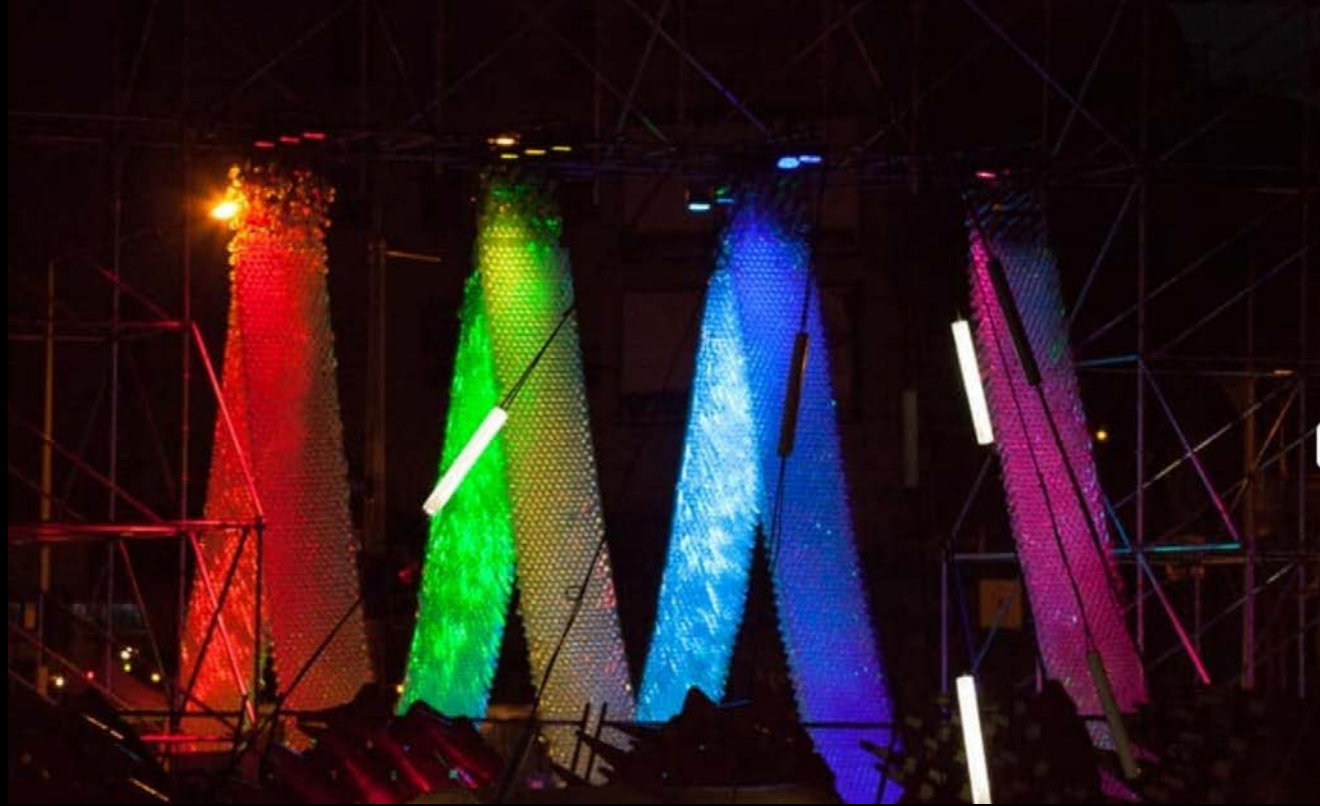
Each student team was given a 15m (wide) x 10m (high) 'frame' (put together from scaffolding tubes and clamps). This was to be the students' 'canvas', and their task was to design and erect an installation that explored how the city might rise up again from the shattered remains of a once bustling provincial city.

The test is: 'Do people enjoy engaging with the object?'
[Rieger] (Harvie, 2014)



Negotiating different personalities within a group of tertiary level architectural design students requires many humane skills including care, listening, and tolerance.

Likewise designing (and constructing) a 1:1 scaled intervention within zero budget constraints requires listening to different (silent) materials, via careful hands-on trial and error iterations to discover which materials “talk” best to each other in order to resolve issues of structure and poetics.



There's more to *FESTA's* CityUps than carnival, of course. For architecture students, it's a chance to actually build something instead of drawing or fiddling with software.

‘Objects have to be constructed,’ says Rieger.”
(Harvie, 2014)



What has the playing of rugby got to do with a tertiary education design project?"

Building a team of different personalities from varying backgrounds is something the All Blacks pride themselves upon. The All Black's approach is unique to this part of the globe, and many have tried to emulate their success, transferring learnings to other sports and even into the business environment.



Ornithologists say that a flock of Bar-tailed Godwits is 70-percent more efficient than flying solo.

The birds seemingly share the load, and no bird is left behind. Māori, (first nation peoples' of *Aotearoa* / New Zealand), have a word for this sort of togetherness:

Whānau.



“Whānau can mean ‘extended family’”

Adapting Māori values and concepts to build a unique culture within the All Blacks seems to work. It is special to this land, to this place, to these people who dwell here.

When asked: “Do you feel your Group *ING* was rather like a large extended family?”, Emily responded:

“Yes definitely. At least this is how I felt in the group. We were quite an eclectic bunch of people – a range of ages, nationalities and personalities – but the project really brought all of us together working towards this common goal. Yes, we all had our strengths and weaknesses, and we all had different levels of motivation and enthusiasm for working on the project. I suppose since we were a group of 16, all of these differences and capabilities balanced out in the end. [Lone] was clearly our leader and he very naturally stepped into that position.”

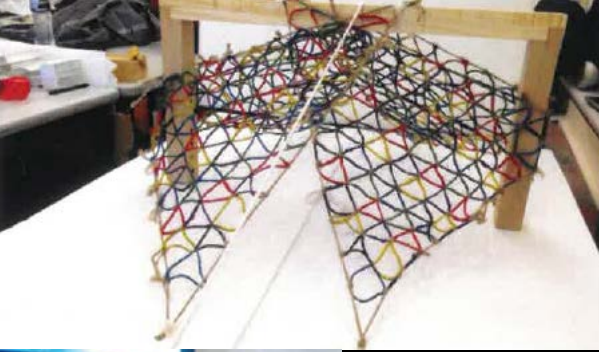
Traditionally the All Blacks have had a captain to lead their team of 15 on the playing field. However, in recent years it has been noted that the burden of leadership can be too much for one person, and so the All Blacks now talk consistently about 'the leadership group', where the load is spread, individuals step up, and there is "less 'me' and more 'we'" (Kerr, 2013).



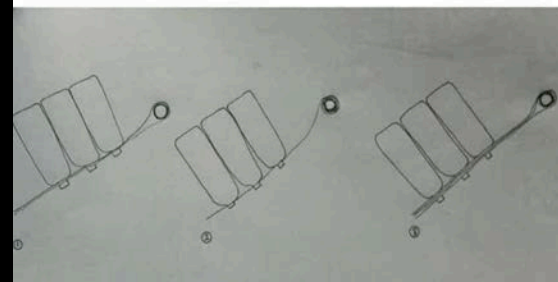
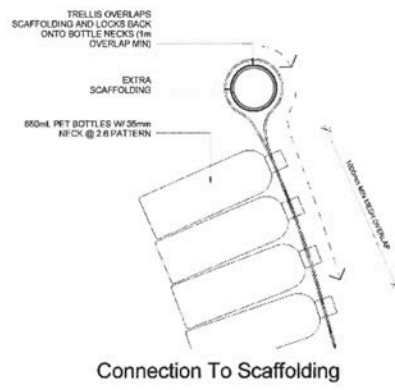
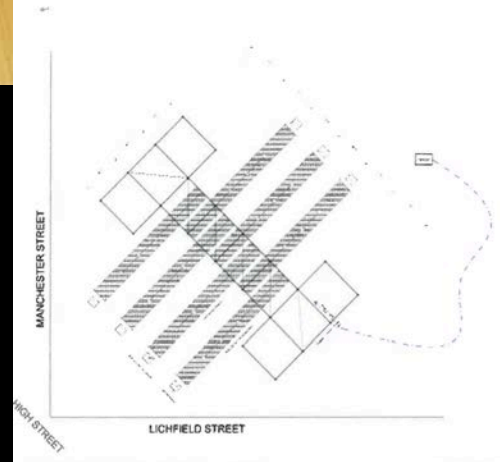
Commenting on the shared leadership aspect, Dhruti from Group *ING* added:



“I think there was certainly a group of ‘leaders’ (the winning group [leader] and 3-4 others) that would lead meetings/tasks and they collectively made decisions.”



FRAME DRAWING & DETAILS





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“I think that because we were such a diverse group there was a greater understanding/acceptance of the differences between us but I never felt that our cultural variation was a factor that affected the dynamics of how we worked – we all really cared about the project and so put our best efforts in to collectively make it work and we did work really well together because we all shared the same aim.”

(Dhruti, 2019)



As studio tutors, we were looking in at the Groups from the outside, treading carefully, not wanting to interfere too much with the student group dynamic...As tutors were just trying to encourage a hands-on learning environment, but in a hands-off way...The group members had to really find out for themselves, and hands-on crafting is one of the BEST ways to learn about materiality, and jointing.

The All Black team ethos revolves around a mantra of “Sweep the Sheds: Never be too big to do the small things that need to be done” (Kerr, 2013, p.2).



The *ING* Group lead [Lone] likewise amplified:

“There was definitely that sense and it helped that there were some highly energetic team members encouraging and pushing each other as the day went on. There were a couple of slackers and [some] complaints, but the team took them in their stride as we [all] wanted to just be able to finish strong.”



“The emotional rewards of craftsmanship holds out for attaining skill are twofold: people are anchored in tangible reality, and they can take pride in their work” (Sennett, 2008).

THE



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Hats off to a special Kiwi peak ESCAPE LIFTOUT

'Just call me Ella' Lorde chats ahead of tonight's big show GO A19



Holiday weekend brings out the pain

Tom Hunt and Charlie Gates

Enjoy a hot Labour Day but watch out for the pain of the South Island's most notorious winter accident.

Accidents on the road during the holiday weekend are a common sight and the South Island's most notorious winter accident.

The four-day Easter Weekend and the four-day Labour Weekend are the two most popular holiday weekends in New Zealand.

More than 100,000 accidents were reported during the Easter Weekend and the Labour Weekend.

Labour Weekend is a busy time for the South Island's most notorious winter accident.

New Zealand's next generation of architects transformed part of a high-rise building into a spectacle of light and form at the weekend.

People were out doing their lawn in preparation for summer and doing post-winter DIY around

the home. Everyone is coming out of hibernation, Melville said.

There were 22 injuries last Labour Weekend from motorists, some a suspected DIY injuries.

Last Labour Weekend 90 tram police accidents were recorded, the highest for any long weekend.

After a hot day, there are a lot of people out in the garden and it's the first big opportunity to clean up after winter.

Ambulance crews had been busy with a wide range of issues across the South Island this week.

There have been a number of motor vehicle accidents although thankfully nothing serious and thankfully no fatalities in the South Island, Hender said.

After a road block road full of overturned cars last Labour Week, and last year this weekend's road full had reached two by residents with cars still to go.

A woman died on State Highway 1 near Putaruru, Waikato on Saturday after her car and an oncoming truck collided.

A person was killed on Friday after a crash between a truck and a car on the Dairy Flat highway north of Auckland.

Spectators drawn to the light



New Zealand's next generation of architects transformed part of a high-rise building into a spectacle of light and form at the weekend.

Managers of Transport figures show that by Friday 22 people had died on New Zealand roads so far this year compared with 20 at the same time last year.

national Architecture Festival which aims to return life and energy to the city's heart has attracted hundreds of spectators.

Organisers invited urban practitioners, designers, artists and students to propose, discuss and possibly contribute to future for the city.

Their ideas culminated in the city's pavilion on the corner of Lambton, Manchester and High streets.

The free event featured an art and glowing installations making use of lights, music and a variety of materials.

Read more

If you the viewer has been part of a team, maybe a sports team, that became successful based on the sum of its parts, rose above adversity, ‘punched above its weight’, then you will know that magic, those sublime shared moments of accepting differences within the team (with each member having a role to carry out), when somehow the *whānau* and *mana*, (*spirit*) binds the different team members together to form a greater whole that overcomes the odds and performs successfully.

