Jan Kattein completes ‘hypnotic’ pavilion

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Intharg-based Jan Kattein Architects has completed this pavilion in Finsbury Fields near London Bridge.

Built in collaboration with architect and design studio MLA+ for the London Bridge Live Arts Festival, the structure features a series of mesh tubes topped with a free-moving floor. Glass fins have been inserted to form pillars between the tubes, providing shade and protection from the sun.

The pavilion is made of recycled materials and is designed to be easily dismantled at the end of the festival.

The pavilion is open from 24 August to 26 August.

The architect’s view

At ground level, a slightly raised landscape of plywood furniture elements creates space for performance, workshops and murder.

This year’s Live Art programme has informed the design concept and the reality of the pavilion in use. Natural forces, wind and rain, are the important component in the experience of the pavilion. The pavilion acts as a deliberate contrast to the surrounding built landscape. The use of architecture as a tool to engage with the transient qualities of the site, the weather and the idea and flow of human activity, in the city, is the key.

Urbanism works best where it can be shared and/or a variety of scales. Three across the river the pavilion will act as a temporary landmark for the festival with a focus on colour contrasting the brownstone skyline. At close range as an intimate space, windows and the pavilion from the making process engage the audience through a tactile and sensory experience.