

Fertile Ground

Fertile Ground consists of hundreds of small sculptures of flowers and plants constructed out of found and recycled objects. The materials used are entirely man-made, representing the human factor in the dispersal and potential dominance of non-native species. While the design of the sculptures is based on the anatomy of real plants, the flowers have inaccurate blooming periods, blossom on false "parent" plants, or exaggerate details of color and size. The sculptures are systematically named using an imaginary binomial nomenclature to describe the artistic composition of the new species.

Botanical gardens were originally established to exhibit some of the very new world species which would later escape into the European landscape. Bringing attention to the ecological, geographical, economic and social history of invasive species belongs to the educational tasks of a botanical garden. To trace a plant's journey of dispersal is also to follow the human tracks which may have accompanied it.

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sculptural exploration of non-native species

