

Your Friday Feature

Art in the City / Week 15

Grain Pit



Grain Pit, Futurefarmers, 2015

This week's feature is Grain Pit, a structural installation in the lobby of Republic Bank, 601 West Market Street, presented by the Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft (KMAC). The Futurefarmers' Flatbread Society installation is modeled after trading floors once used to sell grain, and was built with reclaimed Kentucky barn wood. The sculpture will be used for public programs and hands-on workshops about food and economy.

Futurefarmers, established in 1995, describes their collective as “artists, researchers, designers, farmers, scientists, engineers, illustrators, people who know how to sew, cooks and bus drivers with a common interest in creating work that challenges current social, political and economic systems,” and is driven by the mission of “cultivating consciousness.”

Historically, grain was used as currency and traded in "grain pits" using a method called "crying out." Now, food items are traded as commodities almost entirely online - similar to the banking industry. This sculpture, installed in the Republic Bank Corporate Center lobby, symbolizes our changing relationship with food and economy. Community members are invited to engage with the installation as a space for visiting, conversation, and meetings. It will be open to the public during bank hours, Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm, from May 22 - September 6, 2015.