

Floating Garden

Beth Galston, Artist

2019, Pioneer Building, 1760 Revere Beach Parkway, Everett, MA

Materials: Cast resin, LEDs, copper tubing, wires, cables

Dimensions: 16' H x 5' W x 8'6" L

Floating Garden, the first permanent piece in the "Luminous Garden" series, was designed and built specifically for the Pioneer building's grand 32' tall atrium. This environment of glowing forms is made of 6" translucent cast resin shapes based on acorn caps, amber colored LEDs, and a sinuous network of copper tubing and electrical wires.

The organic forms create a multilayered "garden," which cascades down from the ceiling and floats overhead in the lobby. The installation suggests a community of plants or creatures powered by light. The elements are similar but each slightly different in size and shape, contributing a feeling of growth and movement. Networks of wires and glowing caps produce a lively three-dimensional drawing.

The piece transforms throughout the day as the sun shifts. At nighttime, the sculpture is particularly dramatic as it reflects onto adjacent glass walls, doubling and sometimes tripling its presence, appearing to be in multiple locations in the space. The sculpture creates an immersive experience for visitors, who can explore it from a variety of vantage points: below, above, from the sides, and up close on a floating 2nd floor staircase, where one can view the labor-intensive handwork. My desire is to create a world that invites people in and leads them on a journey, thereby engaging their thoughts, senses, and imagination.