



FIGMENT

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FIGMENT Terrace 2011: Artist-designed Minigolf projects announced

FIGMENT, a free, family-friendly participatory arts event held in multiple cities and attracting tens of thousands of participants each year, has announced 14 artist-designed minigolf holes that will form the FIGMENT Terrace Minigolf Course on Governors Island from May 27 through September 25, 2011.

More info:

Official FIGMENT Minigolf page (with hi-res images): <http://figmenproject.org/minigolf>
FIGMENT general info and hi-res images: <http://figmentproject.org/about/press-resources>

About FIGMENT:

Founded in 2007 on New York City's Governors Island with a handful of projects and a few thousand enthusiasts, FIGMENT has grown exponentially into a multi-day, multi-city event that drew over 30,000 participants in NYC and Boston in 2010. With the addition of Jackson, Mississippi and Detroit, Michigan in 2011, FIGMENT continues its mission to offer free, inclusive and participatory art to entire communities, removing the barriers of museum and gallery walls and entrance fees, and blurring the lines between those who create and those who enjoy art. FIGMENT NYC 2011 dates are June 10-12.

In addition to the weekend-long arts festival, FIGMENT presents three free season-long interactive exhibitions on Governors Island: the FIGMENT Minigolf Course, highlighted below; The FIGMENT Terrace Sculpture Garden; and the City of Dreams Pavilion, a centerpiece for arts activity on the island, the result of an international design competition created in partnership with ENYA and SEAoNY.

FIGMENT is a project of Action Arts League, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, and is created and produced by a coalition of volunteers. FIGMENT is entirely funded by grants and individual donations, and accepts no corporate sponsorship of any kind. FIGMENT is supported by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council, as well as by the Fund for Creative Communities, supported by New York State Council on the Arts and administered by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. FIGMENT Boston is produced with support from the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, the designated stewards of the Rose Kennedy Greenway and site of FIGMENT Boston.

About FIGMENT Minigolf Course:

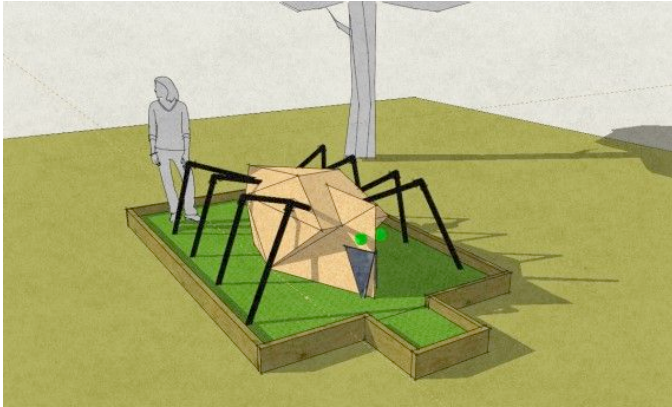
2011 marks the fourth summer that FIGMENT will create a free, artist-designed minigolf course on Governors Island. The course has been a huge success, in constant use throughout the entire season and loved by visitors of all ages. It is estimated that last year over 200,000 people visited FIGMENT Terrace, which includes the minigolf course.

This year's course will have 14 holes inspired by the theme "Bugs and Features," with FIGMENT giving its own participatory and inspired twist to the fascinating world of bugs -- of both the creepy crawl and the technological variety. It shares our fascination with the way that bugs make our skin crawl, but at the same time live among us symbiotically and can be helpful in keeping our world in balance. We hope to provide a place for wonder and dialogue, and an environment where man and bug can putt away in harmony. The FIGMENT Minigolf Course will be open and free for the public to enjoy while the island is open Fri-Sun & holiday Mondays May 27-Sep 25, 2011.

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FIGMENT Terrace 2011 Minigolf Course Holes

#1 The Spider Hole by Anton Plano assisted by Lila Cardell



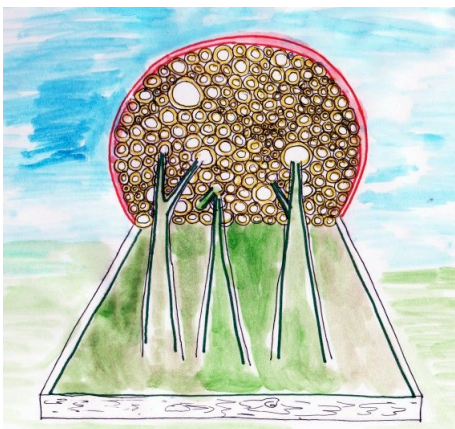
At The Spider Hole one plays the ball under or around the legs of a centrally located spider who is protecting his turf. Many insects are considered menacing or dangerous while they actually do much good such as pollinating and eating other insects that harm plants. The only thing people have to fear on this spider is not making par.

#2 A Stroll Through the Backyard by Keith Richard Griffiths with assistance by Emily Yuen



Come take a stroll through your average backyard and encounter some of the small neighbors dwelling there. As you shrink down to see them at their height, you will face a beautiful butterfly, a busy bee, a Zen snail, a sensuous centipede, and lastly you will come face to face with a fearsome spider. This hole takes you on a mini adventure in a place you would never think to find. Have fun but beware!

#3 [cmd]B by Samuel Sherman and Jacquelyn Strycker



[cmd]B takes as its inspiration both the classic Donkey Kong 3 arcade game and the honeycomb prisms built by bees. Tubes of various diameters of pvc pipe are bound together with a ratcheted industrial tie-down band. From the tee-off location, the minigolfer can choose from different ramps. These ramps, built at various slopes, lead to various pvc tubes through which the ball travels. The ball rolls through the slanted pvc hive to land at various locations on the opposite putting green.

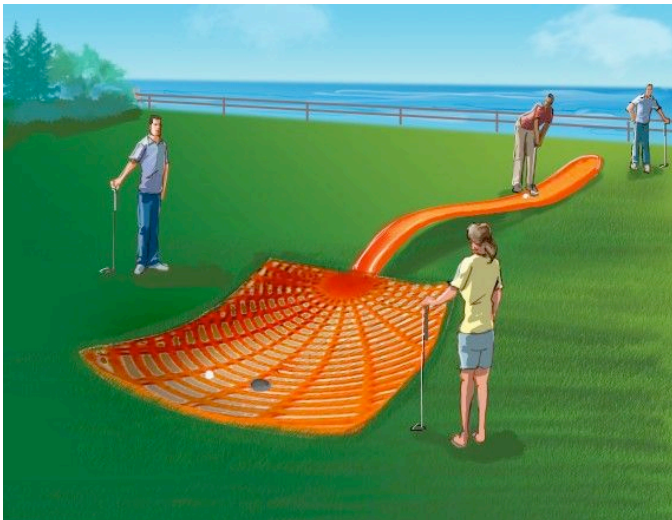
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#4 Anton by Amy Gentry, Adel Kerpely and Corin Wenger



In a dense urban environment buildings come and go and changes happen in what appears to be a chaotic manner. Are our patterns really so chaotic? If put between glass, would a system of organic order emerge from the seeming randomness? We ask these questions and ask our visitors to engage in a moment of whimsy and curiosity. We also nod to the late Milton Levine for encouraging generations of children to engage with the natural world and look a bit closer.

#5 A Very Fly Swatter by Jason Lucas, Bob Scott, Bob Seetin, Lilah Amon-Lucas



This is A Very Fly Swatter. On one hand it's an oversized icon of pest-ridding technology. On the other - it's a contraption large enough to be turned against its creator. What happens when our weapons grow beyond of our control? Something to contemplate or ignore while you enjoy putting this hole. Oh, and hope you brought some bug spray!

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#6 Bed Bug Hazard by Yung Oh Le Page



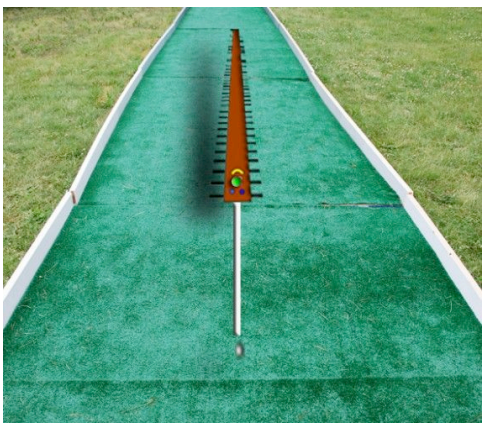
Have you ever seen the frustration of a professional golfer stuck in a sand trap, pathetically trying to hit his ball back into play?! If you ever had Bed Bugs, you certainly know how he feels! With this tribute to that pit of sandy menace, we present Bed Bug Hazard! Spend a frustrating afternoon ridding your bed of this tenacious vermin! Bed Bug Hazard will be sure to disappoint and confound those who are frantically caught in its overwhelming annoyance! Just when you thought the ball was back in play, guess again and take another look into Bed Bug Hazard!

#7 The Composting Micro Bug Food Spiral by Dee Dee Maucher of The MoS Collective



The multitudinous microorganisms and itty bitty critter friends all over and around us can also process our food waste. They help make nutritious soil for food deliciousness. This golf hole is a 3 step compost system for soil building and food growing. The cycle is powered by the likes of such characters as beneficial microbes, fungi, worms, bees, lady bugs and the snail, a mollusk, which helps aggregate the soil. These workers help turn organic waste into the best fertilizer for free! Together with bugs and microbes, we are rebuilding our topsoil, making soil richer and our food tastier.

#8 All Stretched Out by Katz Family



Our Centipede was inching along Division Road one day late spring, when it passed a Minigolf Course which was under construction at the time. Pausing to observe, he found an enormous beach towel and decided to take a nap. He barely finished untying all 100 of his shoes when he fell into a deep sleep and it doesn't look like he'll be awakening until mid-fall. That's how he became hole #8.

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#9 Bee-ware by Anna Descartes



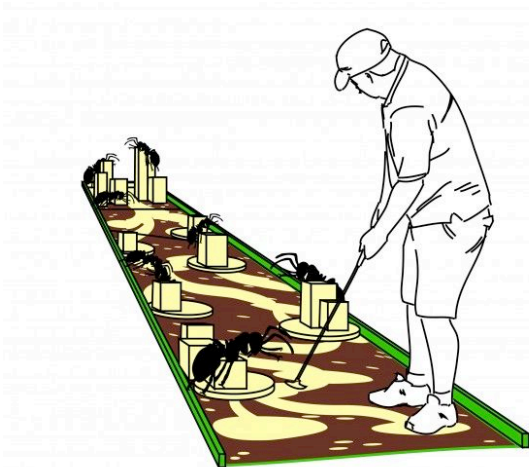
This minigolf hole draws whimsical inspiration from a bee-friendly garden on a summer afternoon. Utilizing available repurposed materials from Build It Green NYC and Materials for the Arts, Bee-ware's Par 3 will leave you buzzing.

#10 Tillie by Elizabeth Cherry, Damon Hamm, and Daniel Gould (returning hole from 2010)



A relic of the once famous Coney Island Astroland gets repurposed for a new life on Governors Island. This hole takes the form of an old skeeball machine ravaged by time and in the process of being reclaimed by the earth. Turning the old scoring method on its ear, this time players try to score the least they can. The color scheme and imagery is inspired by Asbury Park, New Jersey's Tillie and old photos from Coney Island, New York.

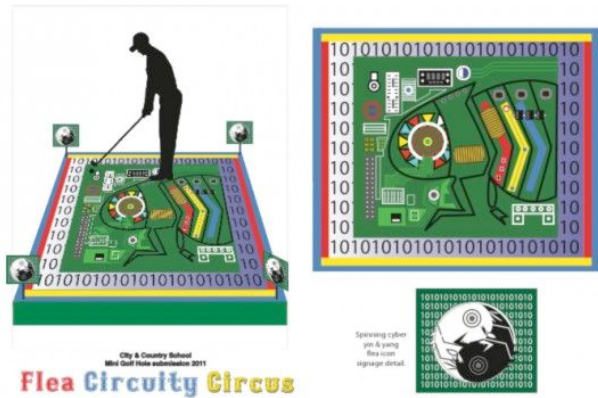
#11 Urban Ant Farm by Alex Petrowsky



The Ant Farm. An American cultural icon of bug related imagery. The people's terrarium. The nature lover's TV. This hole presents New York City as an oversized ant colony, with everybody hurrying into similar directions, working towards common goals, and sometimes carrying seemingly unbearable loads. Ant Farm uses metaphor to create an implied narrative, an insight into society. We aren't all that different from bugs after all.

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#12 Flea Circuitry Circus by Maggie Ens, Ian Klapper, Marc Sloan, City & Country School



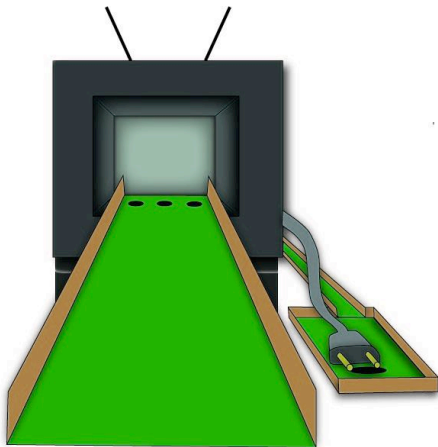
Flea Circuitry Circus players maneuver their golf ball through a maze of motherboard obstacles and spinning binary code inspired by Alexander Calder's legendary found object circus made for the young at heart. Flea Circuitry Circus visually and physically promotes biosensitivity as well as expresses the inherent bugginess of technology.

#13 The Venus Flytrap by Boris Ravvin with Friends (returning hole from 2010)



Dionaea muscipula is a carnivorous plant that catches and digests animal prey (mostly insects and arachnids). The trapping structure is formed by the terminal portion of each of the plant's leaves. The plant's common name refers to Venus, the Roman goddess of love & Who has promised you that all your dreams will be sweet?

#14 The Golf Channel by Emily Tomasik and Michael Oshins



The Golf Channel is not on TV. It's at Governors Island, mixing current themes of perception and choice into a challenging mini golf hole. One of the three holes in the TV will lead you through the outlet plug to a hole-in-one, the other two holes will leave you in overgrown turf, fighting your way to the final hole.