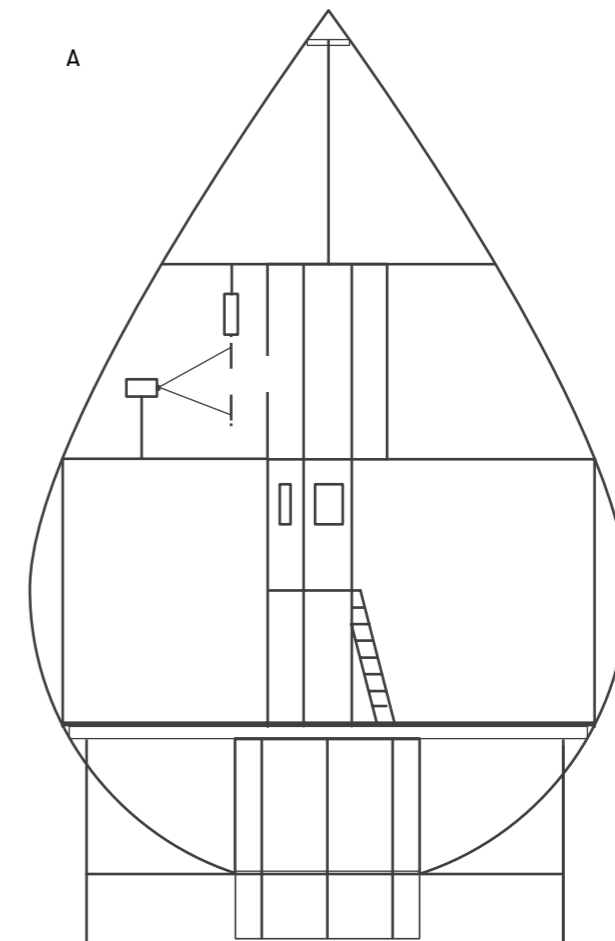


**B.U.D.**  
—  
**A Treatise  
on the Sweet Certainty  
of Deliverance  
from the Darkness  
that Surrounds Us**







B







D













1 Emergence

No one really knows why, but one fine day some of the monkeys inhabiting the tree of life since the beginning of time fell from its crown. Having been nothing but monkeys among monkeys for thousands of years, the fallen ones experienced a puzzling transformation: Not only did they lose all their fur during the fall (except for some weird patches on their heads), they also started behaving eminently un-animal-like.





## 2 Imminence

Thus, just after touching the ground, the Furless began developing an odd common belief. It seemed to them that, like themselves, *terra*, the planet that had produced the tree of life (and all other trees), called for substantial changes!

For starters – very fond of their own new nakedness – they thought of stripping the shaggy old celestial body of the vast untidy layers of wild plants and creatures that overgrew its surface. For this it came handy that fire had put itself at their service in the wake of their transformation.





### 3 Presumption

Their altered mindset came along with a brisk and industrious way of handling things. Within only a few centuries, the Furless achieved impressive results with their pruning efforts: By 2021, they had erased 2.5 billion hectares of forests and over 60% of all vertebrates, but, at that point, they didn't yet see enough convincing reasons to give it a break. Meanwhile, all the perished creatures' spirits were not resigned to drifting through the afterlife uselessly, each on their own, in eternal isolation.





#### 4 Incantation

Hence, having just ascended from the remains of uncountable burned up biotic communities, they sought relief by joining in a many-voiced chant of grievance.

Wondrously, this chant didn't go unheard. The channeled energy of their collective yearning for a universal betterment brought about the most unique manifestation of a very powerful preternatural super-being:  
*The Spirit of the Benevolent Utopization Device.*





5 Epiphany

Entering the minds of the pitiful creatures who were still persevering on *terra*, *The Spirit of the B.U.D.* spoke like this to inspire them with its prophecy: "Eventually, in a time not far from now, the Furless will receive a call to the better beyond, equaling their removal from the terrestrial biosphere for good. This will happen through a magnificent redemptive vessel, the *Benevolent Utopization Device*, and of all living beings, it behooves you to build this conveyance!"





## 6 Gathering

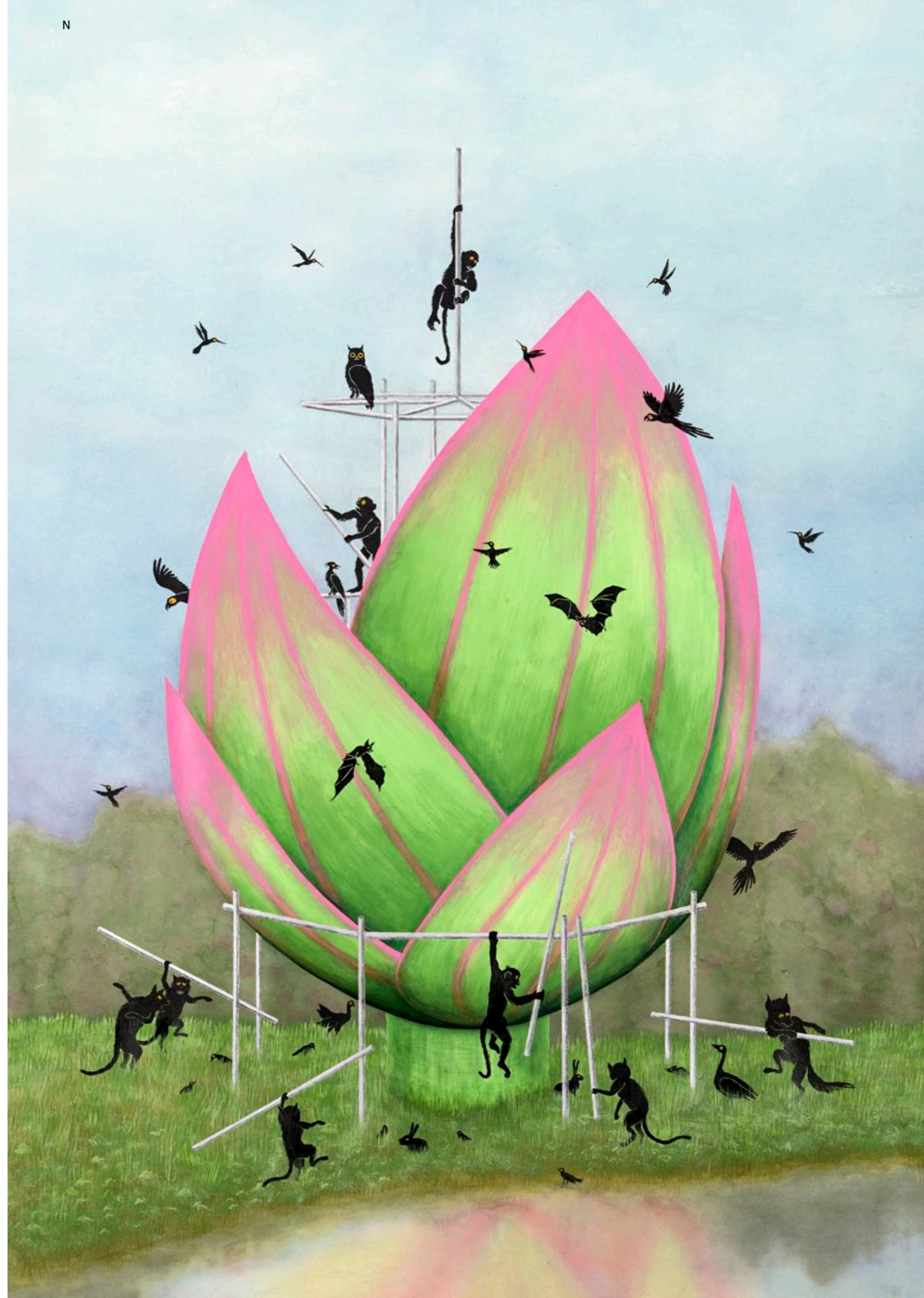
And so, elated by what they just learned, the newly enlightened ones set out to fulfill their world-changing duty. Each according to its ability, the animals strived to collect the resources needed for their formidable task. *Nelumbo nucifera*, the Indian Lotus, willingly contributed its best petals for the sublime device's hull.





7 Assembly

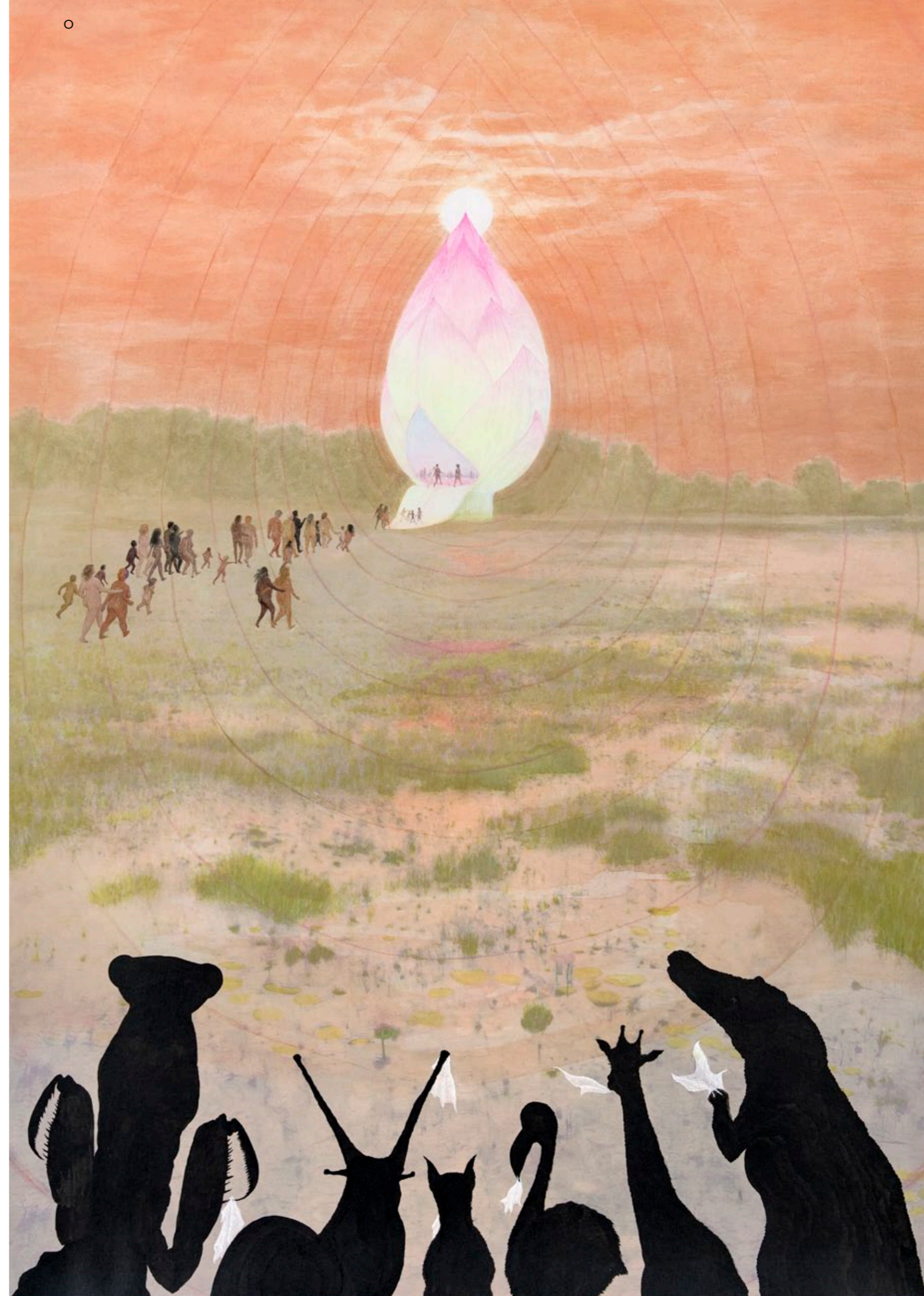
The subsequent assembly was a jolly and playful happening. Birds and mammals, carnivores and herbivores, Rodentia and Chiroptera, teamed up for their colossal goal.  
The precognition of the upcoming new state of the world — they could clearly sense it — made their hearts jump in joy, and they danced and continued building in exaltation.





## 8 Embarkation

As soon as the construction work was finished, the structure started radiating a luring chant, utterly irresistible for the Furless. They blissfully flocked to its source, and – miracle of miracles – the vessel seemed to easily accommodate all of them without ever getting overcrowded! The wild creatures who had worked so hard to manufacture the *B.U.D.* – watching the scene from a safe distance – didn't trust their eyes: 7.754.847.014 of the Furless already found their way into it, and there were more to follow! Overwhelmed by their emotions, the animal beholders waved them goodbye with their handkerchieves.





9 Departure

After the very last of the Furless had entered the vessel, the gap in its hull closed. A bloodcurdling high-pitched howl shrilled through the night, followed by an incredibly bright flash of light. While all animals that were still nearby fled the site, the *B.U.D.* took off the ground, taking the Furless to a remote spot in the universe where they might persist self-sufficiently forevermore, kept from interfering with the fate of their former home planet ever again.





# B.U.D. — A Treatise on the Sweet Certainty of Deliverance from the Darkness that Surrounds Us



2020 | Accessible multi-level tent pavillon construction with drawings, paintings, felt silhouette cutouts and fog screen video loop projection | 700 x 450 x 450 cm | 30.5. – 20.9.2020 What if... ?, Neues Museum Nürnberg, 25.5. – 14.8.2023 Berlinische Galerie, Berlin

The structure is reminiscent of a lotus bud, a chapel and a futuristic spaceship at the same time. Inside, it contains a felt silhouette wall hanging a series of five small drawings and a video loop fog screen projection.

The wall hanging is depicting a march of protest signs carrying animal revenants who gathered to commemorate extinct plantal fellow creatures. This panoramic picture covers the whole visible part of the inner side of the textile hull of the spaceship.

Vis-à-vis to the wall hanging there is an octagonal column in the center of the structure. The series of drawings is integrated into that column. The single drawings are showing different events in a narrative about the alleged origins of the bud structure: A bud shaped divine creature of some kind commissions animalhood to construct a space vehicle which is supposed to take in mankind and carry it away from earth, to a better place.

The column is open to one side. From there, stairs inside the column are leading up to a "meditation capsule" located on a higher level. Up there, one is being confronted with the video loop fog screen projection: An approximately human head sized, ghostly, anthropomorphic light phenomenon variation of the lotus bud. It talks with an artificial sounding high pitched voice: "Don't worry", "Everything will be alright", "Relax – you will be saved" and similar rallying calls are supposed to comfort the viewers and let them forget that they are supposedly on board of a vessel that will be going to remove them from earth forever.

2020 | Begehbare mehrstöckige Pavillon-Zeltkonstruktion mit Zeichnungen, Malereien, Scherenschnitten und Nebel-Videoloop-Projektion | 700 x 450 x 450 cm | 30.5. – 20.9.2020 Was wenn... ?, Neues Museum Nürnberg, 25.5. – 14.8.2023 Berlinische Galerie, Berlin

Das Gebilde erinnert zugleich an eine Lotusknospe, eine Kapelle und ein futuristisches Raumschiff. In seinem Inneren birgt es einen Scherenschnitt-Wandbehang, eine fünfteilige Serie kleinformatiger Zeichnungen und einen auf Nebel projizierten Videoloop. Der Wandbehang zeigt einen Demonstrationzug von Tier-Wiedergängern, die sich in Gedenken an ausgestorbene pflanzliche Mitbewesen versammelt haben und protestierend Schilder in die Höhe halten. Dieses Panorama bedeckt den gesamten sichtbaren Teil der Innenseite der textilen Hülle des Raumschiffs.

Gegenüber dem Wandbehang befindet sich im Zentrum des Innenraums eine achteckige Säule, in die die Zeichnungsserie integriert ist. Die einzelnen Zeichnungen zeigen Ereignisse in einer Erzählung über den angeblichen Ursprung des Knospenbauwerks: Eine Art göttliches Wesen in Knospenform gibt der Tierheit den Auftrag, ein Weltraumfahrzeug zu konstruieren, das die Menschheit aufnehmen soll, um sie von der Erde weg an einen besseren Ort zu transportieren.

Die Säule ist an einer Seite offen und bietet Zugang zu einer Treppe, über die eine höher gelegene, „Meditationskapsel“ betreten werden kann. Dort stehen die Betrachter:innen der Nebel-Videoloopprojektion direkt gegenüber: Einer etwa menschenkopfgroßen, geisterhaften, anthropomorphen Lichterscheinung der Lotusknospe. Diese spricht mit einer artifizell anmutenden künstlich erhöhten Stimme: „Don't worry“, „Everything will be alright“, „Relax – you will be saved“ und ähnliche Durchhalteparolen sollen Betrachter:innen zuversichtlich stimmen und vergessen lassen, dass sie sich vermeintlich in einem Fahrzeug befinden, dass sie für immer von der Erde entfernen wird.

A) Sketch | Skizze: B.U.D.

B) Installation view | Installationsansicht: Berlinische Galerie, Berlin  
B.U.D. – A TREATISE ON THE SWEET CERTAINTY OF DELIVERANCE FROM THE DARKNESS THAT SURROUNDS US: metal, wood, polyester stage felt, paint, paper, plastic, digital video loop projection on fogscreen | Metall, Holz, Polyester molton, Farbe, Papier, Kunststoff, Digitale Videoloop-Projektion auf Nebel-Screen | 700 x 450 x 530 cm / 11:34 Min  
THE WILD, THE FURLESS AND THE SPIRIT OF THE B.U.D.: 9 Overpainted digital collages | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | 9 übermalte digitale Collagen | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | each/je 134 x 92 cm  
THE WITHERED VISITANTS: 9 Linden-leaf-shaped textile objects | 9 Lindenblattförmige braune Textilobjekte | Acrylic laquer, alcohol based ink on stage felt | Acryllack, alkoholbasierte Tinte auf Bühnenfilz | 350 x 220 cm  
THE LIT SKIT; 6 Videoloop-projections, digital animation and Foxsounds | 6 Videoloop-Projektionen, Digitale Animation und Fuchslaute | 12 - 15 Min

C) Detail of the interior with panoramic tapestry and drawings | Innenansicht mit Panoramabildteppich und Zeichnungen | 540 x 450 x 450 cm

D) EX EX EX: Panoramic tapestry and drawings | Panoramabildteppich | polyester stage felt, paint | Polyester molton, Farbe | 1250 x 200 x 200 cm

E) Detail of Digital video loop projection on fogscreen | Detail der Digitalen Videoloop-Projektion auf Nebel-Screen: B.U.D.: constantly changing dimensions | sich stetig ändernde Maße | ca. 43 x 25 x 5 cm

F) Detail exterior view | Detail Außenansicht: paint on polyester stage felt | Farbe auf Polyester molton

G) Installation view | Installationsansicht: Berlinische Galerie, Berlin  
THE WILD, THE FURLESS AND THE SPIRIT OF THE B.U.D. & THE WITHERED VISITANTS & THE LIT SKIT

H) 1 EMERGENCE: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

I) 2 IMMINENCE: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

J) 3 PRESUMPTION: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

K) 4 INCANTATION: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

L) 5 EPIPHANY: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

M) 6 GATHERING: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

N) 7 ASSEMBLY: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

O) 8 EMBARKATION: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage |

Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

P) 9 DEPARTURE: Overpainted digital collage | Ink, acrylics and pastels on inkjet print on paper | übermalte digitale Collage | Tusche, Acrylfarbe und Pastellkreide auf Inkjetprint auf Papier | 134 x 92 cm

Q) Installation view | Installationsansicht: Neues Museum Nürnberg