Meet Spinning Metal Tornado, Fire Ancestor Spits Flames and Carries a Tune
diurnal Burners.

Esplanade (at 3:15), Northwest Mist

Kicking off the season on the

head back in gratitude to the misters.

complaining about the triple-digit

temps last summer. The air quality

to see this vortex of lights spiraling up

structure at night, you’re only going

away, you’re not going to see the

engage with his piece Light Y ears

to sit back and observe how Burners

Travelogue: Keeping Cool on the Playa

BY MUNCHY

Earth, air, fire Those are the

basic elements of Fire Ancestor, an

interactive kinetic sculpture from a

collective known as One Man Down. The

13-foot-tall structure resembles a

spinning DNA double helix, which is

no surprise since it is the successor to

last year’s Fire Helix. But this year the

piece sits on a three-platform, not

only free standing but able to rotate.

Trey Watkins, one of the designers, said “Fire Helix was all right angles

2000’s, which was just some of the

stuff of the early

Singularity Machine or the Burninator

or some of the most amazing fire art, and we realized

we’ve been doing fire art on the Playa. We’re like, where

year, we felt like there was not much

art on the Playa. Before he left for the

Desert World, Buzzel

was committed to creating a vortex to

as well as

our earthly realm.

faces the heavens and opens a funnel

the base of the sculpture, they activate

their dreams as lights and fire jets as they

countered into the spiritual realm.

Meet The Dung Beetle

BY RIA GRIEFF

“Most of my installation work is a

stylized interpretation of various

animals at life-scale,” said Brennan Steele.

a New Orleans native and current citizen of

Montreal, the burner exhibited a Dung Beetle on their camp.

The Dung Bug started as an interactive human gelatin ball. In its design, called for

windows allowing it to steer like a giant
tricycle, and from there, Brennan decided on the
dung rolling beetle. Other ideas

he had were a squirrel rolling a nut, or

a circus elephant rolling a ball. But he settled on the Dung Beetle, with the human being the dung — balls.

Brennan made the design choice to work with the material instead of his usual wood, and
cerated a dung ball out of perforated poly

air. The beetle could exist in the real world,

and so it would be durable enough to handle

the relentless conditions of Burning Man. This left a unique opportunity

with the beetle body.

Brennan explains: “When I was a kid I loved Bumblebee from the original

Transformers cartoons and told my father I wanted a VW bug for my first car. I

thought the body panes of a Volkswagen beetle would bear a great resemblance

to the shape of a dung beetle and be ironic to boot. So, I sourced a rusty old

peacock pink Super Bug two steel wheels over in Chickasaw, Alabama. It had a

single faded bumper sticker that read ‘Magic Happens. After that, the rest

is history with the genius concept of a dung beetle. I

Rolling around like a piece of

sh*t sounds about right to me.

from the trenches. GroundScore 1

Dung Bug Fundraising Link: https://

www.burningman.org

RADICAL RITUAL • GROUP RITUALS EDITION • THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017 • VOLUME XIII, NUMBER III • 3:00 & AWE, WITHIN IRON ROSE • WWW.BLACKROCKBEACON.ORG
This Temple Builds Community After Tragedy

BY T.O.H.

There is more than one temple on the Playa this year. The Utah Builders Community (UBC) has brought the Temple of Awareness to Black Rock City.

Conceived by UBC artist and designer Alice Teler, and designed and built by a team led by Bobby Gittins, Lead Artist, and John Ward, UBC Director, the Temple of Awareness was a contender for this year’s official temple. Though Bmorg eventually chose another project, they selected the Temple of Awareness as an Honoree Project, furthering the organizations desire to have a plurality of temples on the Playa this year.

This is by far the biggest project undertaken by UBC to date. The interior of the radially symmetrical Temple is a series of concentric circles, receding upwards to 40 feet above the ground creating a parabolic cone. The outside complements the interior with a set of wings in rings that reach up to the sky.

The Temple is spacious in a welcoming, human way - inspiring awe and reflection, without being either cold or imposing, Lisa Marie Schull, a veteran temple builder who now lives in Utah.

Miner Pokes Playa for Lithium

BY JESS

Benton Gerlach and the three-mile access point at the northern end of the Playa are a community exploring for lithium. Last year, Nevada Energy Metals Inc. made claims for the element in the Black Rock Desert, conducted an initial round of tests and filed for additional mineral claims, bringing the total number to 200.

There is rising interest in lithium in Nevada, in part because of a Tesla battery factory being built in Sparks. How much of the metal might be in the state is unknown. Most lithium currently comes from South America.

In early 2017, Nevada began soliciting investors for its claims. This is fairly standard in the mining industry; placer claims, if the samples are viable, can be affected. Also, the area of the placer claims is large, the size of the team and the enormity of the project, the scale of the go-go group often includes a geologist and Schull noted that unlike other clubs she had been a part of, this group had a coherence and a real sense of caring and closeness, sharing meals and being focused on taking care of one another as they worked on the project.

Powell noted the creators had taken a page out of David Bois' philosophy of building temples, making sure that each person in the team started each build day present and in a mindful manner, and conscious of the work they were doing. He believes that this consciousness has seeped into the spirit of the Temple. Schull said that just like the burning of the Temple of Awakening at Element 11 last year, she expects that the burning of the Temple of Awareness will be an exceptionally beautiful burn.

There is no word yet on the date the final motif will be out of commission since October when a dryer in one of the buildings sent off an emergency alarm. Fortunately, there was no one in the building at the time. Unfortunately, according to Pat Irwin, former Gerlach fire services community coordinators, the fire alarm system at the Playa is the only one in the state. It does not require testing and has never had a false alarm.

Fortunately, there was no one in the building at the time. Unfortunately, according to Pat Irwin, former Gerlach fire services community coordinators, the fire alarm system at the Playa is the only one in the state. It does not require testing and has never had a false alarm.

A group of more than 20 people have been doing an art walk on foot for roughly 15 miles over the past two weekends, meeting new people along the way. The group has also been giving tours of the Playa in a white bus, and on foot to another group involved in removing debris from the city area? It would produce additional revenue, and it would be visible high in the southwestern sky, near the constellation Delphinus over the next few days.

First light: 5:56 a.m. Sunrise: 6:24 a.m. The moon is in the sky at dusk (78%).

混凝土自然们自然地实现在一个地方

“Playa Shuffle” because people tend to get distracted or veer off in another direction as they shuffe along, stopping at other camps, and meeting

Rituals

Group Rituals naturally evolve in a place like Black Rock City.

One veteran Burner couple likes to go out with their camoflouge the next day after the “Playa Shuffle” because people tend to get distracted or veer off in another direction as they shuffe along, stopping at other camps, and meeting