



Thallus

Project Type: Pavilion/Experimental
Milan, April 2017

Design and Project Management: Zaha Hadid Architects
Robotic Formworks: Odico
Metal works: Armadillo Engineering
Primary Sponsor: Oikos



Named after the Greek word for flora that has no differentiation between stem and leaf, Thallus is an experimental structure investigating form and pattern generated by advanced manufacturing and computational methods.

Six-axis robotic 3D printing technology created the 7km extruded structural strip as a continuous line that repeatedly loops to connect with itself on a ruled surface. Ruled surfaces are a class of surfaces generated by the movement of a straight line in space around an axis, and have been applied in the fabrication process of the piece. Its shape is tailored to a trimmed cylinder that enables a hot-wire cutting process to create the mould of the base on which the continuous structural strip has been robotically 3D printed.

Thallus was first presented at White in the City exhibition during Milan Design Week 2017 and also exhibited at Maxxi in Rome.

Photos: Luke Hayes

