

From 22 - 29 March 2015 Lloyd Godman was invited to be Quaker in Residence at the Art department in Friends School Hobart.

As part of this residency he spoke to many groups of students about how Quakerism informs his ecological art and worked with students to create this suspended garden of air plants. "In an age of pressing environmental concerns, as an ecological artist, the greatest legacy I can leave to future generations is an art work that cleans the environment, feeds the spirit and grows to offer the next generation of young artists a living medium to harvest and then create their own living sculptures".

The project is based on **Tensegrity**, a tensional integrity system coined by Buckminster Fuller. It is a structural principle based on the use of isolated components (the stainless steel tubes) in compression inside a net of continuous tension, in such a way that the compressed members (usually bars or struts) do not touch each other and the tensioned cables delineate the system spatially.

Quaker testimonies

The final work is constructed from 6 stainless steel tubes, representing the Quaker testimonies bear witness to **Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, Earth Care**. A testimony is neither a rule nor a creed, but is both an ideal to strive for and a way for our lives to speak. No testimony stands alone. Like the tensioned cables adorned with air plants, they are like threads which weave in and out of each other to create the material of our lives.

The work embraces tensegrity as a model. When these testimonies are strong in our lives and an event or situation places pressure on one testimony, the **tensional integrity** of the others pushes back to offer resilience to the one in stress.