



YERBA BUENA  
CENTER FOR  
THE ARTS

## YBCA Unveils Interactive Mural Installation *Let's Build from Here* by Artist & Activist Innosanto Nagara in Partnership with GitHub



Innosanto Nagara at YBCA; Photography by Tommy Lau

(San Francisco, CA – February 16, 2023) – [Yerba Buena Center for the Arts](#) is pleased to announce ***Let's Build from Here***, a site-specific interactive mural created by Oakland-based artist and activist [Innosanto Nagara](#).

The public artwork was commissioned by technology company [GitHub](#) on the occasion of their annual Universe event, which brought together technologists, innovators, and creatives at YBCA.

The large-scale mural, which spans YBCA's east gardens exterior facade, highlights the power of collaborative future-building and celebrates the Bay Area's kaleidoscope of perspectives—featuring the phrase “Let's build from here” in Tagalog, Chinese, Spanish, and English. Evoking the idea of shifting perspectives and dialogues, the mural is designed to be interactive when viewed through colored lenses (made by Tinsel Experiential design), which are available for

visitors in YBCA's East Gardens and Grand Lobby. The lenses activate the mural by hiding or revealing different elements of the piece, depending on the color of the lens used by the viewer. Additionally, an augmented reality experience—made using open-sourced tools hosted on GitHub—has been created to simulate the effect, which can be experienced anywhere [here](#). The augmented reality experience is not limited to YBCA's physical location, so the shifting perspectives mural can be brought to life anywhere.

“This work is about shifting perspectives on possibility,” says **Nagara** “to remain motivated and energized for the long struggle, we must also feed our sense of what is possible and articulate the vision we wish to realize.”

Innosanto Nagara has spent much of his career applying his skills and energy to movements that seek to dismantle systems of oppression and destruction—making room to build anew. As a children's book author and illustrator, most of his books are about the art of resistance and the possibilities unlocked through disobedience in the face of systemic issues such as the climate crisis, neo-colonialism, and other inherent violences.

Through this site-specific work, the artist asks us to imagine a world which invests in community, infrastructure, and—most importantly—the human spirit, necessary to build a more just and equitable future. In a moment that continues to call for radical levels of hope and repair, we invite people to connect to and be changed by one another's perspectives—in collective pursuit of better ways forward.

For more information, please visit <https://ybca.org/>.

### **About Innosanto Nagara**

Innosanto Nagara is a graphic artist, children's book author, and illustrator. Originally from Jakarta, Indonesia, he moved to the US to study zoology, but quickly found himself immersed in the world of social justice activism and at its intersection with graphic design and visual communications. He started his professional career as a worker-owner at Inkworks Press, before founding Design Action Collective in Oakland, California. Design Action paved new ground for social movement visual communications, and served as a model for mission-driven businesses of the period. Upon becoming a parent in 2010, he wrote and illustrated *A is for Activist*. It was originally just the book he wanted to have to read to his child, but the book became a surprise national bestseller and launched his career as a children's book author. Since then he has written and illustrated six more social justice-themed children's books, from board books, to picture books, to a middle grade chapter book. His latest is *Oh, the Things We're For!* that shares a vision of the future we are fighting for.

### **About YBCA**

Opened to the public in 1993, YBCA was founded as the cultural anchor of San Francisco's Yerba Buena Gardens neighborhood. Our work spans the realms of contemporary art, performance, film, civic engagement, and public life. Centering artists as essential to social and

cultural movement, YBCA is reimagining the role an arts institution can play in the communities it serves. For more information, visit <https://ybca.org/>.

### **About GitHub**

GitHub is a code-hosting platform that develops, builds, scales and delivers secure software. The platform launched in 2008 serving as the default hosting service for millions of open source and proprietary software projects, allowing developers to collaborate around shared codebases from disparate locations.

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