

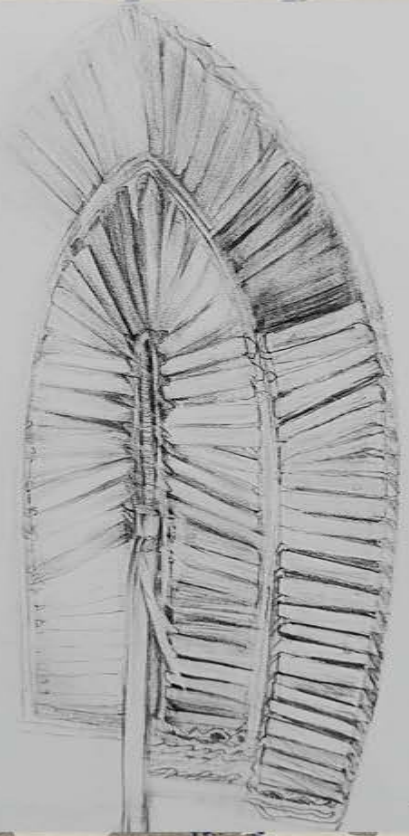
# Braided Nature

## LAGI FIJI 2025

### NAVITI ISLAND, YASAWA MAROU VILLAGE

The Yasawa Islands, located northwest of Viti Levu, are formed from twenty extinct volcanic sites. These islands hold deep cultural and ancestral significance, shaped by longstanding familial and trade connections among local communities. The Pan depicted here is a drawing of a pre-1927 Fijian Pan. The natural colours are distinctively similar to the costume in the Vanuatu archipelago. On the islands of Tanna, Ambrym, and Marou, active volcanic craters Yasur, Marum, and Benbow remain central to ceremonial life. The power of these volcanoes is woven into the islanders' ancient belief systems and preserved in collective memory through ritual dance and offerings.

The proposed installation will take the form of a Pan-like structure designed to harmonize with cultural resonance. Its foundation will be stone and timber, grounding the structure in the island's ancestral terrain. The structure's contours will feature a warm red glow evoking fire while reflecting spiritual connections of place. Kinetic photoelectric panels, responsive to light and wind, will be integrated into the design, echoing the rhythms of the tides and the unseen forces that have long shaped the Yasawa islands' story. Further, the panels will replicate the quality of the coloured vine used for costumes in ceremonial dance.



Pan, paper mulberry bark, palm leaf, wood, before 1927. UBC Museum of Anthropology, The Burnette Collection. JSTOR, <https://jstor.org/stable/community.12234669>, Accessed 4 May 2025.