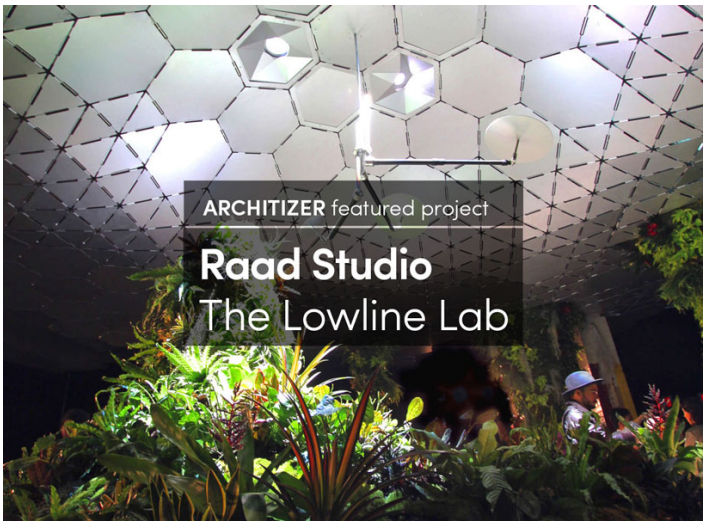


# THE LOWLINE LAB

*Posted on September 14, 2016 by urbanNext*

**Categories:** Architizer, Energy and sustainability, High Density, Project, Raad Studio, Senseable Technologies

**Tags:** Active Public Spaces, Agency of Urban Organization, Civic Technologies, Collective garden, Community Facilities, Digital design, Digital fabrication, Digital technologies, Ecological agencies, Ecological researches, Education, Energetic Approach, Energy, Energy consciousness, Energy production, Experimental, Experimental Fabrications, Experimental installations, Facilities, Government, Health, New York, Project, Prototype solutions, Responsive technologies, Social commitment, Social contributor, Solar Energy, Solar roof, Temporary Interventions, Urban organization, Urban Paradigms, Vegetation

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The Lowline Lab is a long-term public laboratory and installation piece. Built inside an abandoned market on the Lower East Side, the Lowline Lab mimics the conditions of the future Lowline to create a variety of experiences and technical experiments.

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James Ramsey, his team at Raad Studio, and the Korea-based technology company Sunportal designed and installed optical devices which capture and concentrate natural sunlight. The sunlight is sent into the warehouse through a series of tubes, directing full spectrum light into a central distribution nexus. A solar canopy then spreads out the sunlight across the space, providing the light that is critical to sustaining the plant life below.

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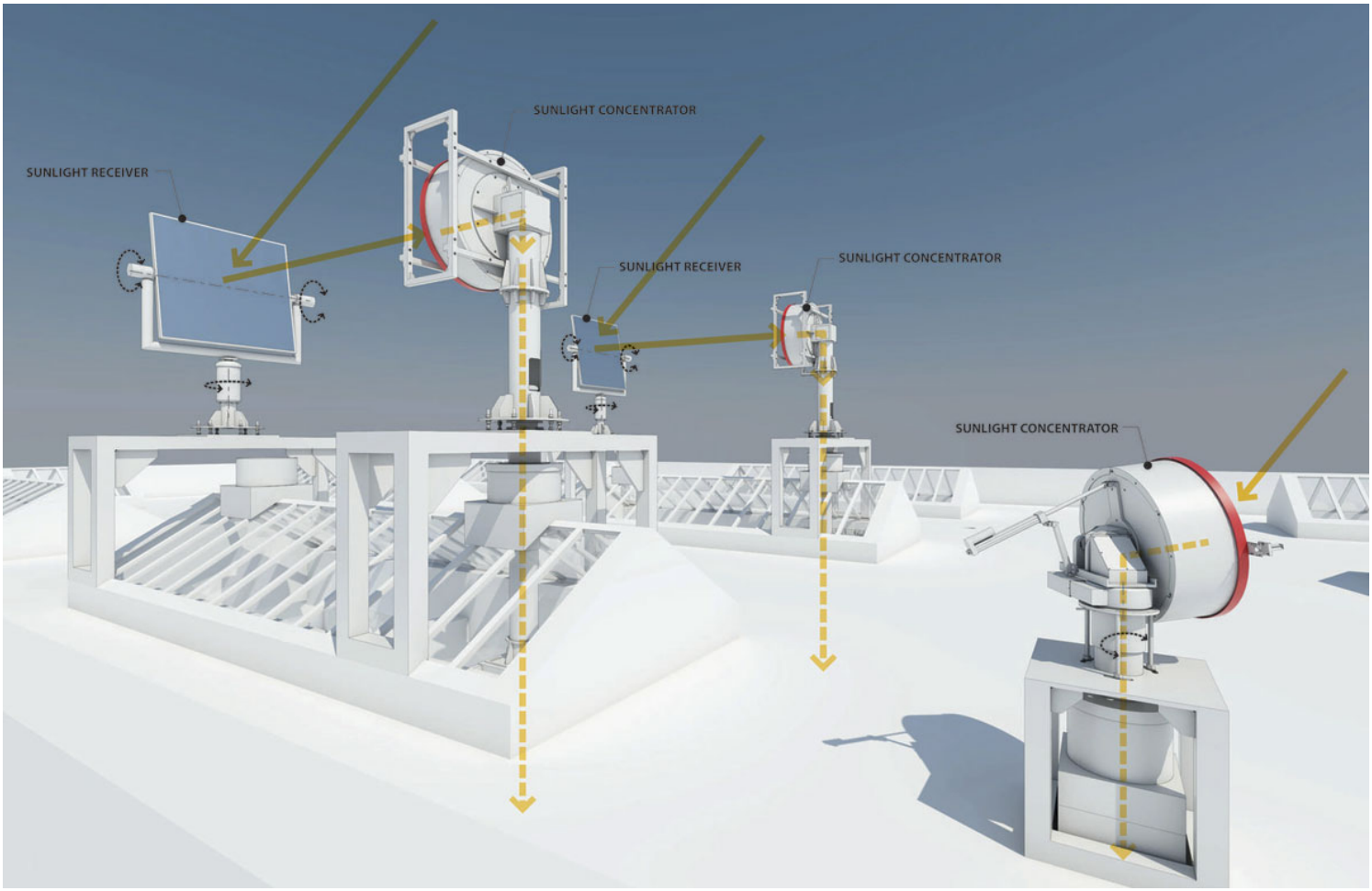


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The landscape, designed by Raad Studio and Signe Nielsen of Mathews Nielsen, is composed of over 3,000 plants and dozens of unique varieties, spread across 1,000 square feet. The Lab gives us the opportunity to study plant life in the same type of environment as the future Lowline, and will help determine which types of plants will grow best underground.

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