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The work of artist Luis Berríos-Negrón explores a myriad of seemingly incongruous fields ranging from new technologies to geopolitics to symbolism. For his *Nonspheres IV* installation, the Puerto Rican generated a digital model of the tetragonal structure of a carbon atom. He then built a giant model of the atom at Program, a non-profit-making gallery space in Berlin. Carbon, an element essential to every living organism, is also used in archaeology to estimate the age of an artefact. At first the installation appears impenetrable. Thick cables linked to one another with steel connectors extend throughout the space, leaving visitors little room to navigate. Those who succeed in penetrating the forest of cables find themselves in front of a green screen where they are filmed by a surveillance camera and can see their minimized images projected on a TV monitor. This play with dimensions is a nod to the artificial construction of space in the media, and it creates a fairy-tale atmosphere reminiscent of scenes in *Gulliver's Travels*. There's also a reference to an earlier project in which Berríos-Negrón journeyed to Kabul, a war-torn place of historical significance, and covered a huge billboard with green fabric; the sign was visible from all points in the city. Green, he says, serves as a field of projection for cultural interpretation. 'In Puerto Rico green is the colour of hope, whereas in Afghanistan it's the colour of rebirth.' Symbolism, geopolitics and technology all wrapped into one.

Words [Anna Kowalska](#)
Photos [Franzi Kramer](#)

Green With Meaning: Penetrate artist Luis Berríos-Negrón's dense forest of cables at the Program gallery in Berlin and end up face to face with a verdant frame laden with symbolic meaning.

