

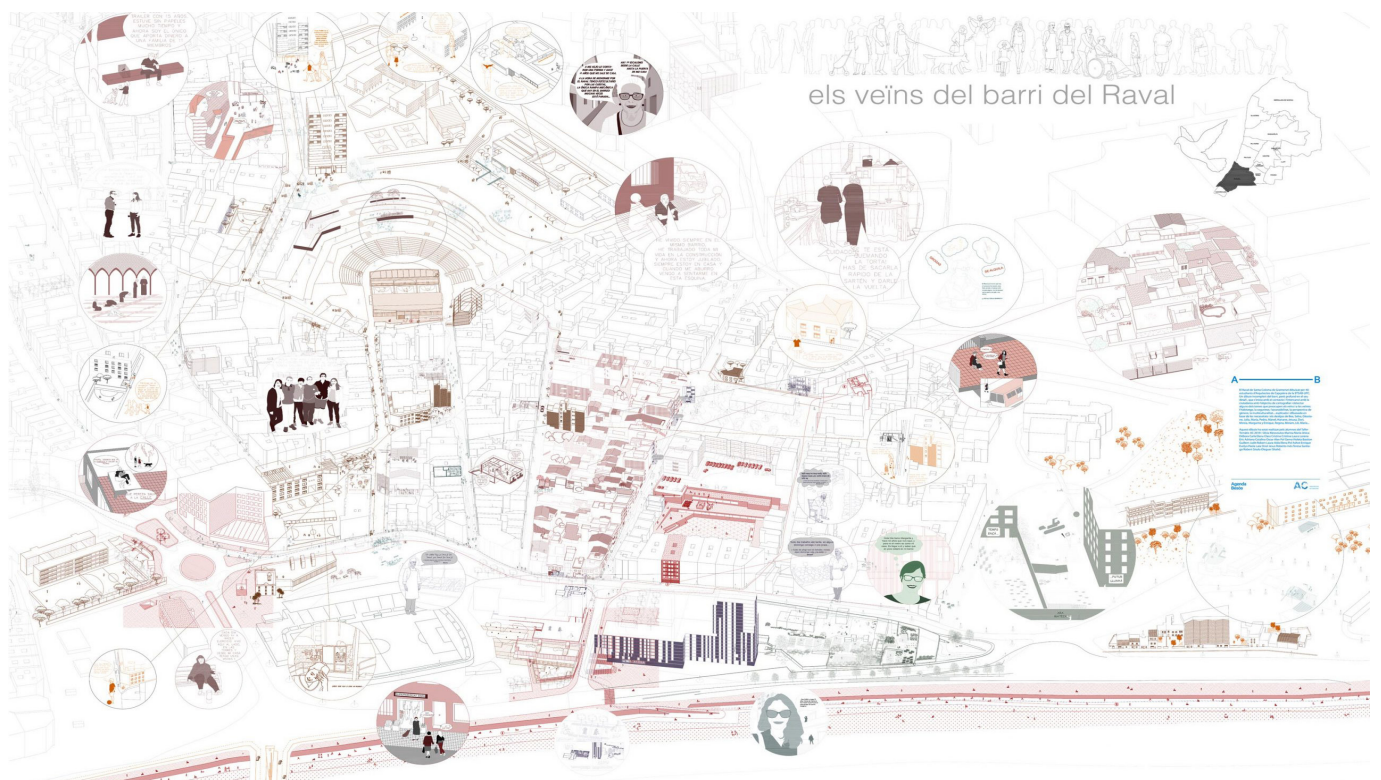
MANIFESTA 15 Barcelona 2024

Press Annexe 1 (June 2023) Research Participants Statements

Arquitectes de Capçalera (ES)

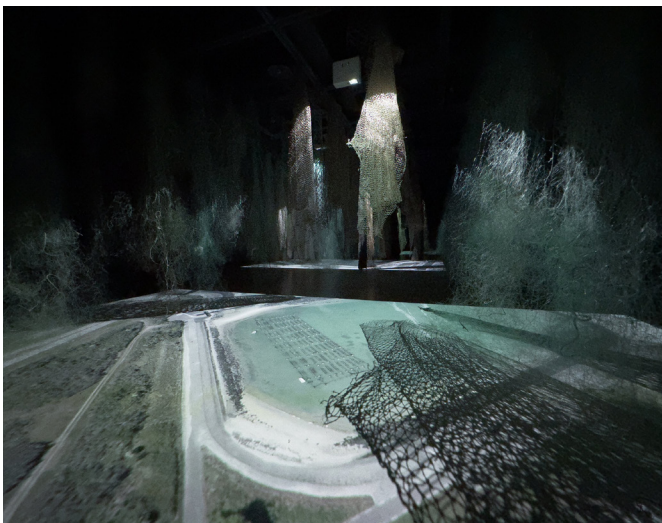
Arquitectes de Capçalera (AC) is a collective that emerged from the Barcelona School of Architecture (ETSAB). They inquire into architectural pedagogy as a tool for social transformation. Since

2013, they seek to bring the figure of the architect closer to the citizen and call for a more committed role of the architect towards the social structure of the city. AC has been awarded nationally and internationally, including the City of Barcelona Award for Architecture and Urbanism in 2015.



Embassy of the North Sea: Sheng-Wen Lo (TW), Leon Lapa Pereira (DE) and Harpo 't Hart (NL)

The Embassy of the North Sea was founded in The Hague on the first of June 2018, by the Parliament of Things. It was founded on the principle that the North Sea belongs to itself and that the voices of plants, animals, microbes and people in and around the North Sea should be listened to and involved. The Embassy as a collective research how non-humans, from phytoplankton to ship wrecks, can become full-fledged members of our society. The Embassy has been following a “route” or a strategy to achieve this: firstly, listening to the sea before they learn to speak with it, in order to finally be able to negotiate on behalf of the North Sea and all the life that it encapsulates.



Matter of Scale, 2021, Sheng-Wen Lo © Photo Sheng-Wen Lo

On-Trade-Off: Georges Senga (DRC/NL), Jean Katambayi Mukendi (DRC), Pelagie Gbaguidi (BJ/BE), Alexis Destoop (BE/AU), Marjolijn Dijkman (NL/BE), Maarten Vanden Eynde (BE) and Femke Herregraven (NL)

On-Trade-Off (OTO) is a collaborative research project initiated by Enough Room for Space (BE) and Picha (DRC) in 2018. OTO works on the contemporary dimensions of a question as old, mythical and stra-

tegic as our relation to energy. The project takes the recent rush on lithium as a starting point. It explores a broad range of questions surrounding raw materials for technological industries, financial speculation and the history of electricity. OTO was sparked by the ‘discovery’ of a large lithium deposit in Manono, a mining area in the DRC where in colonial times tin was extracted. As Manono is transformed into a site of speculation and future exploitation for the so called ‘green energy revolution’, OTO simultaneously unfolds as a structure for counter-narratives and alternative forms of collaboration and artistic creation. Several members of the collective will conduct preliminary research in Barcelona.



Matter of Scale, 2021, Sheng-Wen Lo © Photo Sheng-Wen Lo

Elmo Vermijs (NL)

Elmo Vermijs explores the connection between art, design, architecture and landscape. He researches the connections between space, (waste) materials, ecology and regenerative processes, in order to generate new perspectives on contemporary challenges. He does so by investigating the relationships between the uses and production of (waste) materials, considering their historical, political and environmental contexts. In his working process, Vermijs collaborates with local organisations and integrates material research with new environmental insights. His works, which are often accompanied by publications, workshops and conversations, encourage visitors to physically interact with both the space and materials. This interaction

serves as a catalyst to reflect on a range of social issues and to find new ways of relating to the (natural) environment.



Parliament of Trees, 2022 © Elmo Vermijis



Portrait of Elmo © Elmo Vermijis

Lara Schnitger (USA)

Lara Schnitger uses female sexuality and depictions of the body as a tool to challenge what is deemed acceptably feminine versus obscene. Exhibiting internationally since 1996, her work is playfully

over-the-top and exuberant, yet it addresses the continued struggle for women's equality and safety within the patriarchy. Her piece "Suffragette City" is a traveling hybrid procession and protest, consisting of works that span a spectrum of bold design to delicate sculpture. By pairing techniques like dyeing, quilting, bleaching and sewing with tough and rebellious postures and messaging, Schnitger pushes the boundaries of traditional craft to illuminate her radical vision of female empowerment, blurring the line between art and protest, sculpture and body, gallery and street. Crafted with the practical intention of being activated in a public protest, this evolving body of work provides a space for contemporary political and social discourse and the tools to inspire a new generation of feminists.



Parliament of Trees, 2022 © Elmo Vermijis



Parliament of Trees, 2022 © Elmo Vermijis

radio SLUMBER: with Zoénie Liwen Deng (NL/CN), Elaine W. Ho (HK/USA), Clara Jo (USA/DE/KR), Amy Suo Wu (AU/NL) and Hui Ye (CN/AT)

radio SLUMBER is a 'diasporadic' gathering of female practitioners born out of fate and urgency. Initially created as a safe space to counteract xenophobia, isolation and acts of fear that arose during the early days of the pandemic in 2020, blanketed cave and coven shifted their focus towards the "endotic" - an exploration of what makes us human, as opposed to the "exotic". They found common ground in their shared interests and backgrounds, coming together to address the irreducible challenges of diasporic histories and multi-dimensional subversions of the east-west dichotomy. Their most recent experimentations involving sound, writing and textile involve feminist labour practices, the rituals of the interpersonal, expanded notions of publishing and the skins of text and texture.

**Initially supported by Motel Spatie; Arnhem, Netherlands (2020), with additional support from Stedelijk*



When Things Are Beings / Radio Slumber Photo © Gert Jan van Rooij

Massa Salvatge (ES)

Massa Salvatge is a collective based in Barcelona and Valencia formed by Teresa Mata (ES), Lluc Mayol (ES) and Alba Oller (ES) whose aim is to generate spaces, actions, tools and pedagogical

projects from a committed cultural and political dimension. The collective began in 2019 as an association and is now a non-profit cooperative. Since then, it has drawn on the experience of its members, using games, contemporary art, research and social participation as the basis of how different pedagogical projects are carried out both in the field of artistic mediation and social action in museums and public institutions, as well as in associations and grassroots collectives.



El rum-rum serà memorable 2020-2023, Massa Salvatge IVAM, Institut Valencià d'Art Modern

INLAND (ES)

INLAND is a collaborative agency that started in 2009 in Madrid with the aim of providing a platform for diverse actors engaged in agricultural, social and cultural production. In its beginning years, INLAND was engaged with artistic production in 22 villages across Spain: they held nationwide exhibitions, presentations and an international conference. This was followed by a period of reflection and evaluation, launching study groups on art and ecology and a series of publications. Today, INLAND focuses on land-based collaborations and economies as a platform for post-contemporary art and cultural forms. They have a radio station, an academy and make their own cheese. In addition, they act as a consultant for the European Union Commission on the use of art for rural development policies, while promoting a European Shepherds' Network, a social movement to question those same policies.



INLAND Campo Adentro Photo © INLAND



INLAND Campo Adentro Photo © INLAND

Anaïs Florin (FR)

Anaïs Florin's work relates to intervention in public space with particular importance placed upon collaborative practices alongside other cul-

tural agents and platforms of citizen resistance. With the aim of generating new social narratives, she is particularly interested in the memory of places and their inhabitants and in the struggles associated with territorial transformations. Her work combines visual practices with activist practices through banners, billboards, photography and social gatherings. Taking the archive as a starting point, Florin, based in Valencia, constructs new narratives of participation through interviews, attentive listening and cooperation. Most of her projects are committed to the collective appropriation of urban spaces through care for the local environment and its long-term sustainability.



No ens cansarem, 2023 © Bien Urbain



Photo of Anaïs Florin at work, 2023 © Anaïs Florin

Diversorium (ES)

Diversorium was started in 2018 in Barcelona by activists from the Office for Independent Living of Barcelona and the cultural producer Concomitentes. As an intersectional party space for all bodies, combining performance, music and dancing, it seeks to create space for learning and unlearning the numerous possibilities of existing and being with others. The basis of this project is the desire a communal space in which to come together and to “dance with” the “invisible” communities in the city and “move” with the discriminations that separate us. A desire that is also a necessity, because despite advances we are still nowhere near social equality.



Taller Fiesta como tierra comunal con Osias Yanov, 2022, MACBA.
© Eva Carasol

Notes for the editors:

Manifesta 15 Barcelona 2024 is co-initiated by the Municipality of Barcelona and the International Foundation Manifesta.

Additional public partners are the Diputació de Barcelona and the Generalitat de Catalunya.

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