Energy Giveaway at the Humuspunk Library

WE ARE
AWARENESS IN ART

10th June – 22nd September 2023

Curated by: Regenerative Energy Communities (Helen V. Pritchard, Miranda Moss, Daniel Gustafsson, Eric Snodgrass)
WeAreAIA Founder: Martina Huber
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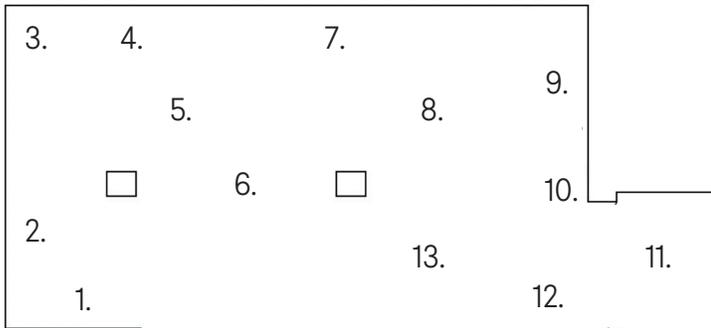
1. XMPP x REC, Cristina Cochior (2023)

XMPP x REC is a regenerative collective digital infrastructure for the Regenerative Energy Communities project. It emerges from ongoing projects by the Varia group (which Cochior is a part of), whose members work to develop collective approaches to everyday technology.
XMPP stands for Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol and has its roots in the Jabber community. The protocol emerged in 1999 as a decentralised, secure and open alternative to commercially-driven instant messaging services.
XMPP x REC was produced in response to a request from Regenerative Energy Communities for a non-extractive social interface for sharing updates and ongoing conversations from the project, and represents one example of the sociality afforded by the XMPP protocol.
Materials: interdependent server, pi, xmpp, bots.

2. Mycelium Wind Turbine, Regnerative Energy Communities (2021-ongoing)

Regenerative Energy Communities works with regenerative methods and practices, designing with compost-promoting regenerative materials, hybrid combinations of computational tools and biological processes, slow engineering, speculative poetics and a transdisciplinarity situated within longstanding and emergent innovations from agroecological communities.
We (amongst others) think that mycelium (a mushrooms' own root system) can be a formidable regenerative material in constructional applications, including in wind turbines. It additionally holds the possibility to promote soil health and fungi-based remediation (mycoremediation) of heavy metals and other contaminants from damaged soil environments.
In a time when it is common to discuss what the future might look like in terms of a sustainable energy transition, our Mycelium Wind Turbine poses the question: What if everybody could grow their own regenerative energy source?
Please feel free to take a spore sample from the spore tank along with a copy of our zine explaining how to create your own!
Materials: 3d printed bioplastic parts, industrial e-waste motors, sawdust and mycelium from reshi mushroom.

3. Untitled (skin), Maya Minder (2022)

Untitled (skin) is made of bacterial cellulose skin and a wooden frame. The work reflects on new (bio-)materials for design making, grown by the aid of non-human agents. It reflects on the human relation towards non-human materials. Inspired after the gardens of „Mure à pêche" in Paris, where the agricultural technic of espalier is used since the 1870s to increase fruit tree harvest. Espalier is a low tech method for taming trees in a desired and controlled shape along murals to increase heat and sunshine exposure. The structure is annotating the fine line between human desire to control and manipulate nature, taking into account Claude-Lévi Strauss' philosphy of structuralism. The wooden frame is in a diametral structure (culture) giving the backbone of uncontrulled growth (nature).
Materials: bacterial cellulose, wood and metal, neon lights

4. So-and-sovereignty diagram, The Institute for Technology in the Public Interest x Martino Morandi (2023)

Thinking with nematodes and teletypes, with imbricated servers and institutional burrows, this shape-shifting diagram both traces and re-plots an ongoing conversation about modes of interdependence under the regime of The Cloud. Computational Infrastructures have extended into many aspects of life, only to rent them back to us as a service. Operating at all scales, from self-observation of biological cycles to planetary carbon removal schemes, this pervasive form of dispossession eludes familiar concepts and modes of action. Geometries and vocabularies that once seemed useful for limiting damage, creating solidarity and re-organizing collective resources have been turned inside-out and are in need of a collective re-articulation of forms of togetherness.
We draw the so-and sovereignty diagram with Graphviz, an Open Source software tool which the American telecommunication company AT&T developed in the late eighties to visualize complex configurations of servers, routers and networks. The diagram passes through different collective spaces such as REC and will continue to shape-shift as a result. You can find its current iteration here: https://titipi.org/diag/so-and-sovereignty.pdf
Materials: paper, ink, graph vis, wiki to print.

5. The Mind of a Greenhouse, 施惟捷 Shih Wei Chieh with Wiriar Rattanansuwan (2018-ongoing)

Shih Wei Chieh joined a charity project voluntarily from August to November 2018 with Wiriar Rattanansuwan, a climate engineer from Thailand. The project goal was to build a greenhouse in Nangqen, Qinhai which can resist -20C° to -30C° maybe even in winter time in Nangqen. The altitude of the site is ~3,700 meters

and the main task is to provide vegetable year-round for for the orphan children sheltered by the Tashi Gatsen school located in 32°31'45.2"N 96°03'05.2"E. Another goal of this project is to research a common ground for both charity project and art, science project, to innovate a transdiciplinary production system, therefore, building a greenhouse with local plants dyed solar cells could be meaningful in education and community development perspective.
Materials: plant dye, glass, carbon fibre, window frame, plants.

6. Micro(be) Power experiment #27; Swamp Cells, Regenerative Energy Communities (2020-ongoing)

Comprising of an array of Microbial Fuel Cells (MFCs) made from non-specialist and environmentally friendly materials, this ongoing research project harvests wild electricity, re-futuring the narratives and power dynamics of energy generation, electrical technologies and waste. Borrowing electrons from electricity-producing bacteria (called electrogens), Swamp Cells is a large scale experiment running and being researched throughout the exhibition period.
In this experiment, the fuel cells use the anaerobic microbes living in the depths of swamp ecosystems to glean their power. The plants are all ones which flourish in marshy soil and mud, perfect for anaerobic bacteria, and holding socio-ecological significance for human agriculture, medicine and more-than-human companions.
Help yourself to the infusions and snacks made from the produce, and if the miniature ecosystems look dry, please give them some water :)
Materials: soil, ceramics, graphite, carbon cloth, plants, electronics, plant map.

7.Humuspunk library: Zines (2023)

A selection of zines from friends and comrades both in and beyond the exhibition.
Materials: printed zines on paper.

8. Humuspunk library: Reader binding table (2023)

At the reader binding table you are welcome to browse any of the zines and texts from the Humuspunk Library for taking time with and imagining energy and agriculture otherwises. We have included texts from literature on farming, energy and other practices that have inspired our work.
Materials: paper, ink, various binding matter

9. CosyNRG, Gillian Wylde (2023)

CosyNRG is a new video work by Gillian Wylde, made especially to hang out with artworks and events happening in the Energy Giveaway at the Humuspunk Library...
Digital sounds/images bend and loop with Crocs & rocks, soft whistles, rasps, nematodes and Om wands. Queer geologies & piezoelectrics rub up against footage found via video sharing and social media platforms.
CosyNRG is a feverish pulse of flicker noise, it fluctuates in tidal flows and quasar-stellar light emissions. This work is literally marine snow vibing on nonlinear ocean waves, not unlike the feral cats that prefer to scavenge carrion from the forest floor.
Materials: looped video (7:38), colour & stereo sound.

10. Humuspunk library: Starter Cultures

A selection of gifted and grown ferments and other bubbles.
Community building over the exhibition period.
Materials: glass, ferments, crystals.

11. Electric Field, Regenerative Energy Communities

(2022-ongoing)
Electric Field is:
- a reimagining of the wind turbine, without extractive use of minerals and land
- a method for regenerative prototyping
- a DIY micro energy wind turbine for hands-on experimenting with energy and regeneration!
With Electric Field, the Regenerative Energy Communities project explores what energy imaginaries can be generated when opposing energy monocultures and working with principles of regeneration, soil health and community empowerment as propositions for creative prototyping.
Electric Field has been developed in collective workshops with others. Composed of foraged for materials gathered within a bikeable radius of where it is conceived, the work is a material mapping and kinetic exploration of sedimented and emergent arrangements of the everyday. It is that rare breed - electricity as beneficial waste product! And it can be done within your own locale and community and the practices and regenerative, micro energy fantasies lying therein. See the Electric Field zine in the library!
Materials: wood, oyster mushroom dowel plugs, piezo buzzers, locally-sourced organic turbine blades, low powered analogue synthesizer.

12. 500sqm of municipal land lease, TheDirt, (2017-ongoing)

In times of climate change, earthly challenges are circumscribed at the scale of the planet. How can engagement on the planetary scale be practiced? TheDirt is an exercise in collective doing with and as soil and its multitudes. Staff and students of the Design Department, Linnaeus University, explore growing with bee, urine, compost and uncertainty at an urban garden leased by the Växjö Municipality. While applying permaculture principles, we engage with food growing practices such as companion planting and farming with the cycles of the moon.
As novice growers and curious learners at TheDirt, we share our work-in-progress manual alongwith sketches and references that pace and trace our doings. In companion reciprocity, you are invited to contribute with a principle, ethic, anecdote that you practice for your growth as a soil multitude.
Materials: logo, cloth, manual, seeds, cross stitch, chair.

13. Pop up Disabled Data Center, MELT (2023)

Pop up Disabled Data Center is a series of stitched together fabric and plastic planes that shelter visitors. The work prompts reading with accessible language practices like embroidered braille and brings visitors into a prompt for sharing what kind of data they carry with themselves. These data sets shift and change what data is understood to be: no material or quantifable requirements are enumerated within these sets.These data sets have been collaboratively built by MELT and trans* and/or disabled workshop participants.
Materials: wool, felt, cotton and bubblewrap, orange seatbelt straps, braille embroidery, paper booklets, metal rings, braided plastic bag cushions.