

TASK 10 // Bioart

I think one of the works that stoked me the most and has habitat as a topic of the artwork is Magnus Larsson's "Turning Dunes into Architecture". I think the word habitat is very adequate to describe this art project, because his idea is to create a new habitat for people who seem to be destined to be losing theirs.

The idea of creating new housing in the desert dunes by only the use of solidified sand (through a chemical process) where people whose habitat is in danger could be living in. The project still needs more development and answers to more practical questions, but what I found fascinating is the idea to use an already existing element to make something new out of it, which is an extremely simple concept and might sound banal but it would avoid the possible death of thousands of people, possible migrations and political conflicts. Something else to think about is how such a simple concept is so anti conventional in our everyday consumer society, and how it is always very hard to go from linear to more circular processes. On this topic, I would recommend the text "Cradle to Cradle" by William McDonough and Micheal Braungart.

In general I very much enjoyed the presentation. I particularly enjoyed seeing how an interdisciplinary approach can lead to fascinating new solutions and awarenesses. I think it's always delicate to deal with the living spaces of other natural beings in art, I don't know if I have a concrete answer to the question "How would you deal with the living spaces of other natural beings in art" because I don't have a concrete project in mind, but what I generally believe is that as designers we must be very careful when intervening on living spaces of other natural beings, because we should always have the natural beings in mind. Something which is fascinating to us might not necessarily be the best for the natural beings, as we saw in the project "Ant Farm" by Wim Delvoye.