

Decolonize yourself – a project for Decolonize Bauhaus

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In the context of decolonization efforts, the white population is often the first to be addressed. Which makes sense in some ways, because the system built on racism, which was introduced and strengthened by the colonial powers, favors white people enormously. Critical whiteness must therefore be promoted in any case in order to achieve an extreme change in a racist and postcolonial world.

Nevertheless, as Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, we often ignore ourselves when it comes to decolonization. However, we forget that our ancestors had to adapt greatly to survive in a colonial world. Continuous exploitation, dehumanization and humiliation have taught us some images and prejudices that we have internalized for generations.

We must also bear in mind that, during the colonial period, many of the customs, arts and scientific knowledge were deliberately banned and gradually destroyed. As children of the 21st century, we grew up in a world that is changing our self-image through colonial and post-colonial structures.

In order to counteract this process of forgetting, accepting and white washing, I will conduct an interview with myself in my project, in which I will ask some questions about my self-image, environment, political and my creative work as a budding architect. The premise is to decolonize oneself. For how can we really free ourselves if we still allow us to be trapped in the chains of the colonial past?

In this interview, I explored in depth my own experiences as a black woman in a post-colonial society. In order to generate the questions I have used passages from the book “Peau noire, masques blancs” (“Black skin, white mask”) read by Frantz Fanon. My main concern was to recognize the influence of colonial ideas, which were transferred to People of Colour by racist theories.

The entire video can be found via the following link

https://youtu.be/gusLLwNIR_o .

I would be very happy if all viewers ask themselves these questions in an adapted form after or during watching the video and answer them honestly. Because we have to invest all our time and thoughts in order to decolonize our thoughts, actions and thus our world.