

# MASTER DISSERTATION STUDIO PRESENTATION

Luc Eeckhout architect - urban planner - visiting professor KULEUVEN

## Healing the City as a General Ongoing Research.

### 2023-2024 The Edible City

Envisioning the Continuous Productive Urban Landscape (CPUL)

#### **1. INTRODUCTION:**

We urgently need new future prospects. A collective ecological utopia that we can believe in together. A view of a better, healthier, and safer environment for all of us. Do you dare to search for this ecological utopia and the regenerative future of Ghent?

This year we research THE EDIBLE CITY and the CPUL as a green-blue infrastructure for the regenerative future of Ghent. A CPUL (Continuous Productive Urban Landscape) is an urban green infrastructure that connects food production facilities of various sizes and types to other open spaces in cities. This interconnected network of food-producing landscapes based on urban agriculture aims to connect urban parcels with citizens and other food system activities, ultimately linking them to the rural landscape.

#### **2. THE CPUL CITY CONCEPT**

*The concept of CPUL City provides a strategic and associative framework for the theoretical and practical exploration of productive landscapes within contemporary urban design. It describes the vision for a sustainable urban future based on the planned physical and societal introduction of a continuous productive urban landscape (CPUL) into existing or emerging cities. Continuous Productive Urban Landscape (CPUL) is a design concept advocating the coherent introduction of interlinked productive landscapes into cities as an essential element of sustainable urban infrastructure. Central to the CPUL concept is the creation of multi-functional open urban space networks that complement and support the built environment.*

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/rbsbbbfk685svdd/20230515%20Field%20Journal%20field-49-bohn.pdf?dl=0>

With this framework, we like to connect the city with a productive and green-blue landscape. This infrastructure connects food buildings, open spaces, lee spaces, urban agriculture, food gardening, natural habitats, ecological corridors, and circulation routes for non-vehicular traffic in a safe way with the sub-urban food areas around the city.



CPUL - Bohn, K. & Viljoen, A.

### **3. STUDENT CALL 2023**

This is a call for small student teams who like to work and design together in different ways. I am looking for a few teams of 2 to 3 students who dare to think together about the future of the edible city. We will start in October 2023 with various short workshops that form the basis for further research. Together we will investigate the green-blue network of Ghent. Every group will research a theme to improve living and working in the edible city. In February 2024 we will decide which projects will be finally worked out. By doing research together and working out certain aspects personally, you will be well prepared for the job of the architect. In this studio, the power of cooperation is combined with personal insight. This means that the long way to the final jury should be taken less alone but more shoulder to shoulder.

### **4. BEYOND SUSTAINABILITY > REGENERATIVE DESIGN**

Regenerative design is all about thinking ahead, where architects must design with the future in mind every step of the way. As opposed to sustainably designed buildings, which are based on the concept of only using the minimum resources you need, regenerative buildings are designed and operated to reverse the damage and have a net-positive impact on the environment.

<https://hmcarchitects.com/news/regenerative-architecture-principles-a-departure-from-modern-sustainable-design-2019-04-12/>

### **5. RESEARCH: DESIGN BY KNOWLEDGE**

A vision for the future arises from specific research. Research points to today's urgent questions. The solutions show us the path to tomorrow. Do you dare to research for a better future and make a design through new knowledge?



### **6. RESEARCH AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate change is the fundamental design problem of our time, not style, not education, not community, not justice. All other concerns, many of them profoundly important, are

nonetheless ancillary. The threat climate change poses is existential, and buildings are hugely complicit.

[https://www.architectmagazine.com/design/editorial/the-climate-is-changing-so-must-architecture\\_o](https://www.architectmagazine.com/design/editorial/the-climate-is-changing-so-must-architecture_o)

## **7. CLIMATE CHANGE NEEDS SYSTEM CHANGE**

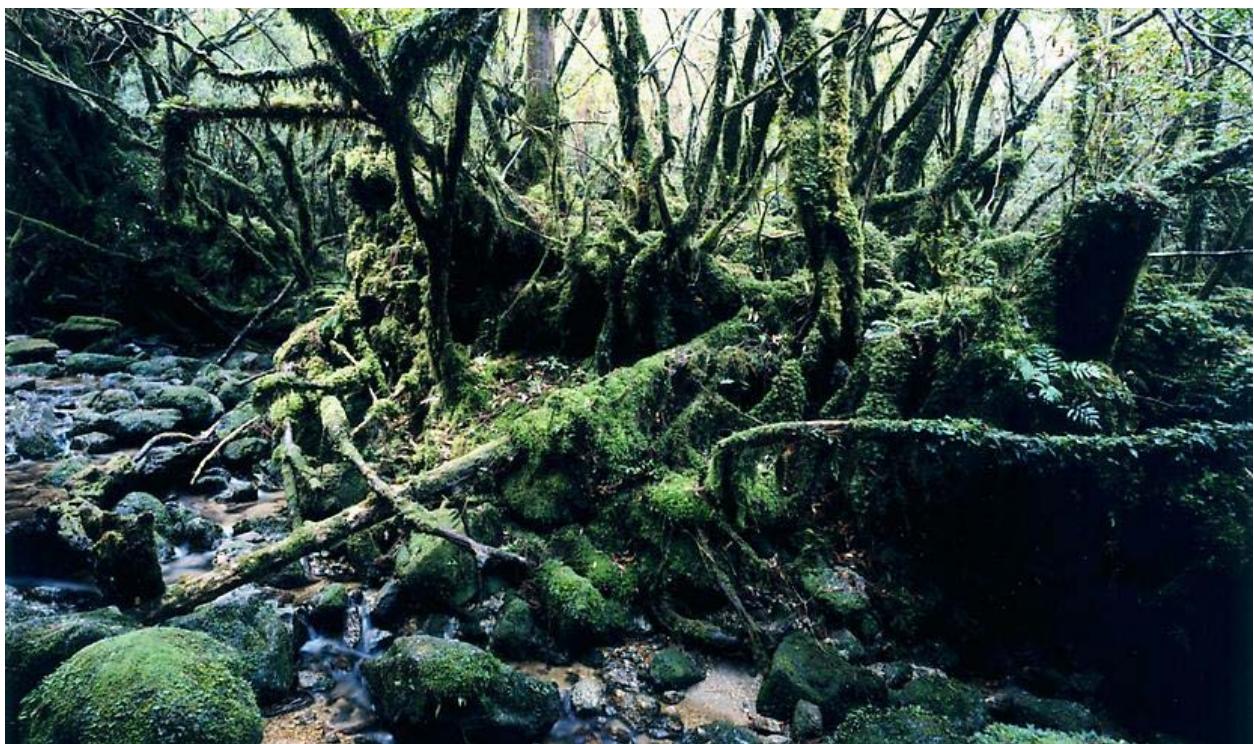
Humanity's 21<sup>st</sup>-century challenge is to meet the needs of all within the means of the planet. In other words, to ensure that no one falls short on life's essentials (from food and housing to healthcare and political voice) while ensuring that collectively we do not overshoot our pressure on Earth's life-supporting systems, on which we fundamentally depend – such as a stable climate, fertile soils, and a protective ozone layer.

<https://www.kateraworth.com/doughnut/>

## **8. NATURE IS COMING BACK**

The poorly conceived design divides us into urban areas from our wilds and has contributed to seeing nature as something isolated from us. Yet strengthening our bond with nature is a challenge architecture and urban design are well placed to address. Architects and designers have control over our built environment; by changing the way we design cities and buildings to connect to rather than disconnect from nature, we can change our proximity to nature and shift our physical relationship to the environment.

<https://www.smartcitiesdive.com/ex/sustainablecitiescollective/nature-view-nature-design-reconnecting-people-nature-through-design/1069371/>



Thomas-Struth PARADISE 14, YAKUSHIMA, JAPAN, 1999

## **9. STUDY and VISIT REFERENCES**

Existing references show us the way. They tell us that we must dare to think radically and innovate. We are looking for ways to do things differently, especially for daily needs such as energy, water, food, nature, materials, or mobility. In this master dissertation studio, your

research and knowledge about specific examples are fundamental to success. So, start your research as soon as possible. It will change your life and your vision of life forever.



SOA – Paris Mini Ferme  
<https://archello.com/project/mini-farm>

Luc Eeckhout  
15/05/2023  
<https://regenerativedesign.world>