INTERSTICES

Gardens Becoming

Site and People specific project for urban community gardens



Concept and invitation:

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The team:

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Complicit gaze:

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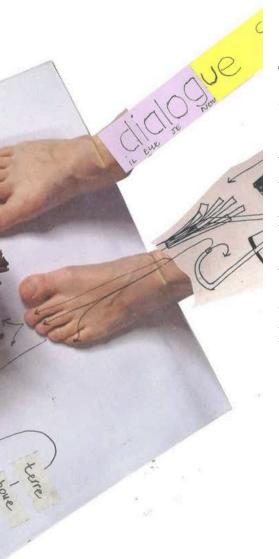
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Corps Calcaire was founded in the summer of 2022. It develops 'aesthetics of relationship' and investigates the individual and collective production of subjectivity. We use dance and movement as our main medium for encounter and dialogue, and the choreographic field is our place of experimentation.

We develop and run creative and transmission projects, following an artistic and educational approach that questions the relationship to oneself, to others and to the human and more-than-human community. We see the body as a tool and a privileged place for investigation and relationship.

We strive to weave links between artistic disciplines, to take care of encounters, and to think of the world and the body as a constellation of points eager to connect.

Foreword



There is no such thing as a "standard" community garden, there are no formulas to apply, only time will tell.

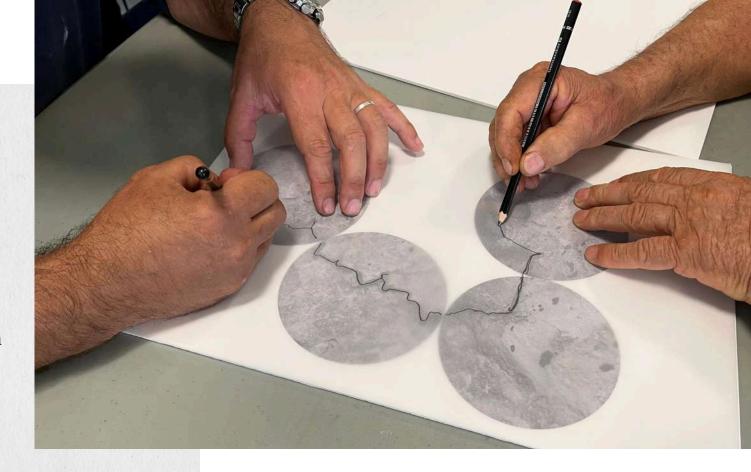
Shared gardens, collective gardens, allotment gardens, community gardens, urban vegetable gardens... I'm fascinated by the multitude of possibilities and solutions offered by these spaces. As well as being a place where people can meet and enjoy a broad social mix, I see these spaces as places where micro-political struggles can be waged.

What particularly interests me about these spaces is first and foremost the way they are organised collectively, then the way they mobilise the senses and the body, and finally the life stories they conjure up.

Eve Ganneau

INTERSTICES

This project is a research-action that combines transmission and artistic creation in the form of a community project. It has been developed under the frame of the Master's degree « Artistic Creation in public space » with FAI-AR school in Marseille and a research in participation and Site and People specific projects.



This research is embeeded is a specific typology of space: community gardens in urban areas. It wants to look at participatory devices, choreographic scores and collective processes. It addresses the underlying themes of social and environmental ecology.

The questions around this research are: How to encourage common ground and potential for action? How to invite participants to take part in the making of an artistic project by bringing it to life and helping shape its meaning?



CARDS

Following a series of immersions in different community gardens, and with the help of visual artist Eve Garemi, dancer Andrés Garcia Martinez and gardener Raphael Caillens, we have devised a pack of cards that can be used by participants.

Why a pack of cards?

We wanted to create an object that would be at the same time a support for encounter, a mediation tool and a creative trigger. Cards, concrete and playful, appeared to be an interesting object. During residencies, we observed that this unusual device gave consistancy to the project whilst helping the participants to delve in a visual and thematic universe. It opens possibilties for connection and proposes a lot of freedom and creativity in its use in order to adapt to different groups and gardens.

This cards can facilitate a process for participants to:

- discover the world of gardens in an embodied, poetic and metaphorical way,
- explore physical practices and generate choreographic material out of the everyday, the ordinary
- open discussions around cooperation, negociation and compromise
- promote grassroot knowledge, enrich awareness and curiosity around environmental questions
- enjoy a sensitive experience combining individual and collective experiences
- imagine and dream about potential gardens.



This deck of 36 cards is divided into three categories of 12 cards each. Each card is an invitation and contains possibilities, potentials and fragments of experience that can be experienced by and for the participants.



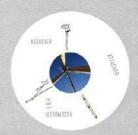
LE DOS DES CARTES

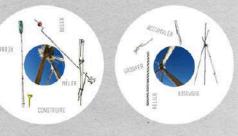
LES CARTES « ACTION »









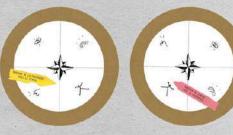












LES CARTES « INVISIBLE »

LES CARTES « PERSONNAGE »































'Action': Simple actions to be played in the gardens. They invite you to move around, touch, move or arrange materials in the garden, involve the bodies of the participants, provoke alliances and change the landscape through micro-actions.

'Invisible': They call on the imagination, memories and experiences. They invite you to make the invisible visible for a moment, and put to work ways of listening and looking, variations in viewpoints and what these changes provoke in the bodies.

'Character': These present human or non-human characters, starting points for a story or fiction, a garden story.

The times when the cards are played are moments between and with a group set up in advance. These moments live only in the moment and will never be exactly reproduced in the same way.













THE COLLECTIVE MAP



Each card chosen or drawn at random gives rise to a sensitive experience interacting with the site and the other participants. Each experience is then graphically transcribed onto a 130x150 collective map.

This collective format is a time for sharing and discussion, and a record of experiences. The traces of experience accumulate and overlap over the course of the time spent in the gardens to create a 'sensitive map', a metaphorical garden, a testimony to the individuality and sensitivity of each person in contact with the place.





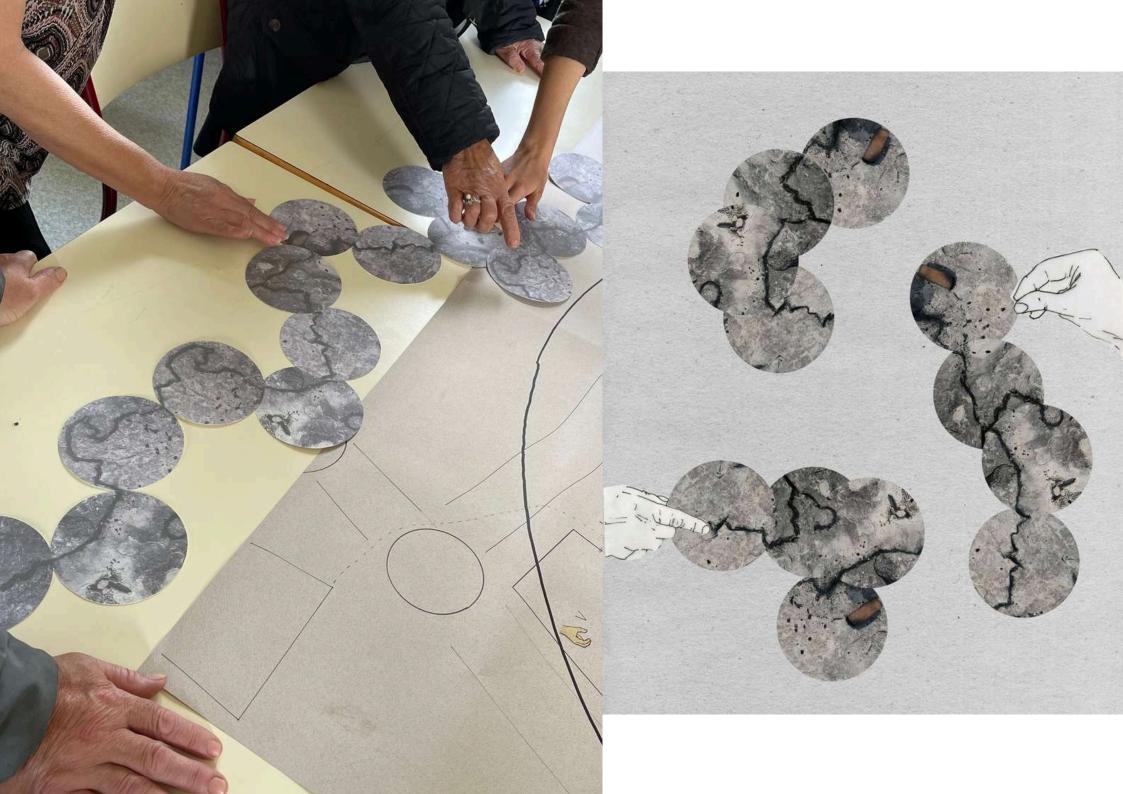




1.

1 Collective map created by the participants at the end of a week's residency at Beaudésert. Seniors group

2. Collective map created by the participants after 2 weeks in 3 gardens, Marseille. Adult group + children aged 9-11



At the end of our time together, this medium becomes the springboard for a collective event where the participants can use this collective plastic creation to tell the story of their time together in the gardens.

Possible formats already suggested:

• Meeting and recounting of the week by and with the participants (senior group) in front of an invited audience.

Mérignac, April 2024 following a week's presence in the area with an established group

• Breakfast in the gardens and workshop on the 'connections game' to complete the map, open to participants and the invited public.

Marseilles, July 2024, following a two-week visit to the area with two groups.

The schedule for the sessions and the formats for public presentations will be discussed and co-constructed in advance with each host partner.

The team

Eve Ganneau

Dancer, choreographer and Feldenkrais practitioner Artistic director of the company Corps Calcaire



Raphaël Caillens

Landscape architect and poet-gardener



Eve GaremiVisual and performance artist



Andrés Garcia Martinez

Dancer and choreographer



Marine Giraudet

Actress, director, author and playwright with a background in theatre



RESSEARCH AND MODERATION

INTERSTICES was developed as part of the FAI-AR Creation in Public Space advanced training course. The research, conducted as a living laboratory, was shared with local residents and gardeners.

This immersion/conversation gave us food for thought about these spaces and their uses, and enabled us to create and experiment with this artistic object in the form of workshops. We've developed a range of unique mediation tools that we can adapt to different contexts, always in touch with the real and the living, in discussion with the host structures.









Avec le soutien de :











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