

in towards a community
of learning & practice



filtration

neurourbanistic

land management
of architecture



#hinterfreie Ins

Klimaforschung
& Nachhaltige
design

LEARNSCAPES 2023: UNSEALING FLOATING

The future of the Floating site is always being negotiated, sometimes contested. Floating e.V. follows a vision for a Floating infiltration basin, in which the asphalt base of the basin is replaced with gravel that biologically filter the polluted water so it can be used for swimming and to water neighboring gardens, local parks and graveyards, before seeping into the ground (rather than entering the Spree untreated). Whether this vision is going to be implemented by the landlords and authorities or not, is still unclear. And so is the role of Floating University in this transformation process.

(How) Can Floating University become an active agent of transformation in the process of unsealing and redesigning the rainwater basin? How can the temporary natureculture learning site turn into a hybrid infrastructure with a long-term perspective (an infiltration basin as a blue-green infrastructure, a learning space, an urban practice campus, an artistic free space laboratory, a cultural venue)? Concepts like the 15 Minute City as well as Sponge City (Schwammstadt) could be examined in relation to Floating.

Unsealing Floating is an open invitation to all visiting student groups to generate knowledge on the topic of unsealing and support Floating University in becoming an agent of transformation, proving expertise in a self-driven spatial transformation and eventually – hopefully – combining an infiltration basin with a learning landscape – through a community of practice. We like to resonate this knowledge within the association as well as with our strategic partners in the city administration.

At Learnsapes, we aim to un-, re- and co-learn. With this in mind, we want to approach the topic of unsealing by collecting a multitude of definitions and practices. Beyond the literal spatial transformation of the rainwater basin, in which Floating is entangled, the act of unsealing can be understood as emancipatory, radical, liberating.

Sous les pavés, la plage! Unsealing can be understood as questioning established planning processes, breaking out of institutional borders and entrenched learning methods, developing new ways of practice-based knowledge production, envisioning alternative futures and narratives.

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TU Berlin, Habitat Unit
Amorgos Flux. Water, Tourism,
Climate Change

Dr. Christian Haid ^[Studio lead]
David Bauer ^[Studio lead]
Prof. Anke Hagemann ^[Studio lead]
+ students

**Berlin University of the Arts,
Building Planning and Design**
studio raumproduktion 23:
“designing for the more than human”
Prof. Markus Bader ^[Studio lead]
Silvia Gioberti, ^[Studio lead]
Carmina Henzler-Carrascal
Philip Weiss Tornes
+ students

METU Budapest, Faculty of Arts
Artistic Research of
the Flotolis Collective
Anna Kudron ^[Studio lead]
+ students

**University of the Arts Berlin,
Faculty Design, Architecture**
ZuGÄNGE zum Stadtraum
Mirjana Mitrović ^[Studio lead]
+ students

TU Berlin, Urban Design
Hybrid Infrastructures:
Urban Design research Studio
Rosario Talevi ^[Studio lead]
+ students

**X-Tutorial,
Berlin University Alliance**
Kontaminiert werden.
Forschen in den Ruinen
der Reinheit
Jann Mause ^[Studio lead]
Jona Möller ^[Studio lead]
+ students

**University of Arts and Design
Karlsruhe Medienkunst,
Kunsthochschule Kassel Grafik**
Design & A Place in the Woods
A Place, and another Place
Assembling, Disassembling,
Reassembling
Bruno Jacoby ^[Workshop lead]
Johanna Schäfer ^[Workshop lead]
Karolina Sobel ^[Workshop lead]
+ students

Akademie der Künste Stuttgart
Myths for the Future to Explore
Antonia Low ^[Studio lead]
Linda Weiß ^[Studio lead]
+ students

**Eberswalde University for
Sustainable Development,
Strategic Sustainability
Mangement**
Nachhaltigkeitspositionen
in der beruflichen Praxis
Dr. Saskia Hebert ^[Studio lead]
Dr. Anke Strauss ^[Studio lead]
+ students

**Berlin International
University of Applied Sciences**
Sustainable Material Practice
Rasa Weber ^[Studio lead]
+ students

Unsealing: Dicipines
Nelly Binner ^[Workshop lead]
Teresa Awa ^[Workshop lead]
Barbara-Rosa Siévi ^[Workshop lead]
Clarisse Jähn ^[Workshop lead]
+ participants

ETH Zurich
Circular Building for the 98%
Angelika Hinterbrandner
^[Workshop lead]
Laura Bertelt ^[Workshop lead]
+ participants

(Re-)searching urbanity
Symposium exploring
critical urban perspectives

**University of the Arts Berlin,
Institute of Art in Context**
Lernräume – architektonisch,
künstlerisch, politisch, sozial
Claudia Hummel^[Studio lead]
+ students

**University Regensburg / TU Berlin,
Habitat Unit: Transforming
Solidarities Lecture Series**

Dr. Anna Steigemann^[curation]

Dr. Moritz Ahlert^[curation]

Gentrification Is Inevitable And
Other Lies. How Gentrification
is killing our cities, and what we
can do about it.

Leslie Kern^[Lecturer]

**TU Berlin, Habitat Unit:
Urban Talks**

Safer Space and Queer Nightlife:
The politics of vulnerability and
control in 'post-neoliberal' London

Jamie Hakim^[Lecturer]



This Year we wanted to further support the evolution of our dear co-investigators, academics, learners and educators towards growing the Learnscapes network into a community of Practice. At the hybrid kick-off event on February 24, 2023 we exchanged ideas and plans for upcoming learning formats at Floating. We looked for potential synergies among different institutes/schools/groups (timewise, shared literature, resources, etc.); as well as between those and Floating e.V. – how can Floating support the learning formats and how can the different groups contribute to Floating's upcoming transformation?

MID TERM

The floating learnscaPes are shaped by student groups from all kind of disciplines that exercise their academic Program on site. At the midterm, students that have been working at Floating and engaging with the site this year presented their (Preliminary) work. This season we aimed to reflect Practices of un-, re- and co-learning through the notion of unsealing – Questioning established Planning Processes, breaking out of institutional borders and entrenched learning methods, developing new ways of Practice-based knowledge Production, envisioning alternative futures and narratives and exploring spatial transformations. The Midterms were conceptualised as Stationentheater, where every group shaped a Presentation station with their work, actions, interactions and Presentations.

Fountain of Knowledge

Raul Walch

Lisa van Heyden

Unsealing the concrete grounds of Floating, the Fountain of Knowledge is a symbol for great new ideas and bubbling thoughts. It's a space for coming together, taking a bath, refreshing the mind and imagining possible futures within Floating and beyond. All together we open the Midterm with a welcoming inter-action at the Fountain of Knowledge by building paper boats and writing down definitions and interpretations of "Unsealing Floating".



Sustainable Material Practice, Berlin International University of Applied Sciences

Rasa Weber [Studio lead]

+ students



Kontaminiert werden: Forschen in den Ruinen der Reinheit, X-Tutorial

Jann Mausen [Studio lead]

Jona Möller [Studio lead]

+ students



Amorgos Flux, Habitat Unit, TU Berlin

Dr. Christian Haid [Studio lead]

David Bauer [Studio lead]

Prof. Anke Hagemann [Studio lead]

+ students



Political Ecologies in the Anthropocene. Situated Practices in Learning Laboratories between Nature and Society

Fotini Takirdiki ^[PhD Candidate]



Wo ist das Wasser? Art research by the Flotolis Collective, Faculty of Arts – Art and Design Theory Institute, METU Budapest

Anna Kudron ^[Studio lead]
+ students



**Pop-up Workshop
Unsealing: Disciplines**

Nelly Binner ^[Workshop lead]
Teresa Awa ^[Workshop lead]
Barbara-Rosa Siévi ^[Workshop lead]
Clarisse Jähn ^[Workshop lead]
+ participants



**Hybrid Infrastructures,
Urban Design Research Studio,
TU Berlin**

Rosario Talevi ^[Studio lead]
+ students



**studio raumproduktion 23:
designing for the more than
human, UdK Berlin**

Prof. Markus Bader ^[Studio lead]
Silvia Gioberti, ^[Studio lead]
Carmina Henzler-Carrascal
Philip Weiss Tornes
+ students



**Nachhaltigkeitspositionen in der
beruflichen Praxis, Strategisches
Nachhaltigkeitsmanagement,
HNEE**

Dr. Saskia Hebert ^[Studio lead]
Dr. Anke Strauss ^[Studio lead]
+ students



**Doing city: Choreografische
Praktiken des Stadtmachens,
Theaterwissenschaften FU Berlin**
Sabine Zahn



**Circular Building for the 98%,
ETH Zurich**

Angelika Hinterbrandner
^[Workshoplead]
Laura Bertelt ^[Workshop lead]
+ participants



**(re-)searching urbanity
symposium**
(re-)searching urbanity



Interlude
Tomma Suki Hinrichsen

Under the asphalt the beach
Together with Berlin-artist Tomma Suki Hinrichsen we have a look at what we imagine underneath the concrete surface. Which secret treasures can we find down there? Collectively we explore what is hidden through breaking up the ground. Through the cracks new human and more-than-human visions can emerge.



Culinary art
Julia Klink



Unseafood

Un-sea-ling. Un-Sea. Sea. Seafood - the collective term for all edible animals and plants from the sea. Due to efficiency-driven production conditions, artificial additives and long transportation routes, what ends up on our plates today often no longer has much to do with it. So how about we paint a different picture of food from the sea that captures the local context? Julia Klink transforms local ingredients and re-assembles them into a dish that turns a community lunch into a maritime culinary voyage of discovery: Noodles literally become mussels and octopus tubes, king oyster mushrooms become scallops, black lentils become majestic caviar, seaweed and sea asparagus give the plate its green and typical saltiness. Above the shallow waves of the rainwater catchment basin, it almost feels like being by the sea and motivates us to continue working on unsealing topics, because we know: sous les pavés, la plage!



Mid term tacos

The road to unsealing is a long one. Soil drilling is a central part of this, but has not yet taken place at Floating university. We ask ourselves: what is actually hidden there, under the black, hard layer that becomes visible at low water at Floating? We go on a discovery tour with the Mid-Term Tacos and work our way through the different layers in a culinary way: After the hard asphalt layer, we come across sand, concrete sludge and soil until we end up with groundwater and living plants. What does it look like on the plate? Dark mole, black beans and roasted oyster mushrooms are draped on a black, crispy taco. Garnished with blue and green sauce and colourful toppings. After the mid-term tacos, we were full of energy and eager to continue the unsealing process.

SWAMP POSTUM

The LearnscaPes Symposium: Unsealing Floating invited Past, Present and future Participants of the LearnscaPes Programme for two days of workshops, talks and Get-togethers – an opportunity to take a deeper dive into the floating landscapes of knowledge Production and Practices of un-, co- and re- learning beyond academia. Once again we came together to exchange knowledge – this time on the topics of soil and water at Floating and beyond – and started shaping next Year's LearnscaPes Programme and its community of Practice.

Soils Blankets and Feuille de terrain ^[workshop]

Johanna Bendlin, Falma Fshasi, Giulia Ravera ^[Super Terram]

Super Terram is a Brussels based project that has been ongoing between spring 2019 until end of april 2023. It focuses on urban soils and their life. By placing soils at the heart of citizen mobilizations, the project aims to bring out new ways of developing our cities, more sensitive to our living environment and to the multiple relationships that unfold under our feet. In order to enrich our ways of making the city, the project works to mobilise a community of actors able to bring out, count and amplify alternative ways and narratives of engaging with urban soils.



Raising water-wareness^[exhibition]

Bene Wahlbrink, Eugenio Cappuccio,
Julius Grambow^[Panta Rhei Collaborative]

‘Water is the new oil’ has become a regular companion to illustrate the scale of problems surrounding global water supplies today. In privileged European urban environments in particular, water only regularly makes the headlines for economic or disaster-related aspects (‘privatisation’, ‘cost of sewers’, ‘flooding’). However, this is hugely deficient when water is central to approaching a multitude of other urban issues which are present.



Toasts to the Future ^[Discursive Dinner]

Kristin Laz, Markus Bader, Lisa van Heyden,
Benjamin Förster-Baldenius, Raul Walch
with Julia Klink ^[culinary art]

We invited all participants to engage in conversations about the future we want to proclaim at Floating. We slip into the role of air, earth, rain-water, unsealing, swamping, rewilding, reed, dragonflies and frogs. What does our future look like at Floating? We collectively wrote speeches out of those perspectives and toasted to them. Unexpectedly, it becomes concrete when the different perspectives are suddenly served as performative dinner elements. Would you like a little more earth? And a little rainwater and air bubbles on top? How can sealed vegetables be opened to reveal their flavours? Where can they go to rot and go wild? What does an edible reed landscape consist of and what does “frog-spawn” taste like? A long, interactive menu as an evening-long program at the end of the season.



Learnsapes Assembly [Brunch]

Kristin Laz, Markus Bader, Lisa van Heyden,
with Julia Klink [culinary art]

After the unsealing comes the swamping. And the next topics of Learnsapes. But what does it actually mean - to become boggy? What possible interpretations, what content is contained in this term? And how can we approach the topic? One possibility is the culinary way: Julia Klink prepared an edible swamp of hummus sand, baba ganoush mud, herb scrub, egg stones and bread rocks. We met for brunch on Sunday morning and talked about the future of Learnsapes.

Which topics would you like to bring next season?
What are the common moments next season
and what do you expect from those?
How can we connect better with each other and with
Floating e.V. and strengthen the community of practice?



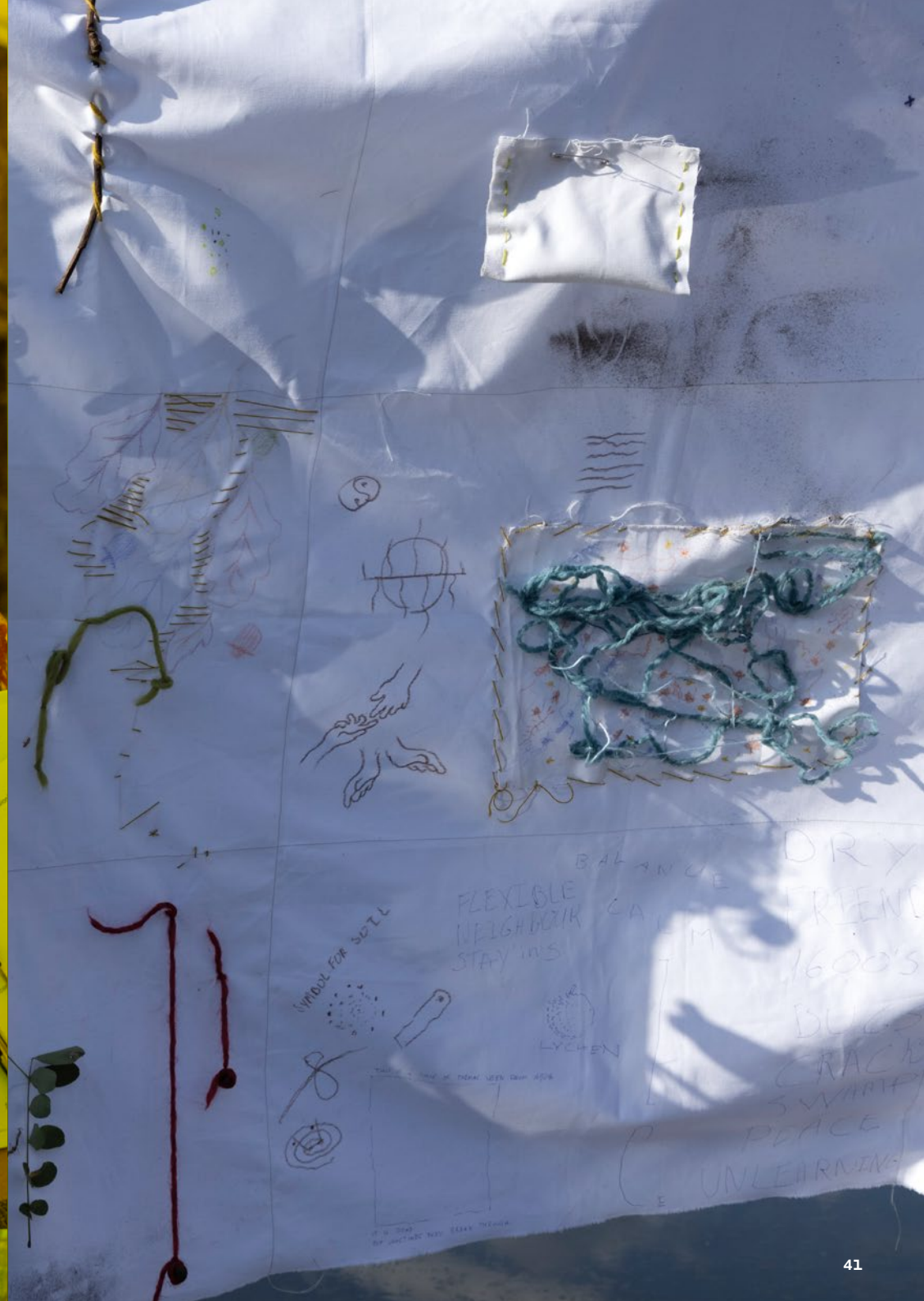
Collective Kite Flying at Tempelhofer Feld

Raul Walch, Lisa van Heyden and participants

After the Brunch Assembly, the kite flying event ends up and rounds off the Learnscapes Symposium in a shared moment. We leave the spaces of Floating University and gather at Tempelhofer Feld in a colorful setup. As part of Raul Walchs 'Azimut Tempelhof' project, participants from various backgrounds were invited to design their own kites during the summer. Through collective kite flying, the Learnscapes community is mixing and matching with participants, the general public, and the various kinds of flying structures. Together, we take off and conclude the day and the beautiful Symposium.













Learnscapes

Building on Floating University's various international collaborations with universities since 2018, we invite teachers with students –or students with teachers– faculties and seminars again to shape and inseminate the Floating Learnscapes. Academic institutions and lecturers are invited to relocate with their groups to the site of the Floating Uni to stay and exercise their academic programme here. We would like to see students from all kinds of disciplines exchanging, researching and building sandcastles simultaneously in our inner city offshore campus. They might range from critical research, questions of social, architectural, urban and environmental concerns and designs, to the making of a functioning of spaces for learning, communication, commoning and a self-organized civil society. Team Learnscapes is Markus Bader, Benjamin Förster-Baldenius, Julia Klink, Kristin Laz, Lisa van Heyden and Raul Walch, as well as Jeanne Astrup-Chauvaux, Sarah Bovelett and Antonia Schlaich (2021).

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FLOATING
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BERLIN

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indigene
whirlpool

academic beach: lesungen

narrative architecture

{floating-see}

floating
berg

community
engagement

Nachbarschafts-
campus

Landschaft

kunst
im Kontext

Bodenforschung

Unterwasser