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PODCAST The coolest park in Abu Dhabi

!scape

Digital magazine #1

'scape 5 E-zines / digital magazines
and 1 paper edition a year

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EMERGENCY HOSPITAL LANDSCAPE IN MADRID

Recovering in green alcoves
in times of Covid

Cjcpaisaje

VALLÉE DE L'YISSY, MOROCCO

A notion of worth – a renewed
approach to the vernacular

Inside Outside, Salima Naji

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proof and sociable

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through urban forests

Rasmus Astrup

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WONDERGROUND

To tend one's garden is
to tend one's soul

Georgina Reid

GROW

A light recipe for leek – and a
solution for green agriculture

Studio Roosegaarde

The notion of worth



Since 2002, Moroccan architect Salima Naji has saved many historic sites in her country from becoming collective granaries while reestablishing the use of earth and stone in construction. In her books she develops an abundant documentation on a renewed approach to the vernacular with plans, drawings and surveys. In this digital Scape magazine we focus on a new initiative in the Vallée de l'Yissy in the south western region of the Atlas mountains. Together with the landscape architects of Inside Outside Salima Naji works on the revitalisation of the valley. The focus points are marked with large circles of natural stone, as a kind of acupuncture. The images in this magazine show the special character of the site and the promise of the interventions for both the landscape, as well as from a social point of view. It is about beauty and 'the notion of worth' as the designers state.

It is the main story in the magazine. The second one seems from another planet but actually is quite close to the Atlas: just across the Mediterranean, in Spain. There, in the middle of the Coronavirus pandemic and in an attempt to fight it, a new emergency hospital was built. Madrilenian landscape architect Cristina Jorge Camacho designed the outdoor space with the principle of isolation and protection. A strange task for a landscape architect who prefers to connect, but she managed to find a solution, with the help of microorganisms and a lot of plants.

It is plants that are crucial in all of the videos we present. Plants are the inspiration for the new Australian magazine called Wonderground. And plants are the main object in a new project where light is used as an artsy recipe for a greener agriculture. In Abu Dhabi the Danish office of SLA has designed 'the coolest park in town' with more than 2000 sorts of indigenous plants. SLA landscape Architect Rasmus Astrup talks about this remarkable design in the 'must hear' podcast series Forward Talks.

There is one other special thing about this magazine: it is available in two options: in an enhanced pdf-format, and as **an e-zine**. We are interested to know what our readers prefer, so please give us **your feedback**.

Harry Harsema
Editor in chief

Extraordinary for Landscape Architects

Product: Olympic Wave Benches Project: Scissortail Park, Oklahoma City (OK) by Ruppert Landscape Companies photo © Doug Hoke

Streetlife uses simple but elegant modular building blocks with long lifespans and choose materials sourced fairly and responsibly to minimise the impact on the environment. Our design team develops smart solutions to improve the longevity of the products. A key aspect includes the recyclability of components and raw materials throughout the chain. All these conscious design decisions make a significant contribution to the high quality and sustainable use of Streetlife products.



Drifter Bench
Upcycled Hardwood



Rough&Ready Curved Bench



Rough&Ready Hug A Tub



Green Screen System

Emergency hospital landscape / Recovering in green alcoves

by Martine Bakker

The Enfermera Isabel Zendal hospital was built in 100 days. The landscape plan was created by Cjcpaisaje.

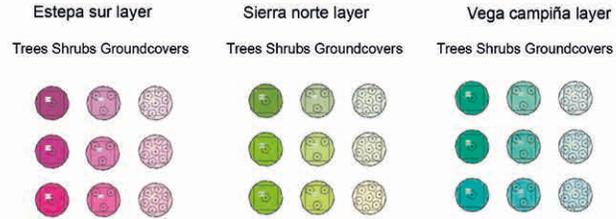
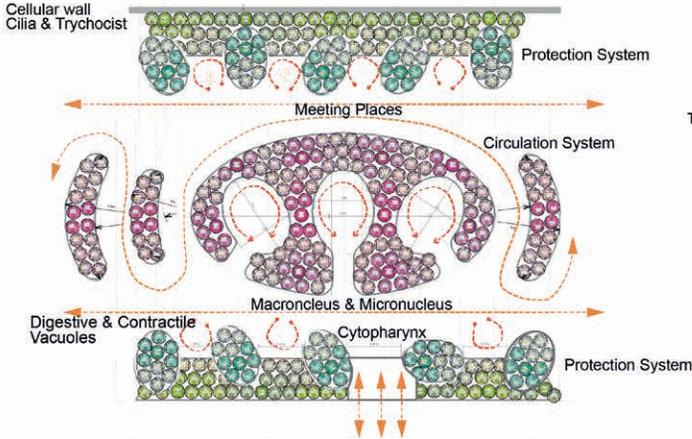




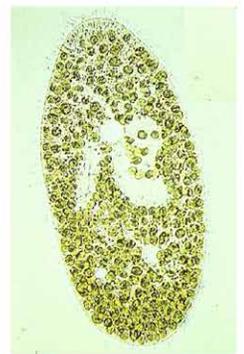
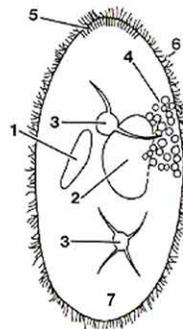
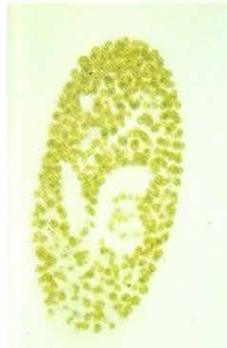
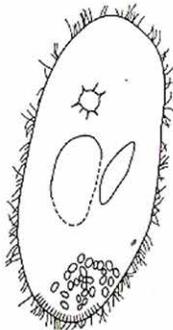
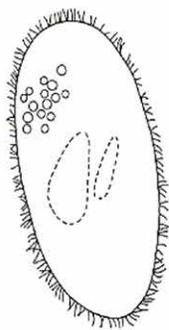
Spain was hit exceptionally hard by the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. Until early June 2020 the Spanish held a minute's silence every day and strict measures have been in place for more than a year, especially in Madrid. The death toll there rose so quickly that bodies had to be stored in the ice rink. In March a 'field hospital' with five thousand beds was hastily set up and in autumn a brand new hospital was built: **Enfermera Isabel Zendal**.

Madrilenian landscape architect **Cristina Jorge Camacho** designed the outdoor space for this new hospital. The principle of isolation and protection that applies indoors continues in the garden. Round 'alcoves', surrounded by bushes and the odd tree, allow patients and their visitors to safely spend time in the garden. And staff can recover here from their stressful shifts on a covid ward. The garden beds and borders are laid out in a way that allows recovering patients to walk around and in between them.

The essential elements for the design are based on the crucial role of microorganisms in the regulation of climate change: a protection system (Cell Wall) on the outside, an inside a meeting point (Nucleus DNA) and a circulation system (Vacuoles). The planting is a reflection of three Spanish landscapes - Estepa Sur, Sierra Norte and Vega Campiña - and is organised by the area of origin.



The vital system of primitive organisms has guided the design and distribution of the external areas

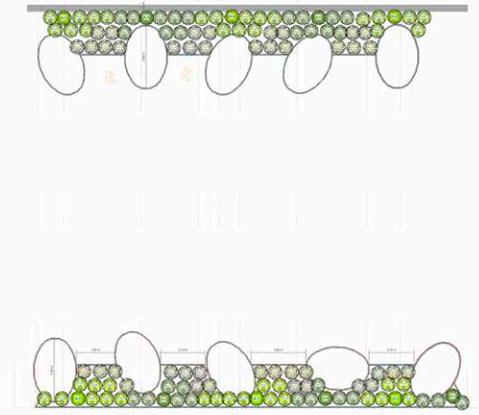


Cytoplasm was the inspiration for the porous base materials used.

1. Cytopharynx_
2. Macronucleus
3. Contractile Vacuoles_
4. Food Vacuoles_
5. Trichocytes_
6. Cilia_
7. Cytoplasm



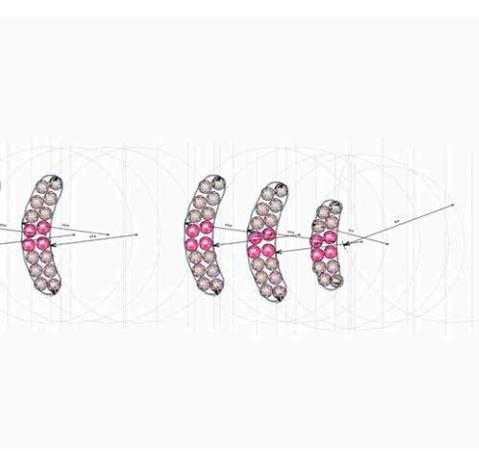
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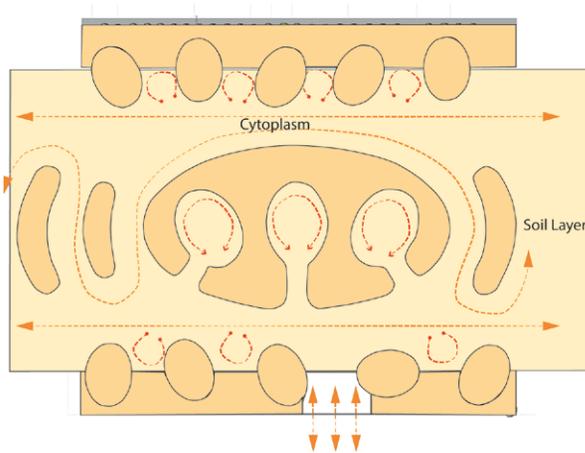
3.



1. The protection system (Cell Wall) consists of the green bands parallel to the three buildings of the hospital complex. The presence of rows of trees, aromatic shrubs, and colourful ground covers make up a highly sensitive natural environment close to the Hospital. The parallel green bands are based on the planting palette of the Sierra Norte Layer.

2. The meeting points (Nucleus DNA) are surrounded by fruit trees, aromatic shrubs, and ground covers that do not cause respiratory problems or allergies. Families can get together in these outdoor waiting rooms that will house benches, chairs, and support tables in the future. The soft landscape is based on the planting palette of the Estepa Sur Layer.

3. The circulation system (Vacuoles) consists of elliptical and longitudinal green areas resulting in controlled enclosures and views over the surrounding parks. These "parentheses" enclose the core areas and lead to safe walkways. Patients recovering from Covid-19 may develop deep vein thrombosis in their legs due to increased blood flow. Doctors recommend daily exercise and long walks during recovery. These green areas are based on the planting palette of the Vega Campiña Layer.



Type D. Base Layer

Classe 1: Soil 1_Cytoplasm

- Order C1_Quarz
- Order C2_Feldspar
- Order C3_Mica

Classe 2: Soil 2_Cell wall & Nuclei & Vacuoles

- Order Ca1_Red granite
- Order Ca2_Humus
- Order Ca3_Limestone

Classe 3: Contours_Plastids

- Order Ch1_Corten metal Plate lineal
- Order Ch2_Corten metal Plate elliptical
- Order Ch3_Corten metal plate parenthesis

The base layer of the design consists of porous base materials (Cytoplasm). Compacted red soil acts as a granular fluid. The pavements are porous with limestone, crushed red granite, quartz, feldspar, mica, and they are compacted following the contours of the terrain. Because the underground galleries belong to the previous unfinished City of Justice project, part of the landscape intervention has required additional layers such as waterproofing, vapor barriers, drainage, and other elements typical of green roofs.

Only one hundred days were needed to complete the construction of the hospital. It consists of three separate buildings and boasts over a thousand beds. It is to be applauded that despite the enormous cost overrun the landscape plan was still implemented, albeit only partly. And the plants will have to grow considerably before the alcoves will feel like actual alcoves. Hopefully by that time the coronavirus pandemic will be over.

Yet it is already an interesting hospital garden. The planting is a reflection of three Spanish landscapes - Estepa Sur, Sierra Norte and Vega Campiña - and is organised by area of origin like in a botanical garden. These landscapes were chosen because of the dry ground, and the plants that were used rarely cause allergic reactions or breathing difficulties.



The planting is a reflection of three Spanish landscapes - Estepa Sur, Sierra Norte and Vega Campiña - and is organised by area of origin like in a botanical garden



Project

Emergency Hospital Landscape

Location

Madrid, Spain

Designer

Cjcpaisaje (landscape architecture)

Chile15 arquitectos (architecture)

Commissioned by

Servicio de Salud de la Comunidad de Madrid

Area

7,434 m²

Design

2020

Realisation

2020

The garden beds are shaped like lenses and the paths are permeable to prevent rain water from running away immediately. Also, Cristina Jorge Camacho plays with the ability of certain types of plants to hold water. They have been grouped together in such a way that the types of plants that hold water longer function as a sponge for other types of plants. There are several fruit trees in the garden and plant colours and scents have been carefully matched.



Above all, Vauban leaves you with a sense of possibility; the feeling that there are alternatives to how we usually build cities; the awareness that making our cities climate-proof and making them more sociable and pleasant places to live in at the same time, is possible.

From the article ***(Re)Building cities from the neighbourhood up*** on the Australian website Foreground.com.au. The authors of the new book *Neighbourhoods for the future* claim that if our cities are to cope with the challenge of climate change, they will need to be reinvented from first principles, with ecological urbanism in mind.



[CLICK HERE TO
SEE THE FILM](#)

Wonderground / To tend one's garden is to tend one's soul

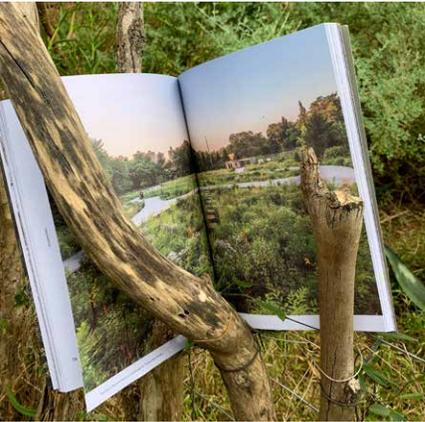
In March, Australian landscape architect Georgina Reid published the first edition of **Wonderground journal**, set to appear every six months. Reid has already published an online magazine named *The Planthunter*, and a book by the same title appeared in 2018. The fact that 'planthunter' reads like an alias and references action is no coincidence. Reid experiences gardens and landscapes as nurturing and shaping. To her, gardening is just as much a mental activity as it is a physical one - it keeps her sane.

The quote 'How we spend our days is how we spend our lives,' by American author Annie Dillard, describes

Reid perfectly. This is how she lives and works, as is evident from her writings. In a detailed, loving blog about her own garden she also shares existential reflections. In this garden by the river, according to Reid, human existence coincides with the truly important things in life: trees, soil, water, air. And 'to exist in reciprocal relationship with place' forms the basis of 'a good life.'

What if wild plant growth were read as the opportunity for a plant/people conspiracy that could grow livable worlds?'

By 'a good life' Reid means generosity and knowing - and selflessly sharing - your gift. What she has to offer is exactly what she is doing right now: telling stories, sharing insights, 'looking, caring, giving.' But introspection is equally as important, she warns, because the mind is not a computer and the body is not a machine. 'There is a fluidity and complexity in natural systems, in all lives, that is non-linear and irreducible,' says Reid. 'How we think, feel and do affects how our brain responds and how our brain responds affects how we think and feel and do.'



Wonderground appears to be slightly more professional than The Planthunter. The journal has a clear layout with images and text clearly separated, so both can be fully appreciated. The articles are about 'the human connection to landscape, plants and place', according to the website. A poet and three farmers contributed to the first issue. 'What if wild plant growth were not read as a threat but as the opportunity for a plant/people conspiracy that could grow livable worlds?' suggests cultural anthropologist Natasha Myers in her contribution. Wonderground promises to be a refreshing voice in the current, worldwide debate on large systems and related issues, such as climate change and urban growth.



[CLICK HERE TO
SEE THE FILM](#)

Grow / A light recipe for leek

Dutch farmers have had their fair share of attention. In 2020, they drove their tractors right up to the front doors of national and provincial government buildings on several occasions and at the general elections in March they managed to get into the House of Representatives with their own party. The newly chosen representative, too, arrived on a tractor. The commotion around the farmers was caused by the urgent need for agricultural reforms, to combat nitrogen emissions, reduce factory farming and increase biodiversity.

High-tech artist Daan Roosegaarde contributes to this in his own way. In the art installation **Grow** he attached LED lighting to growing crops, namely leek on a field in the Flevoland polder. In collaboration with

*Grow is the
dreamscape
which shows
the beauty
of light and
sustainability*

the University of Wageningen (WUR) and with support of the Rabobank - traditionally the bank of Dutch farmers - he emphasised the connection between light, growth and the sensitivity to pests. This photobiology light science technology has been used in greenhouses for some time, because an exact amount of blue, red and ultraviolet lights promotes crop growth and reduces the need for pesticides.

Although it is yet unclear to what extent this applies to crops growing outside, Roosegaarde would like to roll out the 'light recipe' worldwide to contribute to greener agriculture. With *Grow* he aims to shine a positive light on agriculture for a change. Roosegaarde: '*Grow* is the dreamscape which shows the beauty of light and sustainability. Not as a utopia but as a proto-pia, improving step by step. It gives new meaning to 'culture' in the word 'agriculture'.' Wiebe Draijer from Rabobank thought it was inspirational. The bank holds an extensive collection of modern art and *Grow* stems from its artist-in-residence programme.

Studio Roosegaarde in collaboration with Wageningen University & Research, Springtij Forum, World Economic Forum in Davos, BioLumic, MediaMonks



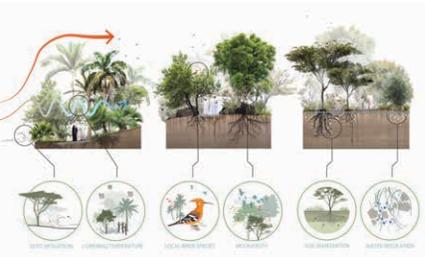


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Al Fay Park / The coolest park in Abu Dhabi

Danish firm **SLA** designed a leafy urban park in Abu Dhabi. Like Dubai, this city is located on the coast of the United Arab Emirates and in the desert. But whereas Dubai's islands are man-made, those in Abu Dhabi emerged naturally. Al Fay Park is located on Al Reem Island. Unlike Mangrove National Park on the island next to it, Al Reem has been developing rapidly since 2011. Apartments are an excellent real estate investment.

Amidst the new high rise buildings one can now find Al Fay Park, or 'the coolest park in town.' This title is primarily literal: Al Fay Park focuses on biodiversity



The qualities of Al Fay Park: dust mitigation, lowering temperature, local bird species, biodiversity, soil remediation and water regulation.



and microclimate optimisation. The initiative comes from local and national politician Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who is an advocate of sustainability and for young people. Together with national power company Masdar he is committed to renewable energy and he promotes the development of the Arabic language and poetry for the country's youth.

With someone like him leading the initiative, it is not surprising Al Fay Park is not only an ecological tour de force, but also a feast for the eyes. There are lots and lots of trees and plants, and especially many different species - 2000 altogether, all of them indigenous. Together with the narrow winding paths and the differences in height level, the varied vegetation makes it an elegant and exciting place for a walk. But there is also a spacious, meandering concrete walkway for leisurely strolls. Special activities are stimulated by benches and picnic tables and by the construction of playgrounds and sport facilities.

SLA opted for a consistent, modest design with smooth, light-coloured materials which highlights the – for a desert city – exorbitant greenery. Interestingly, though not necessarily eco-friendly, adult trees have been planted so the cooling effect is immediate. Unsurprisingly, the promotional video created by the council (department of municipalities and transport) is titled *Where the city meets the shade*.

Cross-sections by SLA show the root structure, because in a desert state everything revolves around water. Due to its dense vegetation and modern irrigation system Al Fay Park uses 40 per cent less water than other parks in the United Arab Emirates.

There are lots and lots of trees and plants, and especially many different species - 2000 altogether, all of them indigenous

'How amazing is it that now instead of going to a mall, kids are running around in the park and feel the nature in the middle of the city'

The guest in **this episode** of the podcast series Forward Talks by Goumbook is Rasmus Astrup, partner at SLA. The Danish firm that designed Al Fay Park in Abu Dhabi, shown in the *moving picture* on the previous pages.

An interesting talk just over 20 minutes, to listen to while cycling or walking in your local area.

Also available on **Spotify** and **Apple Podcasts**.
Enjoy!

Vallée de l'Yissy, Morocco / A notion of worth

by Martine Bakker

In the Vallée de l'Yissy in Morocco strategic locations have been chosen from which multiple points of interests can be visited. Impression by InsideOutside and Salima Naji.





A historical village with its vernacular architecture resides on the slope of the mountain. Seen from the oasis at the bottom of the valley.

Moroccan architect and anthropologist **Salima Naji** has been committed to the architectural heritage of her country for years. She sees a direct link between the traditional, sustainable, Moroccan construction techniques with loam, the architecture with indoor public areas, and the way residents once used to live and work together. Her idea is that when you preserve and restore one you will automatically preserve the other. In 2019, Naji's book *Architectures du bien commun. Pour une éthique de la préservation* was published, in which she explains this principle.

Over the last few decades community life in rural areas of Morocco crumbled as its inhabitants moved to the city. Especially in remote areas, agricultural production stagnated and date palm forests and fruit



One of the villages in the valley. A view from the oasis, and the vernacular architecture technique used for the stone walls.



Vernacular building techniques and architecture (a mix of stone and wood for the structure, the roofs and the gutter system).

Remains of a historical passage going from the village to the top of the mountains.





Harvest of dates.



Local agriculture: women from the area carrying the daily harvest.

Architect Salima Naji sees a direct link between the traditional, sustainable, Moroccan construction techniques with loam, the architecture with indoor public areas, and the way residents once used to live and work together. Her idea is that when you preserve and restore one you will automatically preserve the other.

Woman collecting water from the source.



Women's harvest.



Locals using their houses as guest houses.





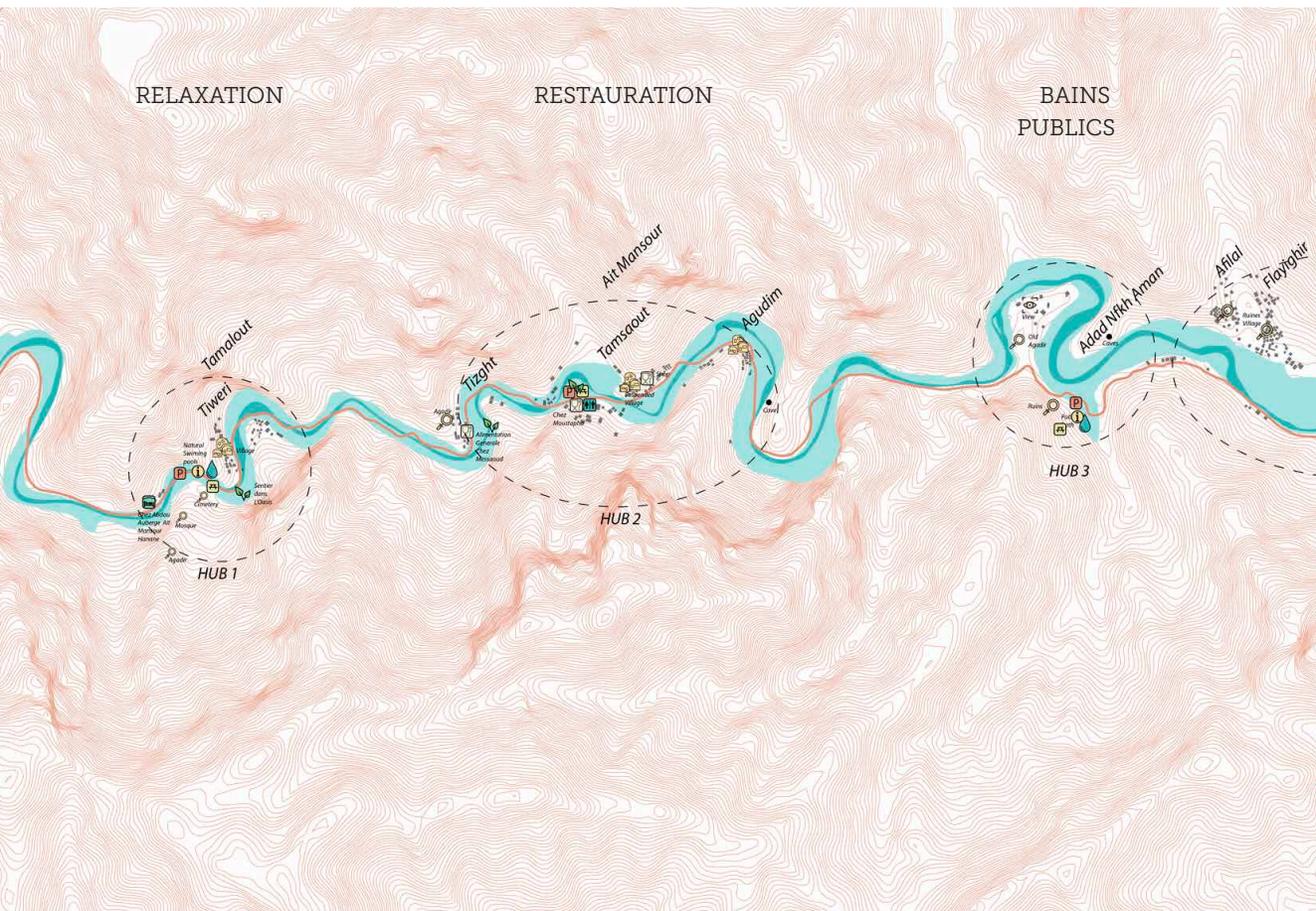
View from the terrace of a local residence over the oasis. The village is build on the slope.

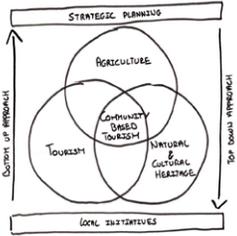
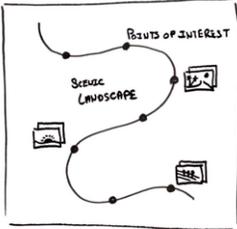
and nut orchards declined, as did the architectural heritage. For example in Vallée de l'Yissy, a beautiful 14 kilometre valley surrounded by dry, yellow and red mountains that meanders through the anti-Atlas mountains.

The Moroccan government is increasingly trying to spread tourism across the country in the future so areas further inland may benefit too. They also have high sustainability aspirations - unlike many other western countries, Morocco is well on track to achieve the Paris climate goals. Commissioned by the ministry of tourism, Salima Naji and her office and the Amsterdam firm **Inside Outside** are developing a strategy to turn the tide in the Vallée de l'Yissy.

For this, they focus on a new form of sustainable, community-based tourism closely intertwined with the landscape. In consultation with local communi-

Six hubs can be found in the valley, their location based on the distance between the villages and the places of interest. Each has its own theme and function.





The long term strategy for community based tourism with scenic routes and *albergo disperso*.

ties, seven strategic locations have been chosen from which multiple points of interests can be visited, such as traditional architecture, water basins, natural swimming pools, threshing sites, traditional irrigation systems or cemeteries. These seven spots are located on the existing main road and are literally marked with a large circle made of local natural stone.

To promote exchange, these places are primarily designed as a public space for the local community. The recognisable circular shape visibly connects the seven points in the valley. Yet tourists also know that a nice view or other place of interest can be found here, or a potential place to stay the night, because this is promoted in the tourist information about the valley. The hotels and restaurants have been planned

Restoration and re-use of cultural and en agricultural heritage will be a motor for authentic development.





Places to be developed: the water reservoir and swimming pool.

The designed public spaces are first of all meant for the inhabitants



Natural lakes at Ait Mansour.



A tea garden at Adgim.

Project

Long term strategy for sustainable tourism

Location

Ait Mansour, Region du Souss
Massa, Morocco

Designers

InsideOutside, Salima Naji

Commissioned by

Société de Development
Regional du Tourisme Souss
Massa

Design

2019

Implementation circles

2020-2021

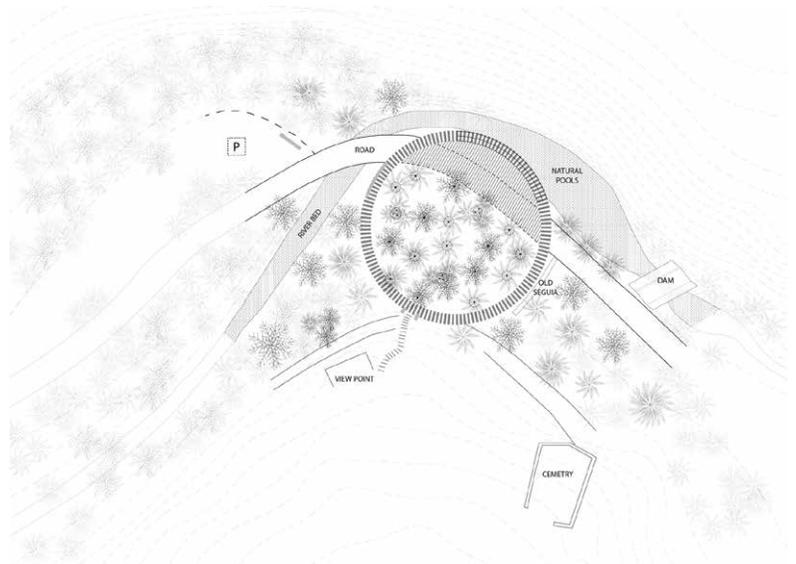
Area

140 ha / 14 km

in renovated cultural heritage sites and new developments where traditional construction methods are used in innovative ways.

And so the circles are a first notion of change in the valley. They will further stimulate rural tourism - tourism that will benefit the locals and is anchored in their communities. Salima Naji and Inside Outside expect social cohesion in the valley to increase as a result of these developments, and, more importantly, that the prevailing notion of worthlessness will be replaced by a notion of worth. This will automatically lead to a focus on preserving the landscape, the historically unique ecology in the valley, the culture and the architecture.

Sketch of the hub at Ait Mansour, one of the villages in the valley. The circle is made of local materials using traditional techniques. These places are designed as a preface of the future landscape of the valley.





Salima Naji and her team at work in the hub near Adad Nfkh Aman.

Pedestrian paths and water channels are combined.



Playground for children, appreciated by locals and visitors alike.





A new parking space at hub 3, alongside the road near Adad Nfkh Aman.

In hub 3 at Adad Nfkh Aman the irrigation basin and its surroundings are turned into a swimming pool for locals and visitors. The place is also used for social gatherings by locals.



Water channelling – made from natural stone – is improved.



A point of interest at Adad Nfkh Aman, surrounded by a natural stone wall. Protective barriers for the trees from floods function as sitting elements.

Salima Naji and Inside Outside expect social cohesion in the valley to increase, and, more importantly, that the prevailing notion of worthlessness will be replaced by a notion of worth

Path from the parking to the swimming pool.



Thinking, acting, letting go

/ Three decades of rejigging the landscape
H+N+S Landscape architects

Ever since their successful debut with Plan Stork over thirty years ago, H+N+S Landscape architects has played a leading role in Dutch landscape architecture. The firm's designs are a testament to their deep insights and long-term perspectives. Water management and our relationship with nature feature strongly in their work.

During the past three decades the practice has evolved from primarily a 'thinking office' to becoming a 'making office' as well, across all aspects of the profession. A constant factor throughout has been their unique combination of sound knowledge and an inspirational spirit of inquiry.

This richly illustrated magazine showcases over thirty projects by H+N+S, with large gatefold pages, interviews and roundtable discussions.

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Portrait /

Terremoto

Scape already presented their beautiful, lush and evergreen garden in the hills of Northern California. And now we have a portrait of the design studio. With a view on some iconic projects and an interview with David Godshall, one of the founders. What inspires the studio?

Dossier /

Loyalty

What drives European designers to leave their comfort zone and start working on projects in Peru, South Africa, Mexico, Jordan or Kenya? To design a coffee bean greenbelt on the borders of the Andes or improve public space in a Township in Cape Town? What inspired them? What did they learn? What could they achieve? A round table discussion with some landscape architects, projects and reflections.



Dossier /

Remnants of old wars

Photos by Marc Wilson of the remnants of defense structures of World War II inspired us to write an essay on how we deal with these scars in the landscape. Are they to be left to the elements and become ruins? Or can they be used in other ways and for new landscape structures, such as the Dutch Defense line? Two extended image-essays and a reflective essay on this very special form of cultural heritage.

Portrait /

H+N+S Landscape Architects

A portrait of the Dutch office, famous for their approach to water management, nature and landscape design. Three decades of thinking, acting and letting go. With a presentation of recent works and their sources of inspiration.

... in the new issue #17

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