

## Weaving Vessels for Emerging Climates

Catalina Mejia Moreno and Andreas Lang

Departing from the well-trodden paths of architectural education, *Weaving Vessels* —A class part of Central Saint Martins Architecture Masters' Program— attends to notions of embodiment, belonging, and kinship offering a path to reconsider, in plural, how we inhabit, teach, and care for planetary architectures.

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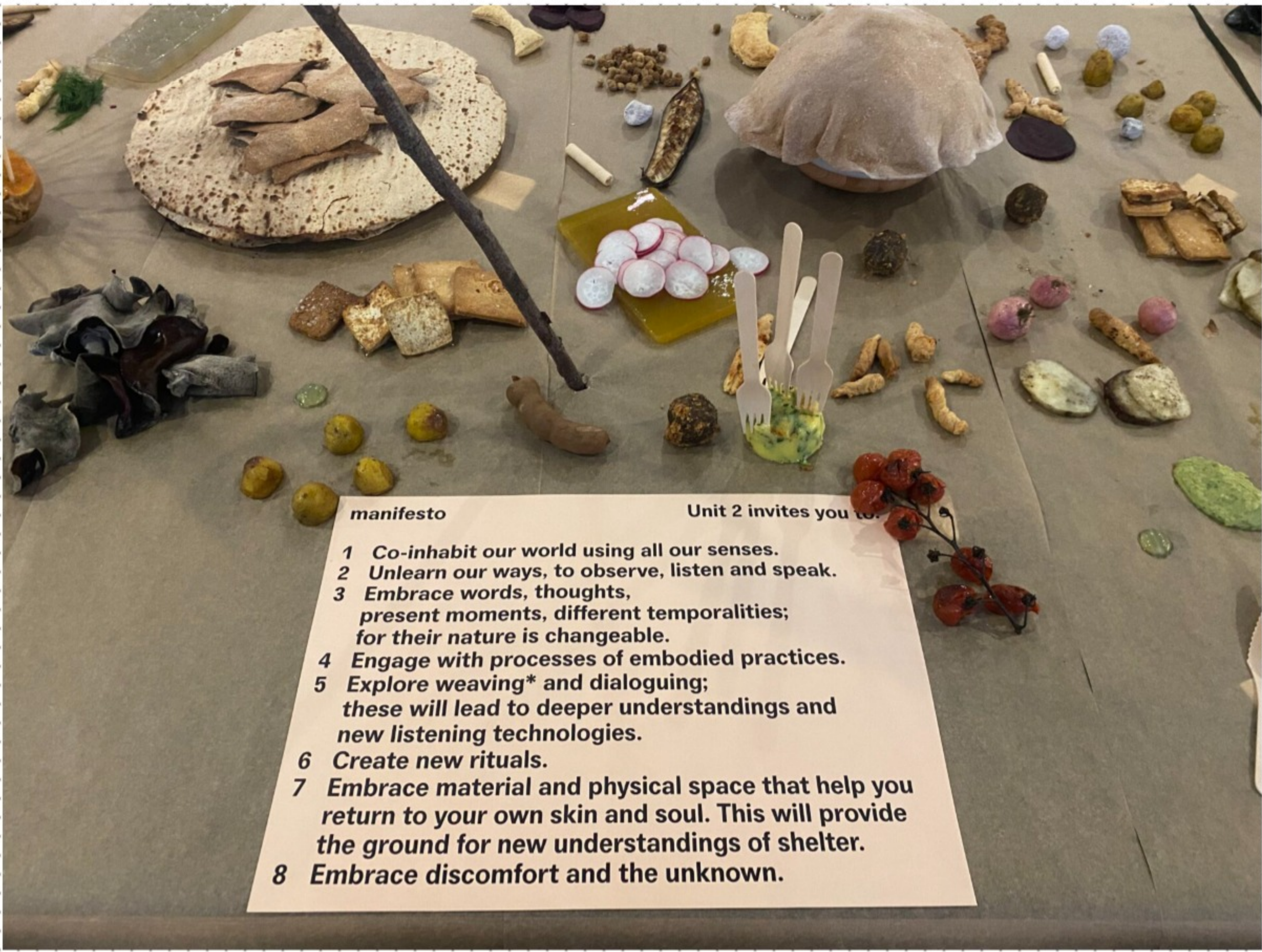


This article is part of the FA special series *The Climate Changed*.

**Editors' Note:** We publish this delicate and affective piece over a year and a half since we launched *The Climate Changed* series. In these critical months, we have witnessed, livestreamed, Israel's urbicide, ecocide, and genocide of Palestinians, alongside the widespread repression and criminalization of protests against these actions, many of which occurred in academic environments. Rather than being separate, the colonial imperative and the environmental havoc we face run along the same lines. At Failed Architecture, we have explored architecture's complex interweaving with these processes, but we have seldom attended to the realm of education—to the acts of learning and teaching. Yet, the call to question and reimagine the way we understand and practice architecture also involves the pedagogies that, through acts of repetition, shape the field. This is why *Weaving Vessels for Emerging Climates* by Catalina Mejia Moreno and Andreas Lang is an essential contribution to our ongoing *Climate Changed* series.

'Unit 2 invites you to' Unit Manifesto as tablecloth for Forest Assembly – discursive dinner. Lethaby Gallery, April 2023

ANDREAS LANG.



If climate changed, so must our pedagogies and practices. Within architectural education in the UK, most institutions have adopted the 'Unit System' as its core mode of delivery: a Unit 'master' sets the agenda of the design studio about his/hers/their own research agendas. This system has proved to elevate single voices, raise competition, and focus on the reproduction of the Unit 'master's' canon. How can we think about positive climate action when driven by individual action, reproducing a master narrative, and in competition with others?

*Weaving vessels for a liminal dialogue* is the title of a Collaborative Unit part of the MA courses in Architecture at Central Saint Martins (University of the Arts London) that offers students the chance to explore their entangled relationships with land, nature, and belonging. It foregrounds climate emergence rather than emergency, critiques the nature/culture binary, and anchors embodiment and belonging as spatial and architectural design methodologies.

Co-designed by Ana Maria Gutierrez from Organizmo —Training and Research Centre for Regenerative and Intercultural Knowledge (Colombia)— and Catalina Mejia Moreno, Climate Lead at Spatial Practices CSM, in conversation with Andreas Lang, M-Arch Course Leader, and Judith van de Boom course leader of the MA program in Regenerative Design, *Weaving Vessels* promotes cooperation over competition. As part of a wider pedagogical driving force of the M-Arch, *Weaving Vessels* takes the students'