

UT * PICS

Perspective Change

"If you constantly communicate the message that we are all doomed to extinction, then that paralyzes people and prevents them from taking the necessary steps to get a grip on climate change."

*Jim Skea, Newly appointed head of the UN IPCC
(Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)*

When we decided to focus the activities of the DESIGN CAMPUS on utopia, this was precisely our intention. The School of Utopias, our summer workshops program, serves as a platform for active research on how to create a better world despite the overwhelming flood of information telling us that the world is on the brink of collapse. We believe that designers should remain optimistic and continue seeking possibilities and potential for change, though we acknowledge that it is a challenging task.

This call for optimism is not merely romantic or unrealistic; it is rooted in science. The quote above comes from a hardcore scientist, Jim Skea, a British physicist who now leads the UN IPCC - an organization tasked with distilling the best science to guide global policy in a crucial decade in human history. His belief in remaining positive in the face of an imminent crisis is a significant statement.

Skea also emphasizes the importance of communication in tackling climate change. How we talk about and perceive the issue can be a major obstacle to taking action. The idea is not to downplay the problem or deny its existence, but to reframe it in a way that empowers people to act. This is where design and designers can play a vital role.

The [Summer School 2023](#) is already underway, and its program aims to reframe and re-signify our relationship with plants. Instead of viewing plants solely as resources, the School of Phyto-centered Design encourages us to discover and draw inspiration from the plant world, imagining new design approaches that benefit all beings without distinction. The school is guided by [The Manifesto of Phyto-centered Design](#) and is informed by the on-site exhibition [Plant Fever](#) at the Kunstgewerbemuseum Dresden during the summer school.

You can still engage with the Summer School's theme and activities, either virtually by joining our [Online Lectures Series](#) or in person by visiting the [Plant Fever](#) exhibition at Kunstgewerbemuseum Dresden in Pillnitz. We happily invite you to join our Open Studio night on Friday 25th of August at 6pm to get a glimpse of the Design Campus life, while celebrating the results of the Summer School 2023.

Embrace the future with us!

Thomas and Aline & the DESIGN CAMPUS Team


-- Thomas A. Geisler

DESIGN CAMPUS and Kunstgewerbemuseum Director

-- Aline Lara Rezende, Editor and

DESIGN CAMPUS Chief Knowledge and Impact Officer


DESIGN ↗ CAMPUS


<p>DESIGN ↗ CAMPUS</p> <p>SCHOOL</p> <p>SPEAKER MICHAEL MARDER (ES)</p>  <p>CLASS 2023</p>	<p>DESIGN ↗ CAMPUS</p> <p>SCHOOL</p> <p>LECTURE ONLINE A PHILOSOPHY OF STORIES PLANTS TELL</p> <p>DATE 21/8/2023, 10 A.M.</p> <p>LINK DESIGNCAMPUS.ORG/CALENDER</p> <p>CLASS 2023</p>
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SCHOOL: A Philosophy of Stories Plants tell by Michael Marder

Plants are habitually viewed as mute living beings, existing without the possibility of self-expression. In his talk, Marder suggest that plants not only silently tell us something (indeed, a great deal) about themselves and the world, but also that they tell stories, rendering witness accounts of life and death, light and darkness, beginnings, and ends.

Join us for a mind-expanding online lecture with Michael Marder, as he reveals the crucial mental shift needed to understand the intelligence of plants and enter their world imaginatively.

 Date: 21/08/2023

 Time: 10 a.m. (CEST)

 [Join us on Zoom](#) Meeting-ID: 868 1969 6799; Kenncode: 121715

LECTURE SERIES



Inauguration Lecture, Laura Drouet (d-o-t-s) ©SKD, Foto:Felix Meutzner

SCHOOL: BECOMING PLANT (Inauguration Lecture by d-o-t-s)

Summer is in full bloom, and so is the buzz at the DESIGN CAMPUS Summer School. [The School of Phyto-Centred Design](#) had a fantastic kick-off with the captivating Inauguration Lecture titled "Becoming Plant" by Laura Drouet – one half of the d-o-t-s duo, our esteemed Heads of School.

This lecture is an exhilarating exploration that challenges the conventional design narrative, urging a shift from a human-centered to a plant-centered approach. Haven't had a chance to make your way to

Pillnitz to see it? No problem! Delve into the essence of the lecture through a condensed article penned by d-o-t-s, exclusively published on the SKD platform [VOICES](#). It's a chance to reimagine design and get up close with the extraordinary world of plants. Join us on this captivating journey!

[FULL ARTICLE](#)



Bamboo Structure at the Hedge Quarter in Pillnitz Park & Palace ©Sven Ellger

LAB: »LA FLEUR MATHÉMATIQUE«

The [DESIGN CAMPUS LAB](#) project "La Fleur Mathématique" is a captivating blend of science, art, and architecture, now gracing the historic Pillnitz Gardens. This project, born from the "Architectural Math for Bamboo Structures" workshop, showcases the elegance of the Dini surface—a mathematical wonder with constant negative curvature. Guided by Prof. Dr. Daniel Lordick, a team of 20 international students crafted this masterpiece, celebrating both the Genius Loci and the harmonious link between mathematics and artistic innovation. Supported by the [Dresden Center for Art and Science \(DZWK\)](#), "La Fleur Mathématique" is an embodiment of innovation and creativity that invites you to explore the enchanting interplay of mathematics and aesthetics within the heart of our historic gardens.

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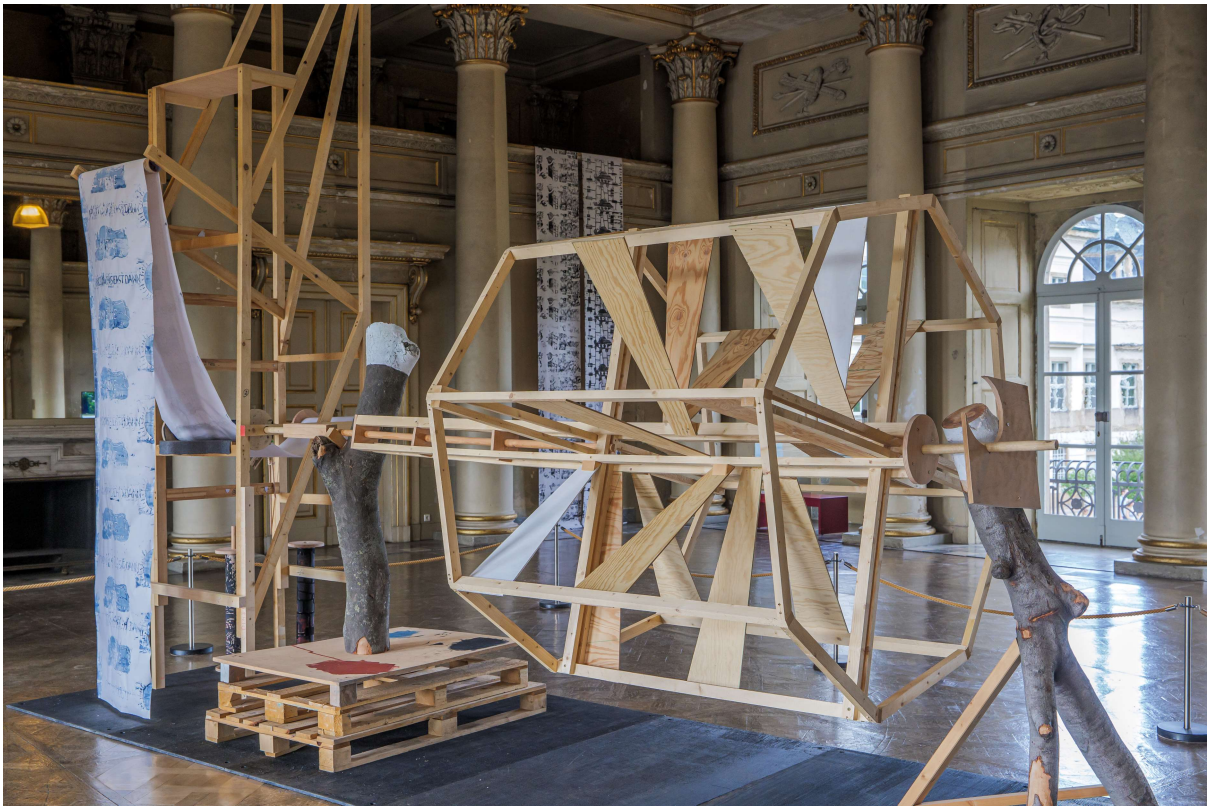


LAB: NATURE INTERVENTIONS

During the summer semester, students from [Mainz University of Applied Sciences' Design Department](#) explored the intricate relationship between design and nature at the [DESIGN CAMPUS LAB](#) in Pillnitz during the [Plant Fever](#) exhibition. They delved into "The Language Of Plants" through botanical observations and readings of design history and contemporary texts, reflecting on the dynamic interplay between nature and design.

This fusion of design and theory culminated in a unique intervention, a "museum occupation," within the permanent collection of the Kunstgewerbemuseum in Pillnitz. With "Nature Interventions", a new generation of designers presents current perspectives and thought-provoking questions about the connection between design and nature, directly engaging visitors in a fresh outlook within the exhibition spaces encompassing 19th to 21st-century design collections.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



"Fortuna Wheel" ©Tilmann Finner

MUSEUM: ARTISTS' CONQUEST 2023

Contemporary artists are back, taking over historic Pillnitz Palace and Park in the joint exhibition series Artists' Conquest of the Dresden State Art Collections and the State Palaces, Castles and Gardens of Saxony. With striking large-format works, the artists offer a fresh perspective on this cultural monument and its museum displays.

As a satellite to the exhibition, "Paper Alive! - Paper Art International of the International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists (IAPMA)" that will open in September, the Artists' Conquest 2023 will also feature paper artworks. The diverse positions range from the water-powered paper printing machine "Fortuna Wheel", created at the Design Campus Summer School 2022, supervised by Future Farmers (USA, Belgium), to paper bead art by Sanaa Gateja (Uganda) and therapeutic group work by the Peace Paper Project (USA), which address the trauma of war and crisis by means of paper production.

Discover the artistic conquest and unique paper creations at Pillnitz Castle!

The exhibition is open until 31.10.2023, daily from 10.00 to 5.00 p.m., closed on Monday.

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Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung
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