

Towards an Ecological Turn in Design

Circular Design
Regenerative Design
Deep Ecology
Impermanence
Ecological Aesthetics
Life-centred Design

Invite

Towards an Ecological Turn in Design
Design Conversation
(Free online event on ZOOM)
Wed. 10 May 2023 / 15:00 - 18:00 (CEST)

Designing a regenerative future requires designers to adopt radically new ways of thinking, approaches and methods that integrate the consideration of sustainable, ecological and social aspects and include both local and global communities, ecosystems and planetary boundaries. Transformative change must go hand in hand with questioning existing paradigms, such as the dualistic human-nature relationship or our anthropocentric material culture. In the design conversation "Towards an Ecological Turn in Design", renowned experts on sustainable and transformative design Usman Haque (Umbrellium), Alexandra Deschamps-Sonsino (UK Design Council), Raphael Stermann (Haleon) and Chris Grantham (Regenovate) will present their views and together with Prof. Oliver Szasz discuss questions such as: What are the challenges for designers in the context of regenerative design? How can systemic approaches such as "living-systems-centred thinking" or "life-centred design" be practically integrated into design processes? Is it possible to involve non-human stakeholders in co-creation processes?

Agenda Design Conversation

15:00 - 15:15 / Prof. Oliver Szasz / Welcome and Introduction

15:15 - 15:45 / Usman Haque - Umbrellium, UK
Presentation title: "Wild Cities - why reinforcing relationships between humans, non-humans, and the urban fabric are important to creating a fairer future"

15:45 - 16:15 / Alexandra Deschamps-Sonsino - UK Design Council

16:15 - 16:30 / Coffee Break

16:30 - 17:00 / Raphael Stermann - Haleon, Germany
Presentation title: "Towards an Ecological Turn in the corporate innovation culture: first-hand reflections"

17:00 - 17:30 / Chris Grantham - Regenovate, UK
Presentation title: "Designing Regeneratively"

17:30 - 18:00 / Panel Discussion

Book your free ticket here



Usman Haque is founder and creative director of Umbrellium, a London-based design & build studio dedicated to transforming urban environments. His work embraces many disciplines, including design, architecture, the internet of things, urban community infrastructure, and large-scale public art/performance. He was appointed a Design Council Ambassador in 2021 and to the Mayor of London's Data for London Advisory Board in 2022. His presentation: **"Wild Cities - why reinforcing relationships between humans, non-humans, and the urban fabric are important to creating a fairer future"**



Alexandra Deschamps-Sonsino is a London-based author, consultant and entrepreneur who works across climate change, ethics and the internet of things. She is the author of 'Creating a Culture of Innovation' (2020) and 'Smarter Homes: how technology will change your home life' (2018). Alexandra is currently building the Low Carbon Design Institute, exploring how creative professionals integrate climate change knowledge in their practice.



Raphael Stermann is Sustainable Innovation Lead at Haleon in DACH, a world-leading consumer health company. Previously a leading member of Steelcase's global sustainability team, Raphael has gained valuable experiences over the last 12 years in fields such as product ecodesign, CE business models, purpose-led strategies, as well as design thinking and FEI processes. In close collaboration with strategy, innovation and brand teams, Raphael acts as a catalyst to inspire and empower people to unlock human- and planet-centric business opportunities. His presentation: **"Towards an Ecological Turn in the corporate innovation culture: first-hand reflections"**



Chris Grantham is co-founder of Regenovate. With regeneration as their innovation lens, they aim to unlock growth opportunities for people and their organisations using design, living system principles and regenerative economics. Chris's major focus in his career has been on evolving the intuitions and instincts of designers in pursuit of regeneration and shared value creation. His presentation: **"Designing Regeneratively"**



Prof. Oliver Szasz - host and moderator of this design conversation - is co-founder and managing director of Culturesphere, a consultancy and gallery based in Munich, with a focus on the material agency of art, craft and design in the context of ecology and innovation. He is also co-founder of the NGO Symbio(s)cene, which connects arts and sciences to give space to both the cognitive and emotional dimensions of knowledge in order to open up new perspectives on sustainable human-nature relationships. Oliver Szasz holds a professorship at Macromedia University of Applied Sciences, where he directs the international master's programme in design management. His research focuses on transdisciplinary innovation, regenerative approaches and organisational transformation.

Culturesphere is a consultancy and gallery based in Munich, with a focus on the material agency of art, craft and design in the context of ecology and innovation. Culturesphere was founded with the vision to bring the arts as a catalyst for new ways of thinking and cultural change into organisational, societal and ecological contexts in order to open up future-oriented perspectives for sustainable thinking and acting.

CULTURESPHERE

www.culture-sphere.com



COOPERATION PARTNER

Supported by:
bayern.design; Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy; Macromedia University of Applied Sciences

bayern design

macromedia university of applied sciences

Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Wirtschaft, Landesentwicklung und Energie

