

The Radical Futures Club for the Reorganization of Matter

Julie Barfod, Linda Figueiredo, Julia Morrissey

The Radical Futures Club For The Reorganization Of Matter is an organization dealing with the radical future of the material world. We experience matter as a part of what we are and what surrounds us - our lungs, a wall, a forest, a cloud. As bodies we are organizations of material relating and acting on other material. Our shapes are temporary and constantly being reorganized. With time matter travels through networks of buildings, food, plants, people, animals and machines in eternal cycles.

When we act with the material world we often plan while things happen unpredictably. In constructing a building, we first imagine its potential future. The constructed future is immaterial, and exists differently within imaginations. The present is the touchable time and what happens, as it happens, occurs in matter.

Through material reorganization we affect rhythms and processes in and around material. Our reorganized material acts through time--becoming cultural heritage sites, pollution, food for termites--sometimes retaining its shape for a long time, sometimes dissolving but always changing in a complex way unique to its time and place.

To act with matter in the present, in its complex relationships, in its environment, do we need a radical approach to planning? Is there a way of preserving multiplicity and allowing non linear incidents and relations? Planning the future through the study of past events can offer change, but not radical change. Even though repeating an action in a shifting world is different every time, we argue that the ambition for a truly radical future needs to be higher.

In the discussion of the coevel multiplicity, the radical contemporaneity and the constitutive complexity of human and non-human material, we seek interdisciplinarity in order to imagine radical futures. The discussion will be materialized in a *Conference* hosted by TRFCFTROM. Our ambition is that there will be a continuous discussion platform accumulating in annual conferences.

The Actions of the Organization

We have been doing a series of material experiments in a variety of sites in the city. We have been working in a way that does not distinguish between traditional building material and other material: food, flowers, things we find in the city, etc, and similarly with processes: cooking processes, building processes, planned and unplanned. Together with the experimentations

around the city we have been developing a philosophy described in our manifesto. These parallel actions have been informing and reforming each other throughout the project.

Being interested in collaboration, we began the semester working as participant observers in the climate activism group Extinction Rebellion, and realized that if we wanted to work on equal terms with groups in the city we needed our own organization with a clear philosophy. The covid-19 outbreak made group collaboration more difficult, but we developed our website as a platform to continue a discussion.

We are currently working on an event: *The Conference* which is taking place on June 20. We have been inviting a diverse group of people who work with material/ the future of the city to come join us for a meal, discussion and exploration of material. We are attempting to host the event as a test of our approach to planning-- with an adjusting plan that incorporates unexpected occurrences. We will be using space in the city center as a meeting place for people and material.

Part of the conference is moving through the city center and using spaces for discussion and experiencing material around us. We are also making a space on a main road in the city center which is under construction. We are using the construction site as a guerilla conference hall where we can see and discuss the material of the city, and how future plans affect our present situation. We are using a mixture of found material and things we have made (cooked) to construct the space. As we have been working with material in a very wide spectrum we see the conference as a convergence of a variety of material- edible matter, people making a social space, the materials in transition of constructing, the city, the birds, and we are experimenting with how they can act with each other.

Reader's Guide to trcftrom.org

We are using our website trcftrom.org to share all of our material. We made the website with the intention of being able to collaborate and show our work to other people through the semester.

We hope the webpage allows people to explore what we have been doing in a multiplicity of ways. On the front page are a lot of links-- to different actions we have done (for example under "cooking"), ideas, and fragments of our process. The links are arranged by three variables-- how *radical*, how related to *matter*, how related to the *future*.

If you go into the "cooking" link you can see some actions we have done. "Sites" shows where we have been working, etc. All of our material is accessible from the front page, but we are also making "routes" within the webpage. For example:

Sites-bas-cooking road-toxic thoughts-crushing shoes-powderizing-powders-nostalgic matter-the vibrant time manifesto-the conference.

Under the heading “vibrant time manifesto” you can read a longer project description written as a “manifesto” that is eternally changing. It contains links to other pages on the website, and we are currently adding more connections. One way to use the website is to start with the manifesto and go through the links.

The link TRFCFTROM TV opens a page where all of our videos can be watched simultaneously.

The link REORGANIZATION opens a page intended to share the forces that shape the changing of the project-- feedback we have gotten, old versions of the project, and ideas that could be in a productive tension with the current form. A multiplicity of futures of the project that could continue to act on it.

We will be continuing to update the webpage in the days leading up to the exam. On the *Conference* page we will post recordings of the event. We plan to show a short video of the event during the exam.