STOP THINKING WATER SOMEWHERE / START EXPERIENCING WETNESS EVERYWHERE

ORGANIZATION AND MODERATION

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Wetness is everywhere; why do we see land and water somewhere? This question has led our design inquiry and practice. Through projects, exhibitions, studios, and writings, we critique the landcentric imagination that we see underlying the current ground of habitation, its subjugation of water, and its universalizing and colonizing tendencies. And we seed new imaginations grounded in the particularity of place that are more accommodating of wetness, its ubiquity, complexity, and propensity for openness.

We pursue this practice out of concern for people who are hegemonically labelled underdeveloped, informal, indigenous, and primitive, people who inhabit the margins of a geographic surface perhaps because their own ground of habitation is at odds with this surface. Today, however, we also pursue these questions out of an urgency that has gathered around the land component of this surface. It is threatened by rising seas, melting glaciers, and an increasing frequency of storm events and floods from climate change. To us these are problems set up by a surface that exists by design. In its place we design a critical zone of wetness that extends from clouds to aquifers. It cultivates a practice that begins by experiencing wetness everywhere— in the seas, clouds, rains, dew, air, soils, minerals, plants, and animals.