



CULTURE URBAINE: CO-HABITATION OF THE URBAN AND THE NATURAL

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For the garden festival Genève: Villes et Champs, The Cloud Collective was selected to execute one of the 13 gardens for the summer of 2014. The festival focuses on the co-habitation of the urban and the natural within the context of the urban expansion of Geneva. The site of this installation, a viaduct over a small highway, is particularly violent and quite out-of-tune with the idea of the garden as a peaceful natural haven. Instead, the project focusses on the character of the site and tries to prove that even these locations of highways and car dealers – despite their anonymous and generic character – can play an important role in the production of food and biomass.



A closed system of transparent tubes, clinging onto the viaduct is used for the production of algae,



which grow exclusively on sunlight and CO₂, both abundantly present on the site. These algae can be used to filter air, as combustible biomass or even as raw material for different cosmetic and alimentary products. A steel structure, supporting all the secondary equipment such as pumps, filters and solar panels, functions as a marker for the quickly passing traffic and provides explanations on a more detailed level for pedestrians and cyclists.





The functioning and the placement of this bioreactor signals practices of the future: food production in an urban environment, the conservation of green space and the reinterpretation of existing infrastructures.





