Hybrid clothes, values, cultures: How research x design x social *practices* and *actions* can help re-make local economies

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Sustainable Fashion Consumption Symposium. Institute of Sustainable Management, University of Ulm, Ulm, Germany, 19th June 2017



Christian Boltanski's 'No Mans Land' was made of 30 tons of discarded clothing. Britain alone is expected to send 235m items of clothing to landfill this spring.

Photo by Stan Honda AFP Getty Images. **Zara and H&M back in-store recycling to tackle throwaway culture** *The Guardian*, UK, 26 May 2017



It is a symptom of an unsustainable economic system. We need to look upstream...

'...designing that is devoid of a lucid critical consciousness (both ecological and social) ...will always...evade contingent reality'.

Tomás Maldonado



Tomás Maldonado, 1955

Maldonado, T. (1972) *Design, Nature and Revolution. Toward a Critical Ecology*, p50, NY: Harper & Row, translated from Italian by Mario Domandi.



UfG Ulm building, 1956. Photo by Wolfgang Siol. The Ulm design school, 1945-1968

- 1. (Re-)Distribution of the sensible
- 2. Scoping transitional and alternative fashion economies
- 3. Research x design x social actions as Participatory Action Research, PAR
- 4. Generating hybrid design concepts, values and potential enterprise models
- 5. Re-making local economies

(Re-)Distribution of the sensible

'...aesthetics refers to the distribution of the sensible that determines a mode of articulation between forms of action, production, perception and thought.'

Jacques Ranciere



'...aesthetics refers to the distribution of the sensible that determines a mode of articulation between forms of action, production, perception and thought.'

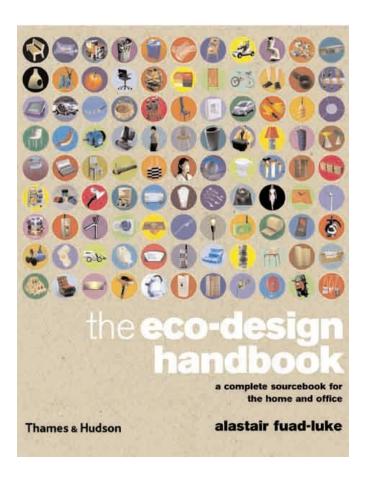
Jacques Ranciere



This means we have to directly confront the underlying paradigm of our time – the global economy, the fixation on annual GDP growth and technological determinism!

Alastair Fuad-Luke

Designing for an Eco-economy, 15 years ago!



the eco-design handbook, 2002

- celebrating the eco(r)evolution
- artefacts for the well-being of people & planet
- 525 products
- 175 materials
- 125 eco-design strategies

Designing for an Eco-economy, 15 years ago!

.o Objects for Living



Kraft, MG Green Envelope manufacture of envelope



Vanguard Recycled Plus™

10% hemp/flax and 75% post-consumer waste pape



Vision® and Re-vision® printing paper raw material for the manufacture of a rang of 100% tree-free and



Alden & Ott manufacture a range of heat-set soy-based inks with about 20-25% soy content and colour pigments avoiding the use of heavy metals.



Argyll Range

weaving woollen textiles by creating a new range of furnishing fabrics for Bute Fabrics in vibrant. with traditional crafted products are retained. Bute Fabrics source much ocally and adopt clean the use of harmful substances during processing, as an integra part of their enviro



lithographic printing. Flint Ink, USA 315

This company manufactures derived from soy beans.

EcoPure is a range of inks

The company also produc a diverse range of water-based flexographic inks

and specialist inks for

Printing inks

wool-silk fabric has a incorporated to take advantage of its positiv properties. (Wool 39%, silk 29%, nylon 11%, polyurethane 6%, wood charcoal 15%.)





fibre Hemptex®, Fabrics range from heavy-duty pure hemp canvas weighing 620 g per sq. m (18.3 oz per sq. yd) to lightweight hemp/silk

Bincho-Charcoal Charcoal has long been own as an agent to filter and purify air and water. It also has good insulating characteristics

weighing between 92 and 193 g per sq. m (2.7

Hemp is a very strong

light, and its use in China

s documented through en thousand years. Tens

ernational using the ntiva™ brand hemp

of different pure hemo or hemp/ natural-fibre fabrics are designed by



Lifeguardrix
Following the success of Climates' Lifecycle's series of upholster fabrics, Rohner Textil has continued setting high standards in ecological textile design by developing a range of fabrics called Climates' Lifeguardrix, Eco-design tends to involve much larger groups of larger groups of stakeholders than priventional industr design. Rohner Textil recognized this by collaborating with the independent German EPEA, Clariant, a leading extensive laboratory trials

to understand the full retardants, Climatex^a LifeguardFR™ emerged as probably one of the most advanced ecological textiles with fire retarda Climatex® LifeguardFR™ is made of wool and the cellulose fibre Redesigned enzingFR™ is extracted rom beech trees. The

Climatex® LifeguardFR"

sound chemicals and 16 dyes from Ciba developer

is chemically and biologically cleaned in situ. Supply-chain management, cleaner and quieter production have also public seating has no excus that create high negative created a healthier





Green Cotton®

Well before 'organic became the adjective of the late 1990s, companies such as Novotex were re-

mining the sustainab

features of their business. Sources of raw materials

were analyzed and it was

South-American sources

ong-fibre cottons were

facilitate dyeing with water-based dyes and reduce chemical additives

throughout the production process. As a result Green Cotton is free of

bloring benziding and

formaldehyde. Waste wate generated in processing

that could be woven to

required less cleaning than intensively grown

Green fabric (Eco-green fabric) This is a new, fully reate a delicate crepe in 800 mm (31's in) widths. discovered that hand-picked cotton from pesticide-free



hemp textiles The hemp plant is said to have over 50,000





biodegradable, maize-starch fibre developed by Mitsui Chemical and Kanebo Synthetics in Japan. It is fully compostable by micro-organisms to release water and carbon dioxide. Using a Dobby loom, threads of the fibre are 'overspun' to



primary use was inges or smoking for its nare effects. Industrial varie of hemp, however, contain no THCs, the active narcotic ingred and so are safe to gro and produces 5-10 to of fibre per hectare. It a durable fibre suitab for rope making, web and canvas. In the fa arena it has long bee associated with 'hair and hippies, which h led to a significant fa to recognize the full Hemp fibre is often with cotton, silk and of hemp textiles i

as the catalogue of

resource Ingeo fibre





Be your own fashion designer using Fortunecookies's felt squares backed with Velcro: assemble a jacket, trousers, wedding dress or any other garment in your own personalized style. Bored with the look? Deconstruct your design and start again. Fashion is placed back in the hands of the consumer.



| | Fortunecookies, Denmark | 306 |
|---|---|-----|
| Ф | One-off, Fortunecookies, Denmark | 306 |
| = | Felt, Velcro | 301 |
| Ω | Modular system for reuse of components | 327 |
| | Renewable material (felt) | 325 |







Fuad-Luke, A. 2002. The eco-design handbook. London: Thames & Hudson.

A promise for bio-manufacturing...

disc to store data on corn

TOKYO, Thurs. — Giving a new meaning to the term grassroots music, Pioneer Corp said today it had developed a next-generation disc made of corn to let the eco-conscious consumer dispose of data in the soil.

The Japanese electronics maker said the Blu-ray optical disc, which can be written once and stored 25 gigabytes of data, was 87 per cent natural polymer derived from corn and biodegrades.

"If the starch polymer is incinerated, it will not emit dioxins and any other harmful chemicals," the company said.

While the disc can theoretically be eaten, it is coated by a 0.1-millimetre thick layer of resin and is too hard for even the strongest teeth.

Pioneer has yet to decide when to market the disc.

Earlier this year Sony Corp and another Japanese company Toppan Printing said they had developed a paper disc that can be destroyed with scissors. — AFP



NEXT-GENERATION DISC: A Pioneer researcher, Tasuo Hosoda, displaying a prototype model of the disc, in Tsurugashima Tokyo yesterday. — AFP picture

GDP growth has not delivered an increase in life satisfaction in the UK

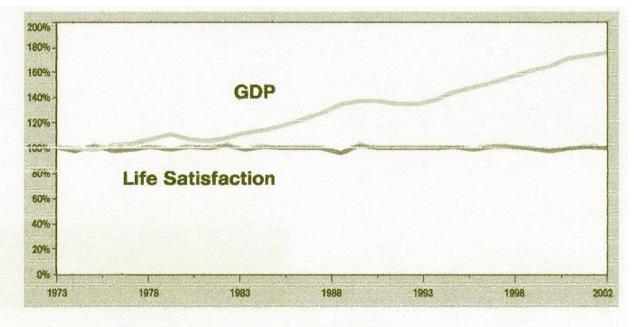


Figure 1: UK Life Satisfaction and GDP - 1973-2002

Box 1: Well-being promotes a better society

Well-being is an important end in itself. It also has many benefits and contributes to other important ends.7 Evidence shows that happy people are more:

- Sociable
- Active
- Altruistic

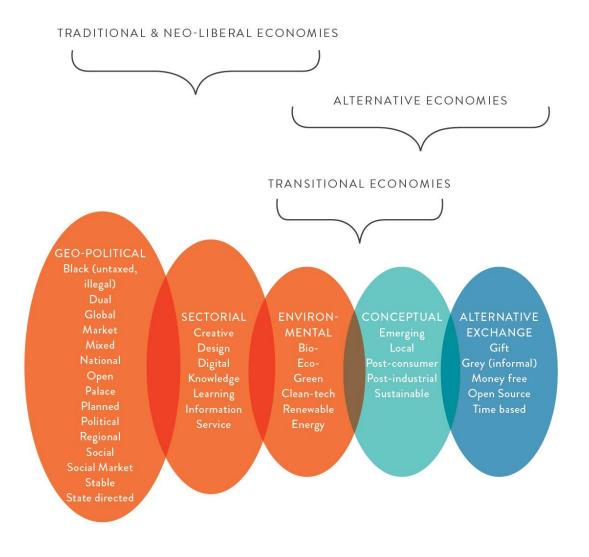
- · Generous
- Tolerant
- Economically productive.

- Creative
- Healthy
- Long living

Therefore, promoting individual well-being is not just an important end in itself; it also has useful consequences for a flourishing society in all sorts of other ways, including the enhancement of people's social well-being.

Scoping transitional and alternative fashion economies

Neo-liberal, transitional & alternative economies



Type of Exchange:

MONETARY, MIXED, NON-MONETARY

Source: Hirsher, Anja-Lisa & Alastair Fuad-Luke (2013) Open Participatory Designing for an Alternative Fashion Economy, pp174-197, in K. Niinimäki (ed.) *Sustainable Fashion: New Approaches*, Helsinki: Aalto ARTS Books.

| Transitiona | Alternative exchange | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Environmental | Conceptual | economies | |
| Bio-economy Circular economy Eco-economy Green economy Clean-tech economy Renewable energy economy | Co-making economy Distributed economy Emerging economy Local economy New craft economy Post-consumer economy Post-industrial economy Sharing economy Sustainable economy | Gift economy Grey [Informal] economy Money-free economy Open Source economy Time-based economy | |

Source: Hirscher, Mazzarella and Fuad Luke, in press.

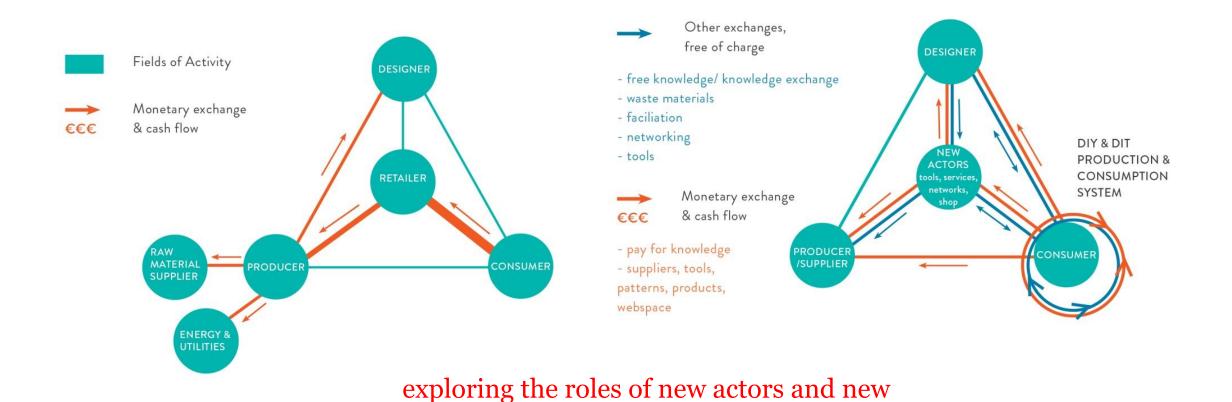








Participation & Open design: an Alternative Fashion Economy



Source: Hirsher, Anja-Lisa & Alastair Fuad-Luke (2014) Open Participatory Designing for an Alternative Fashion Economy, pp174-197, in K.

Niinimäki (ed.) Sustainable Fashion: New Approaches, Helsinki: Aalto ARTS Books.

exchanges between existing actors...

Research x design x social actions as Participatory Action Research, PAR

Forms of practices and actions to change everyday possibilities



Research – exploring context through qualitative & quantitative approaches driven by open inquiry and/or precise questioning, analysis and synthesis.

Design – exploring context through participatory processes, prototypes & artifacts driven by open inquiry and/or precise design briefs to intervene or change a situation, or propose a solution to a problem.

Social – exploring context through 'complementary relational designers' (Fuad-Luke, 2014) – design professionals, other professionals, pro-ams and citizens – to co-design, co-produce and co-consume.

the rise of 'makerspaces'

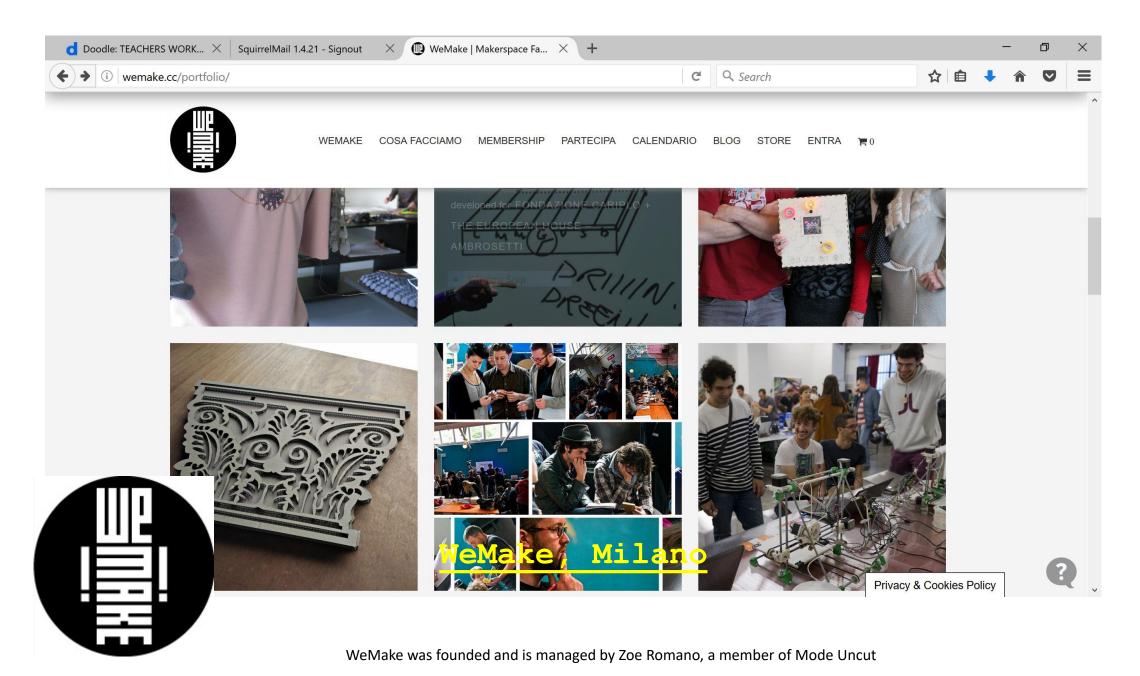
Makerspaces combine manufacturing equipment, community, and education for the purposes of enabling community members to design, prototype and create manufactured works that wouldn't be possible to create with the resources available to individuals working alone.

Makerspaces are present in diverse communities including universities, schools, libraries....



Source: Makerspace, http://spaces.makerspace.com/ and image source http://spaces.makerspace.com/ and image source http://spaces.makerspace.com/ and image source http://westada.org/Page/20874

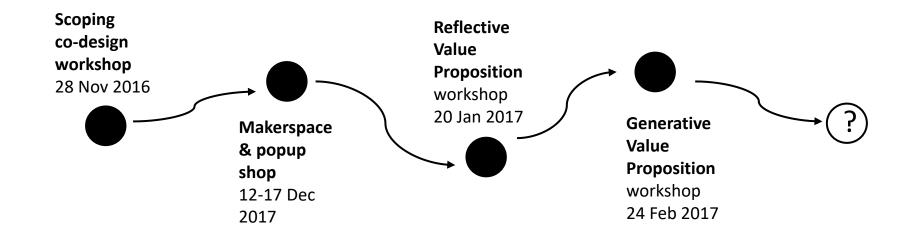
generative digital & analogue making, FabLabs & makerspaces



Who is involved in designing to address contingent realities?

| Professional Designers | Others (Professionals, Civil servants, citizens) | Source |
|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| Expert design(ers) | Diffuse design(ers) | Manzini, 2015 |
| Authorised designers | Non-authorised designers | Fuad-Luke, 2015 |
| Complementary | Fuad-Luke, 2014 | |
| Designers | Non-designers | DiSalvo, 2012 |
| Designers | Non-(intentional) designers | Fuad-Luke, 2009 |
| Professional designers | Amateur designers | Leadbeater, 2009 |
| Transformatio | Burns et al, 2006 | |

Exploring local creativity and production through making



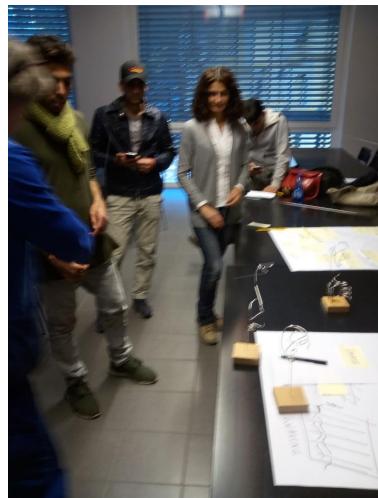




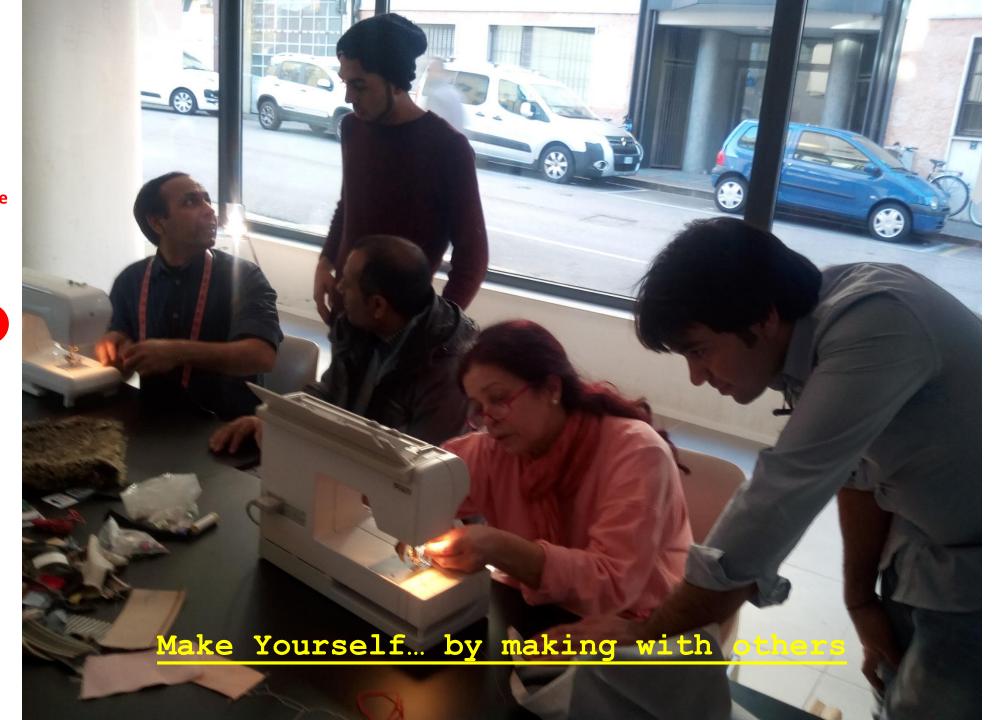


Scoping co-design workshop 28 Nov 2016

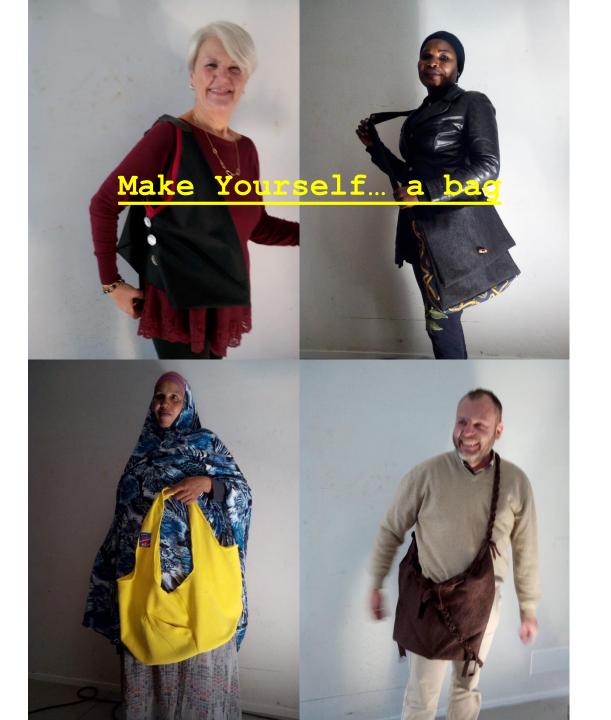




Makerspace & popup shop 12-17 Dec 2017















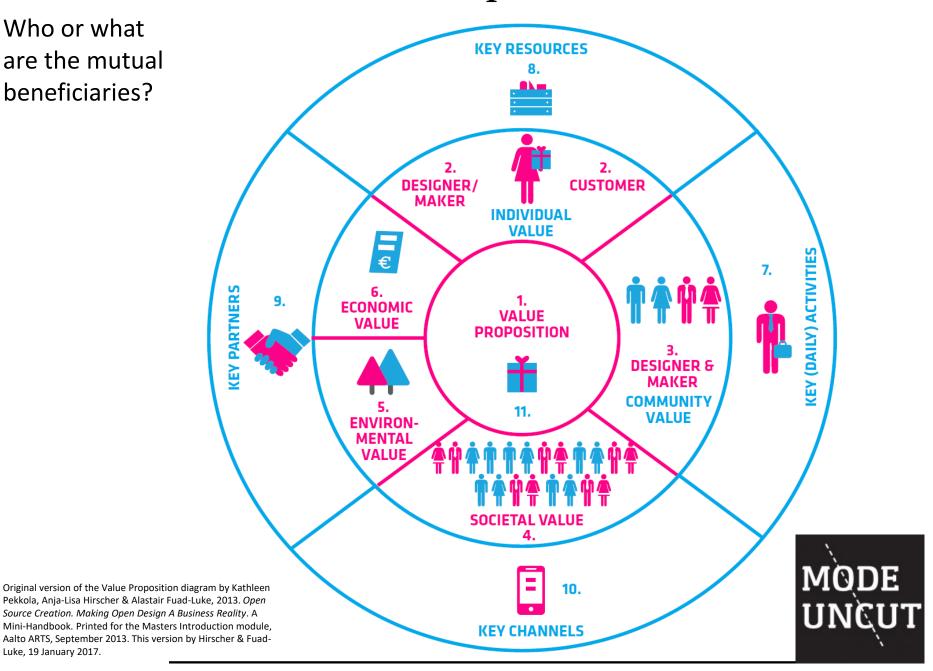
Generating hybrid design concepts, values and potential enterprise models

The Value Proposition (VP) tool

The Value Proposition (VP) tool

Who or what are the mutual beneficiaries?

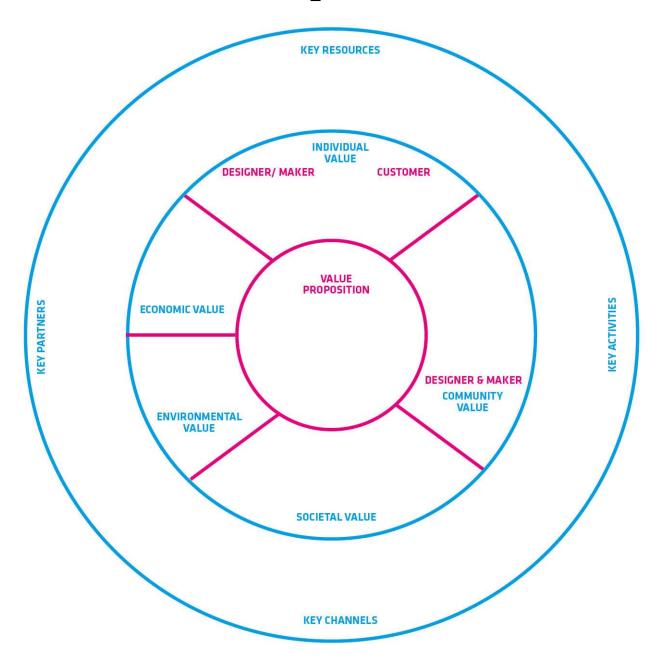
Luke, 19 January 2017.





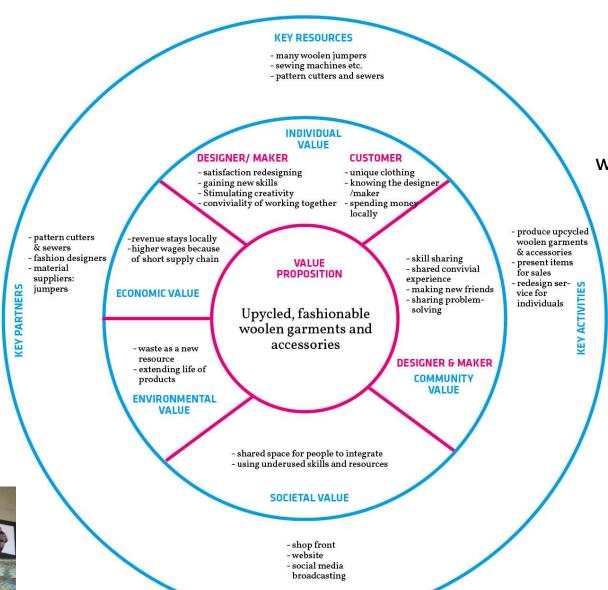


The Value Proposition (VP) tool



A diagnostic, reflective VP



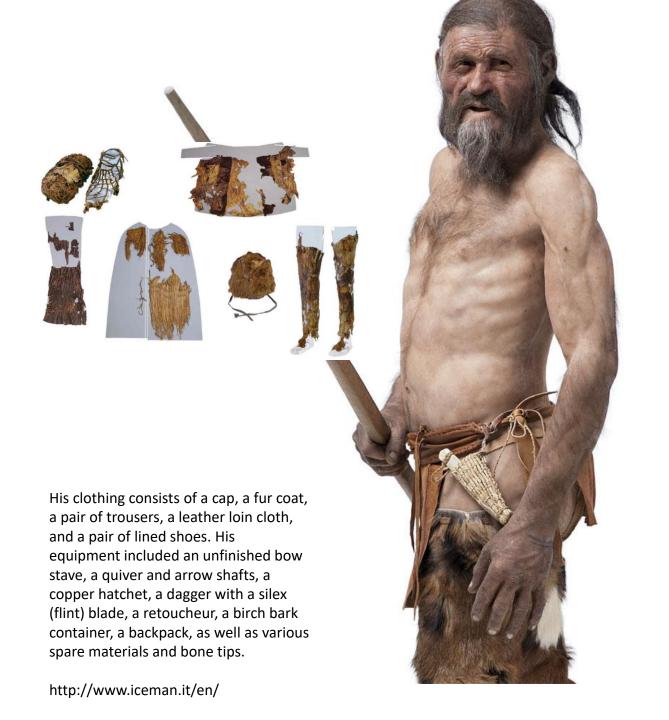


KEY CHANNELS

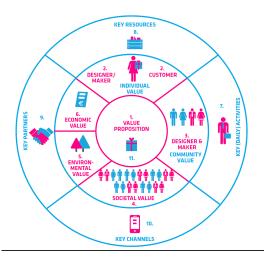
Reflective value
Proposition
What is the value
proposition for
transforming old
woolen clothing into
new clothes &
accessories?





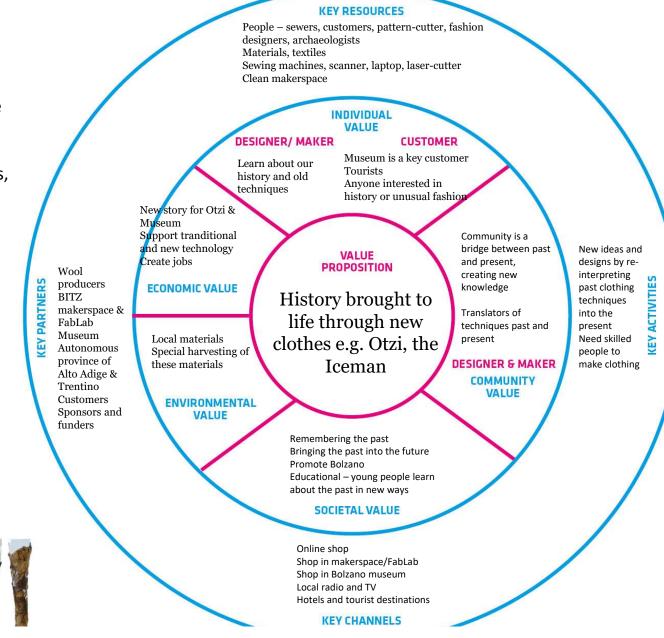


Can we create a unique brand which offers unique clothing, educational materials and incorporates South Tyrol natural fibres?



Who could be key partners in this project...local people, new arrivals, the South Tyrol museum, BITZ, Unibz, wool & textiles suppliers, craftspeople, others?

Generative Value Proposition developed with participants at the Make Yourself... workshop on 24.02.2017 at Leymar, Associazione Voluntarius, Bolzano.





Re-making local economies

How to balance open and closed IP and creativity? How to create new distributed making or manufacturing networks?

How to get society's attention through mass action? How best to confront society's 'existential hesitation'? ecosophy is 'an ethico-political articulation between three ecological registers (the environment, social relations - the socius- and human subjectivity - the psyche)...'

Felix Guattari

To challenge the distribution of the sensible, the aesthetic sociotechnical regime, we need to adopt an ecosophical, agonistic position...



agonistic democracy, agonistic pluralism — an on-going state of disagreement and confrontation which is productive through continuously contesting the beliefs and practices of society.

Chantel Mouffe

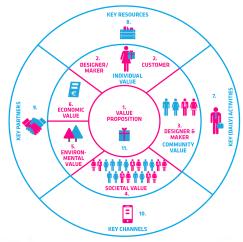
"I believe that the aesthetic transformative potential of design is realised *through*:

- 1. a new 'aesthetic imaginary' combined with...
- 2. a new 'social imaginary' ... conceived as
- 3. 'social-structure-in-the-making'
- 4. through dissonant design(-ing) as a means to confront...
- 5. 'existential hesitation' and, hence,
- 6. deal with urgent social, political and ecological contingent realities."

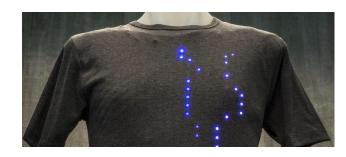
FABRIC-Action

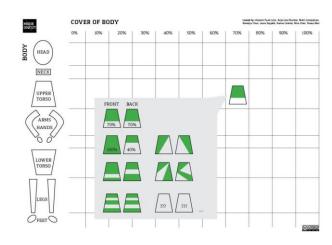












FABRIC-Action is a project being developed by Prof. Alastair Fad-Luke and Dr. Secil Uguz Yagur, Faculty of Design and Art, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy commencing in October 2017.

Sources of images: Clockwise from the top. Smart textiles; Mode Uncut matrix; Ammo Liao BioKnit; Burel, Portugal; Gerard Rubio's OpenKnit

Open local everything?

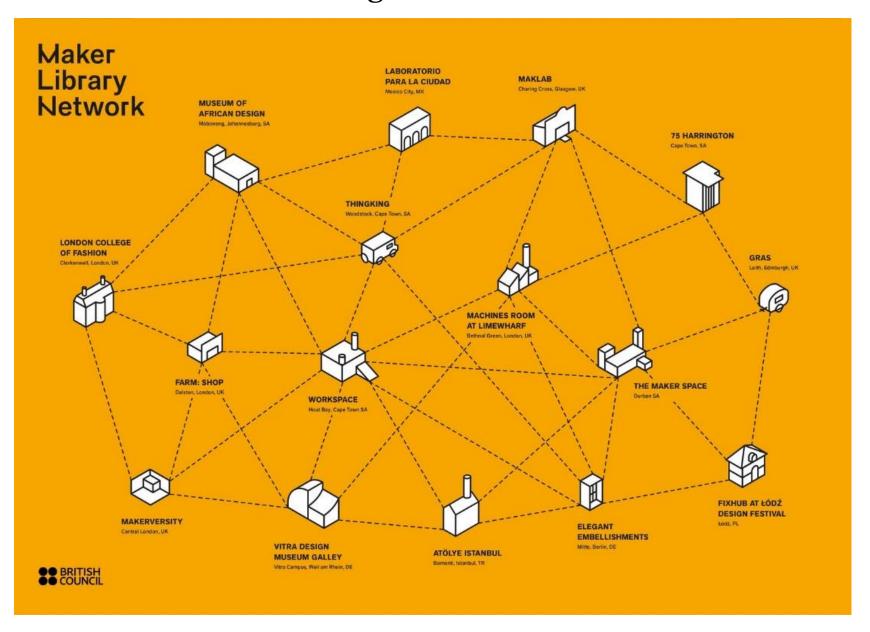






Sources: Clockwise from top right. Superlocal; Wikihouse; Opendesk

FabLabs & makerspaces are being networked with diverse organisations



Prototying collaborative services, Nutrire Milano



A multi-stakeholder project to codesign and co-create new food production, distribution and consumption services in Parco Sud, Milan. A good case study of fieldwork with action research.



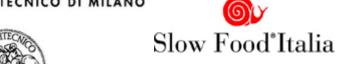








POLITECNICO DI MILANO











The Pussyhat Project







Pussyhat Project was co-founded by Krista Suh screenwriter and Jayna Zweiman, architect. https://www.pussyhatproject.com/, Aurora Lady was responsible for artwork and Kay Coyle designed the knitwear pattern. Accessed 05.03.2017.

The Women's March, Washington, USA, 21 January 2017







Convergence

'Convergence represents a paradigm shift – a move away from medium-specific content towards content that flows across multiple media channels, toward the increased interdependence of communications systems, toward multiple ways of accessing media content, and toward ever more complex relations between top-down corporate media and bottom-up participatory culture.' (Jenkins 2008: 254 cited in Rose, 2012).

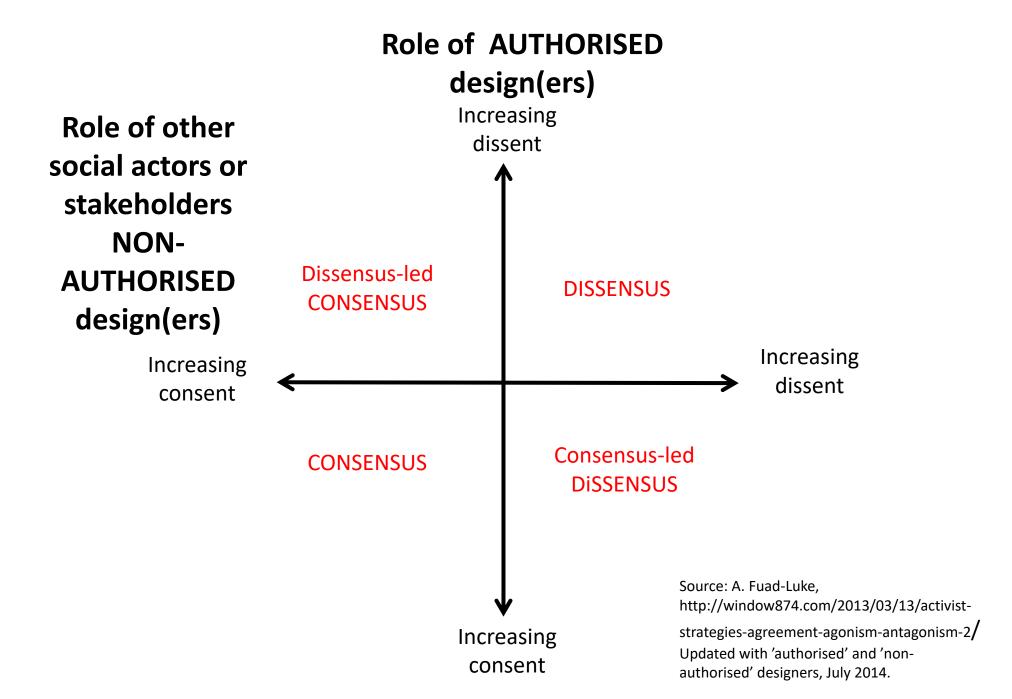








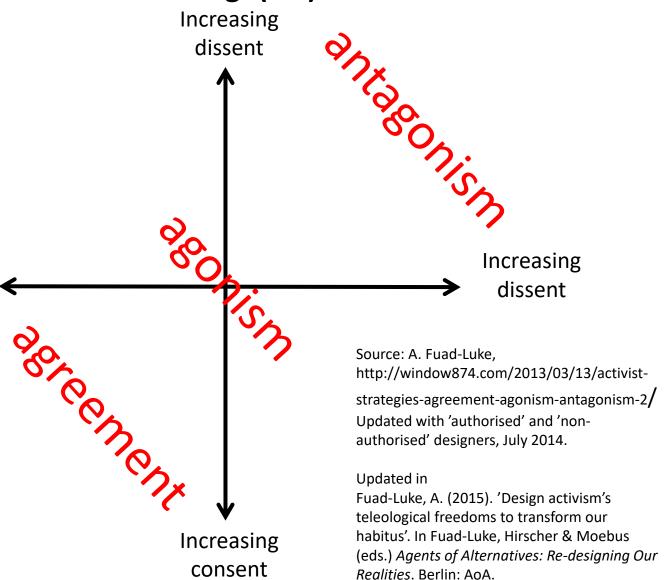
Pussyhat Project was co-founded by <u>Krista Suh</u> screenwriter and <u>Jayna Zweiman</u>, architect. <u>https://www.pussyhatproject.com/</u>, accessed 05.03.2017. Convergence cited from Rose, Gillian. 2012, *Visual Methodologies. An Introduction to Researching with Visual Materials*. 3rd edition. London: Sage Publications.



Role of AUTHORISED design(ers)

Role of other social actors or stakeholders NON-AUTHORISED design(ers)

Increasing consent



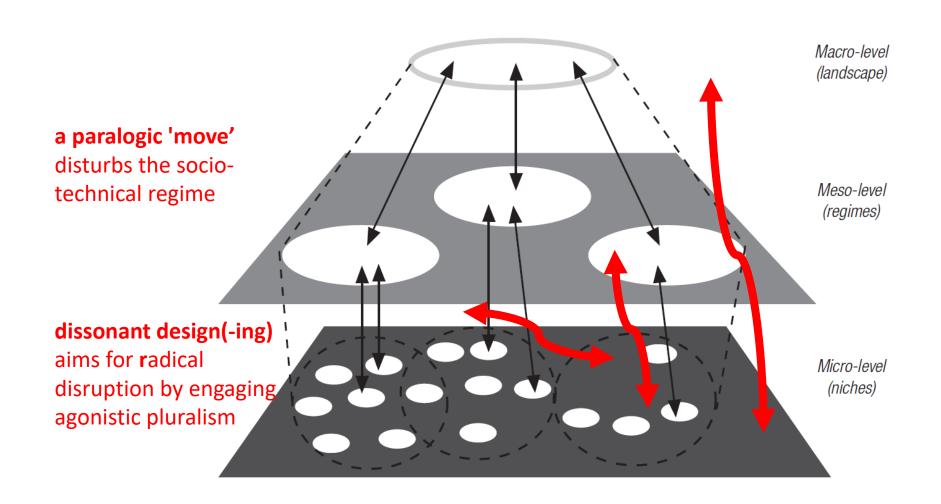
Design frictions for dissonant design(-ing)

'irritations which when combined with fictions can be a cultural form of **dissent**' - Monica Gaspar Mallol

objects as adversarial, bringing 'attention to contestation relations and experiences aroused through the designed thing and the way it expresses **dissensus**' – Carl DiSalvo

In particular they must be **open**. Open to participation in the designing, open to being changed, adapted and evolved. Open as in for our **common good**, for our human/non-human shared condition.

Disrupting the *aesthetic and social imaginaries* of the dominant socio-technical regime



'... Paralogy must be distinguished from innovation: the later is under the command of the system, or at least used by it to improve its efficiency; the former is a move (the importance of which is not recognized until later) played in the pragmatics of knowledge... The stronger the 'move' the more likely it is to be denied the minimum consensus, precisely because it changes the rules of the the game upon which the consensus has been based'.



makershop

making a difference by making clothes differently

A shop:

- run by designers, makers, prosumers and citizens by, for and with the people
- where the skills and talents of diverse locals come together
- where clothes are made directly by, for and with people
- which is zero-waste, C2C, recycling, upcycling
- with multivalent monetary and non-monetary exchanges
- which the people can change, adapt, evolve
- which supports fair, equable, resilient, ecological and social practices and suppliers
- which is joyful and local, not a sweat-shop
- showing transparent, sustainable ways of creating fashion

A design concept by Alastair Fuad-Luke, Anja-Lisa Hirscher and Francesco Mazzarella of Mode Uncut, June 2017 'Everything that comes into being seeks room for itself and desires duration: hence it drives something else from its place and shortens its duration.'

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

GRAZIE. Danke. Thank you.

Alastair Fuad-Luke

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www.fuad-luke.com

modeuncut.wordpress.com agentsofalternatives.com