Advanced Studio . Summer 2018
Prof. Anna Dietzsch

THIRD LANDSCAPE | Peri-urban territories

"You cannot understand a city merely by its physical limits, as cities interact with their regions and extend well beyond."
Ecological Urbanism in Latin America, Mohsen Mostafavi + Gareth Doherty, in *Brazilian Journal of Urban Management*

1. Overview
In 1970, Henri Lefebvre poses the idea that "total urbanization of society" is an inevitable process, which will demand new interpretive and perceptual approaches.[1] Indeed, not even fifty years later, more than half of the world population is already living in urban centers. But we need to look beyond cities to understand urbanization's real impact as a global phenomenon: the concept of "extensive urbanization" points to the effects of globalization well beyond urban centers, as it acknowledges its power to restructure areas that are not connected to our idea of *urban*, altering space, time and societal articulations in affected areas, as it shakes up assumed binary categories such as *rural x urban* and *country x city*. [2]

A clear example are the effects on the tropical and rain forests in Brazil. Even the Amazon, once "the last green frontier", is being systematically integrated into the process of urban growth with pressing global demand for its natural resources, in a logic of production and consumption that disregards the health of these resources, as it creates cycles of social and environmental impoverishment. In the last four years, deforestation due to farming has been kept at an average of 5.000 km2 a year.[3]

On the other hand, important preservation movements, which since the 70's have been concerned with the fast degradation of soil and natural riches, now see their predicaments spread beyond specialty circles, in a wave of cultural conscience that slowly contaminates the predominant logic. In Europe and the US there is a growing movement for the revival of biological agriculture and the rise of a new farmers' generation that is questioning large-scale chemical food production, as it questions the industrial production system as a whole.

In Brazil, agroflorestation and permaculture are becoming common practice all over the country, while academic discussion and society's interest turn to examples of traditional communities' lifestyles to question our own. With social media and ease of communication, we testimony the importance of these communities

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[1] Lefebvre, H. *The Urban Revolution*
[2] Monte-Mor, R. *Extended Urbanization in Brazilian Amazonia*
[3] AcheiUSA . 10/10/16

in protecting our ecosystems, as big-business tries to commodify natural goods we have always taken for granted.

One social group which is amplifying its voice in Brazil is the Indigenous population. Inhabitants of the land for at least twelve thousand years, they were largely impacted by European arrival and considered doomed by certain specialists in the 1950's. Since then, Indigenous population has tripled, as steady birth growth, more resistance to diseases and the creation of legal Indigenous Territories have effectively helped. But another factor has also played in: that of legal recognition of "auto-denomination", giving every citizen the right to claim their own racial background.

This points to an important cultural trend, firming the Indigenous voices within the national context, while they also reach for involvement in the established political scenario. Since 2012, elected indigenous representatives grew exponentially (there are almost 200 today) and in 2016 five mayors declared themselves Indigenous, affirming the importance of their racial and cultural heritage and their strive to participate and negotiate with the involving, broader society. This trend comes as extensive urbanization percolates into once preserved environmental areas, sometimes in Indigenous territories themselves, at an ever-growing pace.

With this background as starting point, this studio seeks to discuss how Indigenous practices could inform our own practices of spatial production. In trying to understand how they could influence the construction of new forms of "urbanization", this studio aims to sketch the backbone for a *third landscape*, where alternative spatial solutions arise from a reflection of our own urban paradigms, specially in those territories where urban and non-urban meet face to face.

2. Methodology
The studio will be based on two parallel methods: the discussion and research of four inquiry points (below), through assigned weekly readings and lectures, and the analysis and design proposition for a peri-urban area at the South of the city of Sao Paulo, around and in the Indigenous Territory of the Guarani-Mbya. Information about the analyzed territory will come from student's research, as well as from data provided by the professor, so that we can build a shared-knowledge data bank. Videos (documentaries and interviews) will also be part of the course, and some interaction with the Guarani-Mbya community through email and Skype will be available.
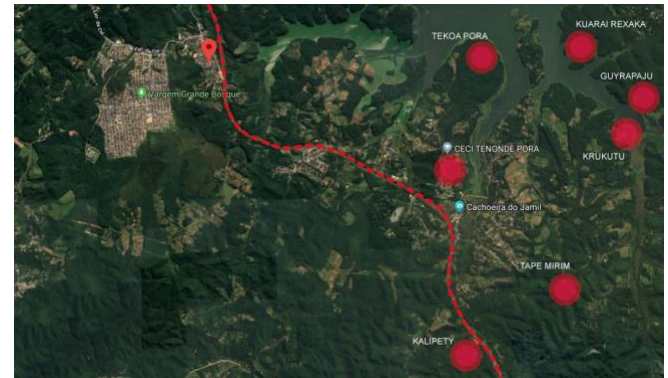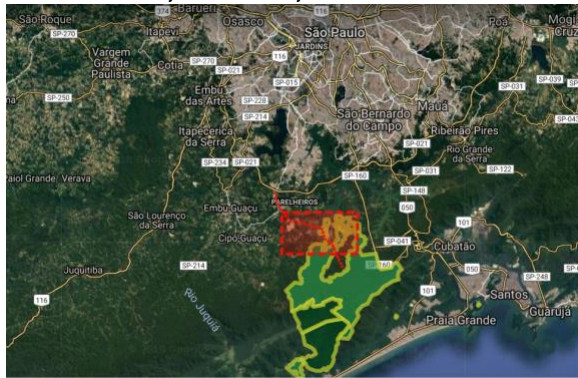
Four Inquiry Points:
1. Our Social Imaginary:
        . The Modern Myth and its deconstruction;
        . Globalization and Extensive Urbanism
2. The Indigenous landscape:
. Another Imaginary
. A different socio-spatial organization
3. Bound to the Land - Ideas for a Third Landscape:
. Initiatives on urban farming, circle economy and community living
4. The Reality of Sao Paulo:
. The metropolitan region structures
. Data and facts about South Sao Paulo

The juxtaposition of the contrasting realities this territory offers will be axial in bringing pertinent questions for the reimagining of peri-urban areas in general, as we deal with preserved forest x urban sprawling, modern city x "Indigenous city", farming x city building, agriculture x forest preservation, centralized and hierarchical government x community and decentralized decision making.
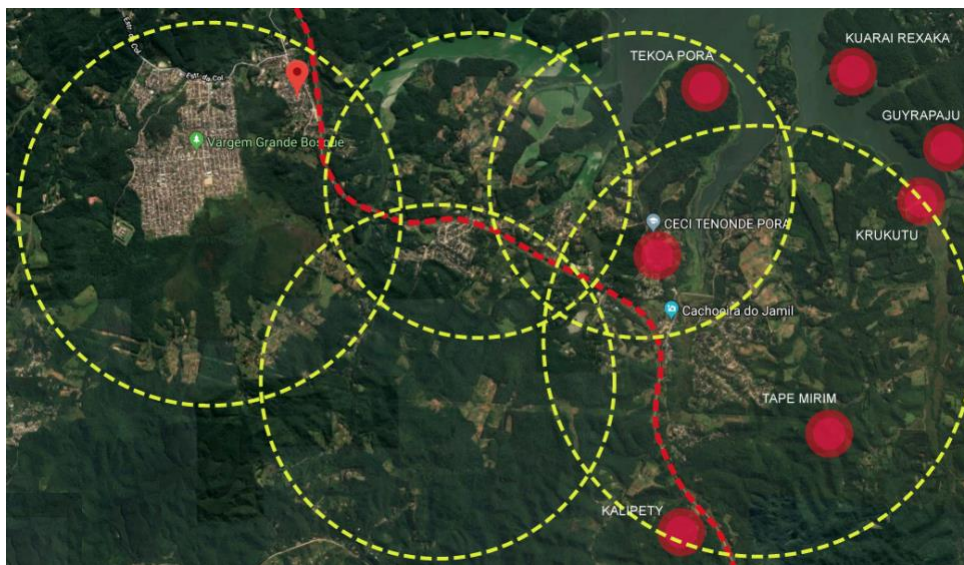
Students will be asked to research the study-area taking into account traditional urban concerns and data, such as density, land parceling, uses, zoning, circulation, insfrastructure, production and trade of goods, to reimagine their use and logic, as we try to sketch the backbone for a *third landscape*, where alternative social and spatial solutions arise for the short and the long term. The ultimate challenge will be that of (re)imagining a new pattern of urban growth and organization for the allocated area, taking into account the reality of Sao Paulo and the Indigenous way of occupying and organizing the territory: Could we think of a "new urbanization" if we were able to mediate what we know as urban planning with different modes of production, less (or no) strive for material accumulation, no land fragmentation and different recognition of "property", strong community ties and practices and a direct connection between farming, forest and men?

3. Site

Tenondé Porã, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Aerial pictures: 1. Sao Paulo and the Guarani territory at South (green) + the study area location (red) 2. Zoom-in into the study-case area along one of the city's growth axis.

Study-case area and five focus areas.

The Amerindian territory of *Tenondé-Porã* is a 150 km2 area located at the outskirts of São Paulo, the 11th largest city in the world, with a metropolitan population of around 22 million people. It is located at the South portion of the city, at the frontier of urban sprawl and the largest patch of Atlantic Rain Forest in the country, where a rich diversity of animal and vegetation species are still preserved. This area has had a long history of agriculture production, having been one of Sao Paulo's main source of vegetables until the 1970's, when its main agricultural cooperative was shut down and weakened rural properties started to be transformed into illegal urban neighborhoods.

It is also where part of the Brazilian Guarani-Mbya population lives, a group of the Guarani family which originally occupied the Southern areas of Brazil, North of Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, in a well-structured system of villages and trade routes. Although the Guarani are believed to have lived in this area for more than six thousand years, they have only recently (re)conquered the ownership rights to the new territory and are currently in the process of structuring and securing it. Juxtaposed to the Atlantic Forest State Park ("Parque da Serra do Mar"), this indigenous territory is at the edge of Sao Paulo's urban growth, at the frontier where "non-urban" meets "urban", bringing to light all of the tensions inherent to the city's social inequalities, its growth pattern and the fast consumption of "natural" land.

4. Course Schedule
The studio is organized in three phases/assignments.

1. **First Assignment: Theoretical Research + Analytical Representation – 40% of Grade**
   June 04 through June 23

   The first phase involves research and discussion on the inquiry points mentioned above, as well as in-depth research and representation of the specific urban characteristics and systems currently at play. Students will be asked to research and share with the group on specific topics and case-studies, as they will be asked to interpret the territory through gathering of information and production of maps, diagrams and other graphic material to develop:
   1. Analysis of studied area, including the mapping of densities, socio-economic indexes, urban patterns, land parceling, circulation and economic flows, the natural strata and water system, genealogy of agricultural practice and current legislation;
   2. Understanding and mapping of the broader context of Metropolitan Sao Paulo in relation to studied area;
   3. Research and diagramming of Indigenous Guarani territory and practices;
   4. Research and diagramming of Indigenous social and territorial practices in Brazil;
   5. Research and diagramming of precedents relating to urban farming, urban agro-florestation and permaculture practices, urban-agricultural villages and communities and projects relating to the ideas of a productive city, and circular economy.
   Deliverables:
   a. Graphically Illustrated booklet consolidating the 3 weeks of research and findings, meetings minutes, mapping, cartographies to create the conceptual narrative;
   b. Precedent diagrams and illustrations.

2. **Second Assignment: Larger Scale Design – 30% of Grade**
   June 25 through July 06

   Students will be asked to work on their design proposal for the study area, including:

1. Master-plan and lay-out of urban design strategies for the implementation of design vision in the mid-term (20 years) and the long term (100 years);
2. Selection of focus area for development in the 3rd assignment + decision of scale of intervention.

Deliverables:
a. Master-Plan
b. 2D and 3D drawings and diagrams that explain the design strategies and ideas;
c. Program diagrams and tactics;
d. Revised booklet.

3. **Third Assignment: Focus Area Design Proposal – 30% of Grade**
    July 09 through July 24

Students will be asked to develop a design proposal for the selected focus area, including:
1. Lay-out of urban design strategies for the implementation of design in the short term (5 years) and mid term (20 years);
2. Refinement of final master-plan.
Deliverables:
e. Final site/master-plans
f. Final 2D and 3D drawings of urban design proposal;
g. Diagrams to convey vision and design proposal;
h. Final booklet.

4. Suggested Bibliography:

. **Anderson, Benedict .** *Imagined Communities*
. **Andraos and Wood .** *49 Cities*
. **Albert, Bruce and Kopenawa, Davi .** *The Falling Sky*
. **Buckminster Fuller, Richard .** *Operating Manual for Spaceship Earth*
. **Castells, Manuel .** The *Informational City*
. **Castoriadis, Cornelius .** *The Imaginary Institution of Society*
. **Clasters, Pierre .** *Society Against the State*
. **Graeber, David .** *Fragments of an Anarchist Anthropology*
. **Hackenberger, Michael .** *The Ecology of Power*
. **Harvey, David .** *Spaces of Hope + "Megacities Lecture 4", year 2000*
. **Hodgkings, Martha .** *Letters to a Young Farmer*
. **Howard, Ebenezer .** *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*
. **Lefebvre, Henry .** *The Urban Revolution + Critique of Everyday Life*
. **Levi Strauss, Claude.** *Myth and Meaning + Anthropology Confronts the Problems of the Modern World*
. **Monte-Mor, Roberto Luis .** *"Extended Urbanization in the Brazilian Amazonia"*
. **Mostafavi, Mohsen .** *Ecological Urbanism*
. **Neves, Eduardo .** *"Ancient Amazonian populations left lasting impacts on forest structurte" (in ESA Journals)*
. **Orff, Kate .** *Toward an Urban Ecology*
. **Simmel, George .** *The Metropolis and Mental Life*
. **Sorkin, Michael .** *Variations on a Theme Park*
. **Taylor, Charles .** *Modern Social Imaginaries*
. **Urban Age Project .** *Living in the Endless City*

. **Viveiros de Castro, Eduardo .** *Araweté + The Relative Native*

6. Suggested Films/Videos:
. **Franca, Belisario** . Eternal Amazon
. **Degan, Raz** . The Last Shaman
. **Herzog, Werner .** Fitzcarraldo
. **Diegues, Carlos .** Bye Bye Brazil
. **BBC .** Henry's Ford Abandoned Factory in the Amazon
. **Eric Black .** Heart of Sky, Heart of Earth

7. Suggested Links:
. Socio-Environmental Institute . https://www.socioambiental.org/en
. Census Brazil . https://www.ibge.gov.br
. National Indian Foundation . www.funai.gov.br
. Guarani Comission Yvyrupa . http://www.yvyrupa.org.br
. SOS Mata Atlantica . http://www.sosma.org.br/en/
. Bioma Maps . http://mapbiomas.org
. Chico Mendes Institute . http://mapas.icmbio.gov.br
. Brazilian National Electric Energy Agency . http://www.aneel.gov.br
. Brazilian National Mining Association . www.dnpm.gov.br
. Brazilian National Transportation Department . www.dnit.gov.br
. United Nations . www.un.gov
. Agenda Gotsch . www.agendagotsch.com
. Savory Institute . www.savory.global
. John Todd Ecological design . www.toddecological.com
. Maps City of Sao Paulo . http://geosampa.prefeitura.sp.gov.br/PaginasPublicas/_SBC.aspx
. Maps Guarani Reserves . http://guarani.map.as/#!/?z=14.100000000000001&x=-23.89398379332096&y=-46.63892747553282