

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

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Active Matter

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

16-26 FEBRUARY 2012

SHENKAR COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND DESIGN



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16–26 February 2012
Shenkar College of Engineering
and Design, Tel Aviv

For over a century, desertification has been recognised as a significant environmental problem – a problem now affecting 36 million square kilometres and over 1.3 billion people worldwide. One of the few countries that has managed to buck the trend of land degradation and to create new green habitable environments in an arid ecology is Israel, where desert covers over 60 per cent of the land.

Capitalising on Israel's expertise in desert engineering and its successful composite materials industry, Active Matter will explore environmental and recreational infrastructures across multiple scales ranging from the individual infrastructural module (irrigation trap/soil stabilisers, etc) to its distribution logic over a vast territory.

Introducing a systemic approach towards context and intervention, we will test physical prototypes not just as singular interventions but also as interwoven implants – a projective 'field' condition open to the transformative forces of nature. Through an interdis-

iplinary collaboration with experts in parametric design, manufacturing technologies and environmental studies we will explore the use of advanced digital fabrication techniques as well as the potential of varied sheet and mouldable materials (plastics/concrete/cement/mud) in the generation of new 'infrastructural fabrics'.

Constantly shifting between manual and digital design techniques, workshop participants will actively engage with algorithmic and parametric thinking, investigating generative organisational algorithms as well as fabrication processes such as contouring, forming and casting.

Alongside the studio-based design tutorials (led by an international team of experts and offering instruction in Rhino 3D-modelling, Rhino Scripting and Grasshopper), a series of presentations will offer a relevant overview of contemporary theory, case studies and advanced applications.

Outputs of the workshop will be presented during a final symposium to leading researchers, manufacturers and international design critics and will become part of a future exhibition.

The workshop is open to architecture and design students and professionals worldwide.



Shenkar College
of Engineering and Design



Applications

The deadline for applications is 5 February 2012. Application forms are available online at: www.aaschool.ac.uk/telaviv. All participants travelling from abroad are responsible for securing any visa required for entry to Israel, and are advised to contact their home embassy well in advance. After payment of fees, the AA School can provide a letter confirming participation in the workshop.

Accommodation & Costs

The AA Visiting School requires a fee of £695 per participant, which includes a £50 Visiting Student Membership, payable online at: www.aaschool.ac.uk/telaviv. Fees do not include flights or hotels, but accommodation options can be advised. Students need to bring their own laptops, digital equipment and model-making tools. Laptops should be installed in advance with relevant software: Adobe Creative Suite and Rhino (SR7 or later). Please ensure this equipment is covered by your own insurance as the AA takes no responsibility for items lost or stolen at the workshop.

More Information

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Programme Site

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