



Tervislik ruumiloome materjalivaliku ja aktivismi kaudu

Healthy spatial design through
material selection and activism

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Elu ja Maa kui tervik

Elame antropotseeni ajastiku künnesel, mil vee, mulla ja õhu koostis on inimese poolt muudetud. Tööstusrevolutsioon tõi kaasa õhusaastatuse, ookeanide reostuse ning üle 300 loomaliigi hävimise. Maa mitmed kihid on reostunud ning looduslik tasakaal häiritud. Inimene kisub planeedi sisemuse välja ning risustab selle pinda kahjulike aineteega, mida poleks looduslikul teel iialgi tekinud. Tänapäeva inimesel on väga suur joud ning oluline on märgata, et kõik reageerib vastu ning seeläbi disainib ta ka iseennast.

Antropotseeni avaldumist Eesti looduses oli mul võimalus uurida ja visualiseerida välitöödel Vilsandi saarel. Paaritunnisel jalutuskäigul leidsin mererannast üsna palju plastprügi. Peened plastnöörid olid pöimumud vetikatega. Kilekotid mattunud kivide, liiva ja vetikate vahelle. Plastmassi lagunemisel tekivad mikro- ja nanoplastid. Neid on leitud Lääne mere hallhüljeste organismidest. Vilsandi saar on hüljestele innaaja peatumispunkt.

Life and the Earth as a whole

We live on the threshold of the anthropocene era, when the composition of water, soil and air has been changed by human. The industrial revolution led to the pollution of air, oceans and soil and the extinction of over 300 animal species. Many layers of the earth are polluted and the natural balance is disturbed. Human is tearing out the interior of the planet and littering its surface with harmful substances that would never have occurred naturally. Today's human has a great power and it is important to notice that everything reacts and thus human designs himself.

I had the opportunity to study and visualize the manifestation of anthropocene in Estonian nature during fieldwork on the island of Vilsandi. Within a couple of hours of walking, I found quite a lot of plastic rubbish on the beach. Fine plastic cords were intertwined with algae. Plastic bags buried between rocks, sand and algae. When plastic decomposes, micro- and nanoplastics are formed. They have been found in the gray seal organisms of the Baltic Sea. Vilsandi Island is a stopover for seals nursing time.



Tehsilik-looduslik
Artificial-natural

Kahjulikud ained

Ka hoone igas kihis leidub neidsamu loodusele tundmatuseni muudetud kahjulikke aineid. Need eralduvad materjalidest välja, saastavad siseruumi ning kuhjuvad inimese organismis, põhjustades mitmeid terviseprobleeme. Kõige olulisem on seejuures teadvustada, et elades aastaid kahjulike ainete keskel, jäab inimene viljatuks. Aastaks 2045 ei ole lääne inimene enam looduslikul teel paljunemisvõimeline.

Metafoorse seose viljatusega, leidsin välitöödel Vilsandil, kui ronisin lagunenud vana viljaveski sisse. Esialgu vaatlesin, kuidas kahest lihtsast materjalist on nii palju keerulisi ühendusi loodud. Siin puudus vajadus kahjulike ainete järele. Materjali on kasutatud talle omapärase vormite kohaselt. Veski sisemus on kui masin ning siin tekkis seos inimese organismiga, kelle keha on samuti kui masin ning keerulised ühendused peavad toimima läitmatult. Kui miski häkib süsteemi (kahjulikud ained), siis see enam ei toimi. See muutub viljatuks.

Harmful substances

Harmful substances can also be found in every layer of the building. They are released from the materials, pollute the interior and accumulate in the human body, causing many health problems. The most important thing to realize is that a **human will be infertile**. By 2045, western human will no longer be able to reproduce naturally.

I found a metaphorical connection with infertility during fieldwork in Vilsandi when I climbed into a dilapidated old grain mill. Initially, I looked at how so many complex connections were made from two simple materials. There was no need for harmful substances here. The material has been used according to its unique abilities. The inside of the mill is like a machine, and here a connection was made with the human body, which is also like a machine, with complex connections that must function flawlessly. If something hacks the system (harmful substances), it will no longer work. It becomes infertile.

This image is a collage composed of three distinct photographs. The top-left photograph shows a close-up of a wooden surface with several metal rivets or bolts. The top-right photograph shows a circular metal plate attached to a wooden board. The bottom-left photograph is a large, tilted image of a wooden water tower with a spiral staircase and a small opening at the base. The overall composition is abstract and layered.

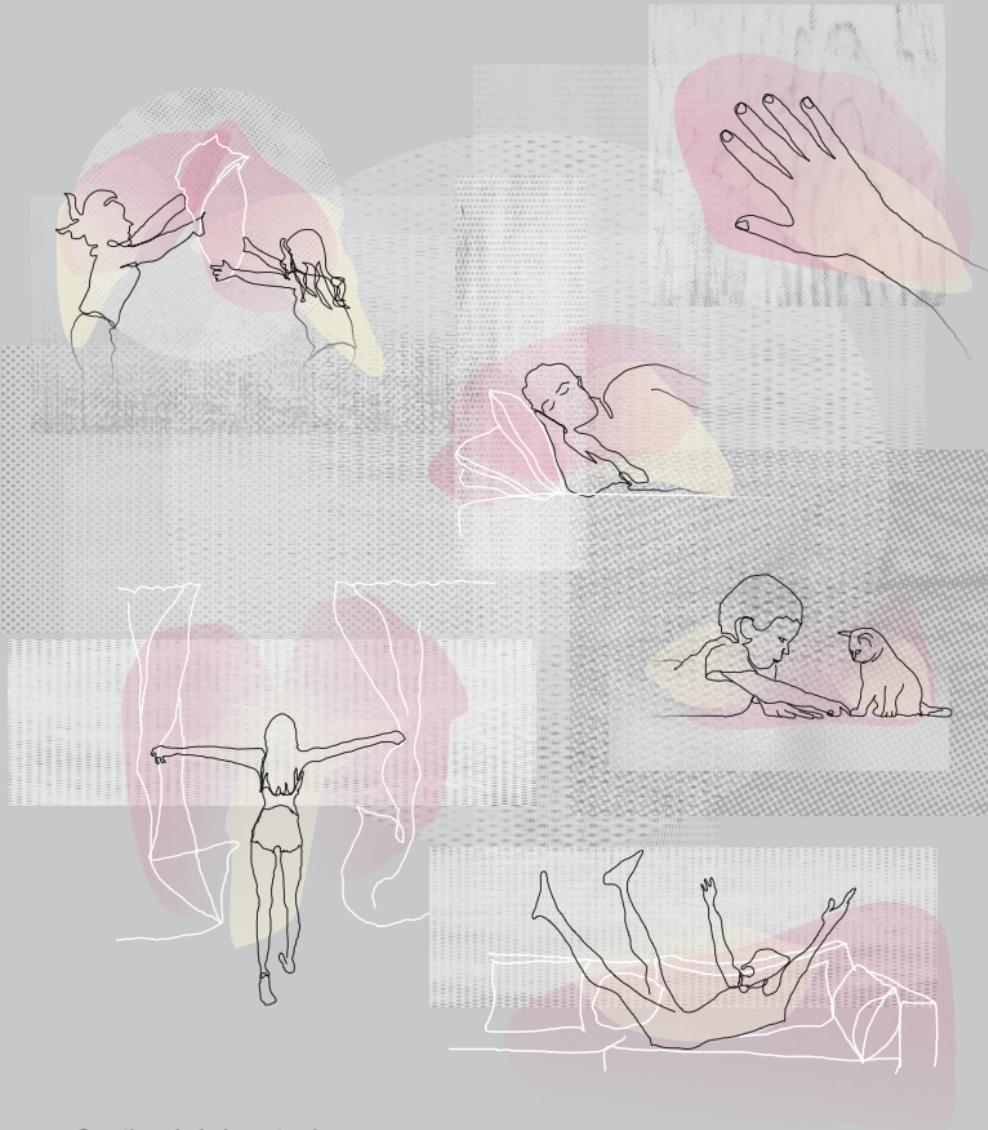
Viljatu
Infertile

Ruum kui refleksivabariik

Inimese suhet materjaliga vaatlesin biosemiootikast lähtuvalt. Biosemiootika tegeleb märgiprotsessidega elussüsteemides. Organisme eristab keskkonna tajumine ja sellele reageerimine liigi eriomassel moel. Keskkonna tajumise viisi nimetatakse omailmaks. Omistan oma töös ka elutule materjalile omailma, sest reageerib temagi ümbritsevale omamoodi. Inimene suhtub materjali enese omilmast lähtuvalt, ta surub materjali omale meelepäraseks. Valides selleks kahjulikud ained, on mindud materjali töötluses ja kasutuses eksiteele. Inimene on püüdnud materjali mõttetult parandada ning ei arvesta kuidas ta tegelikult on võimeline ümbritsevat vastu võtma. Materjal reageerib vastu, tekivad reaktsioonide ahelad ning ruumist saab refleksivabariik, mis on inimesele kahjulik keskkond.

Space as a reflexive republic

I approached the human relationship with material by biosemiotics, which deals with sign processes in living systems. Organisms are distinguished by their perception of and response to the environment in a species-specific way. The way one perceive the environment is called own world (*umwelt*). In my work, I attribute *umwelt* also to a lifeless material, because it also reacts to its surroundings in its own way. Human treats the material according to his *umwelt*, he pushes the material to his liking. By choosing harmful substances for this purpose, the processing and use of the material has gone astray. Human has tried to improve the material in vain and does not consider how the material is actually able to receive the surroundings. The material reacts, chains of reactions form and the space becomes a reflexive republic which is an environment harmful to humans.



Omailmade kohtumised
Encounters of umwelten

Ruumiloome kui märgiprotsess

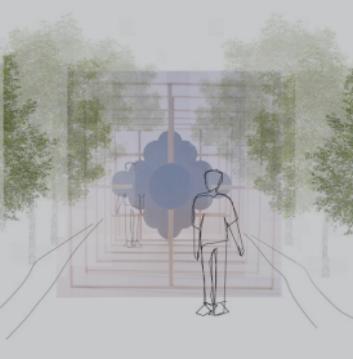
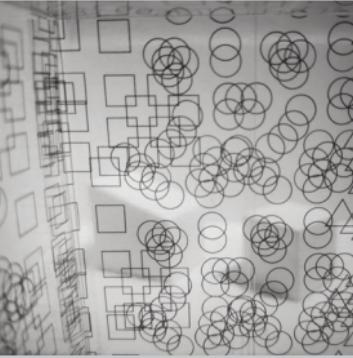
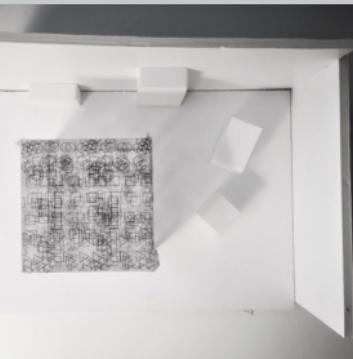
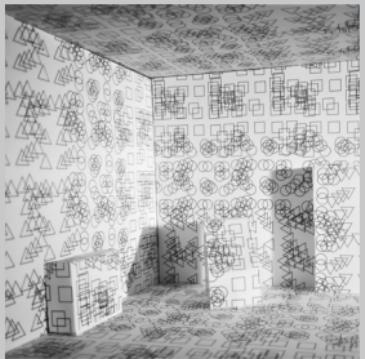
Märgisüsteemis toimub ruumiloome taustaprotsesside kasvamine ühtseks kogumiks. Sellest moodustub muster, mis on ühiskonda väga tugevalt sisse juurdunud. See on loodud inimese poolt, inimese jaoks, inimesele järgimiseks. See on muster, mille iga uus osa kasvab välja eelnevast. See loob kohati illusiooni probleemide lahendamisest ja kontrolli omamisest. Mustri mõte on näidata, et tegelikkuses tegeletakse ühe ja sama probleemi kasvatamisega. Algelement ehk põhjus jääb samaks – ootused ja suhtumine materjali. Püütakse ohjeldada kõike, kuid märkamatult põhjustab see terve rea uusi murekohti juurde.

Muster sai alguse paberil, kuid maketis kannan selle edasi visuaalse väljendusena ruumi. Eesmärk oli probleemi nähtavaks tegemine disaini ja arhitektuuri keeles. Liigun paberilt ruumilisele pinnale, pinnalt omakorda objekti, sealult edasi valguse ja varju mängu. See kõik näitab mustri kohaolekut ruumis.

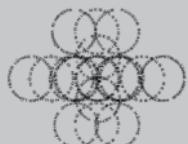
Spatial design as a sign process

In the sign system, the background processes of spatial design grow into a set of pattern, which is deeply rooted in society. It is created by human, for human to follow. It is a pattern in which each new part grows out of the previous. This sometimes creates the illusion of problem solving and control. The idea of the pattern is to show that the same problem is being cultivated. The basic reason remains the same – expectations and attitudes towards the material. Attempts are being made to curb everything, but unnoticed it is causing a number of new concerns.

The pattern started on paper, but in maquettes I transform it into the room as a visual expression. The aim was to make the problem visible in the language of design and architecture. I move from the paper to the spatial surface, from the surface to the object, from object to the play of light and shadow. All this shows the presence of the pattern in the room.



Muster kandub ruumi
Pattern transforms into a space



Revolutsioon: mustrite murdmine

Kuidas jõuda tervisliku ruumiloomeni ja saavutada ruumis tasakaal? Katsetades mitmete väljunditega, mõistsin, et minu küsimusele ei ole lahendust, mis mahuks ühte magistritöösse. Lahendusena näen terviklikult ruumilooome erinevatesse protsessidesse sekkumist. Vaja oleks põhjalikku muutust ühiskonnas. Vaja oleks revolutsiooni. Ainult heast materjalivalikust ei piisa, sama oluline on **teadlikkus**, sest see tõstab vastutulelikkust muutustele. Üheks olulisemaks võtmekohaks on keskkonnadisaini teadmiste, oskuste ja pädevuse edendamine üliõpilaste, lõpetajate ja spetsialistide seas. Seda nii ülikooli hariduse, mitme organisatsiooni koostöö kui aktivismi kaudu. Magistritöö raames võtan ette viimase ning selleks loon prototüübi veebilehele, mis keskendub teadlikkuse tõstmisele ning aitab orienteeruda, mida materjalivaliku puul arvestada.

The Revolution: breaking patterns

How to achieve a healthy space? Experimenting with several outputs, I realized that there is no solution to my question that would fit into one master's thesis. I see the solution as intervening in the various processes of spatial design as a whole. A fundamental change in society is needed. A revolution! A good choice of materials alone is not enough, awareness is just as important as it increases resilience to changes. One of the most important key areas is the promotion of knowledge, skills and competences in environmental design among students, graduates and professionals. This is through university education, cooperation between several organizations and activism. As part of my master's thesis, I will undertake the last one and create a website prototype that focuses on raising awareness and helping to guide the material selection.

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Aktivism: veebileht tervislikruum.ee

Eelmisel sajandil kehtestas modernism end tekstide, õpetuste ja mitmete väljaannete ehk aktivismi kaudu. Veebileht omab sarnast põhimõtet, kuid kaasaegses lahenduses. See on koht, kus saab avaldada vastavateemalisi artikleid, õnnestunud näiteid ja oskusteavet. Eesmärk on suunata inimest materjaliga uttmoodi suhestuma. Materjal ei ole lihtsalt üks ese, ka tema tajub ümbrissevat omamoodi ja reageerib sellele. Aktivismi kaudu saab suunata märkama, et materjalil on üsna suur roll inimese igapäeva elus. Veebilehe fookus on teadlikkuse töstmisel, aidates orienteeruda mida mööbli- ja siseviimistlusmaterjali valiku puhul silmas pidada. Siin on nii materjal kui teadmised võrdsetel positsioonidel, pidades esikohal inimest. Veebikeskkond aitab kasutajal aegamööda uusi teadmisi koguda, muutusi sammhaaval rakendada ning tervikuna on abistavaks vahendiks tervislikuma ruumi loomisel.

Activism: website tervislikruum.ee

In the last century, modernism established itself through texts, teachings, and many publications - activism. The website has the same principle, but in a contemporary solution. This is where one can find articles, successful examples and know-how. The goal is to get human to relate to the material in a new way. Material is not just an object, it also perceives and reacts to the surroundings in its own way. Through activism, it can be directed to notice that material plays a greater role in humans daily life than we perceive. The focus of the website is on raising awareness, helping to guide what to keep in mind when choosing furniture and interior decoration materials. Here is both the material and the knowledge in equal positions while human comes first. The website helps the user to collect new knowledge gradually and start to make changes step by step. As a whole, it helps to create a healthier spaces.

KODULEHT HOMEPAGE

Jutustamise meetod/Storytelling

avamine
opening

Väliruumi reostus

areng
development

Ka siseruum on
saastunud

põhisõnum
core message

Inimeste tervis
on häiritud

Kuidas oleme
jõudnud siia?

üleskutse tegevusele/ call to action

Saame ise muuta
Alusta siit

ARTIKLID ARTICLES

Antropotseen
Gaia

Vilsandi

Kohtla-Järve
Gümnaasium

Materjalid
katsekastis

Viljakus

Veski

Biosemiootika

Mustriprotsess

Haridus

Puit

Tekstiil

Plastik

TEEJUHID GUIDES

Mida
vältida?

Mida
kasutada?

Kuidas
kasutada?

Materjalivalik: teejuhid

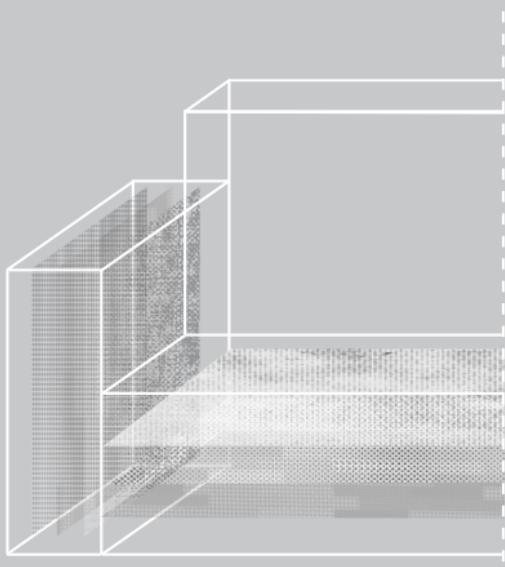
Veebilehel olev interaktiivne pilt ruumist laseb avada materjalide teejuhid, mis suunavad tähelepanu kahjulikele ainetele. Esmalt tuleks aru saada, mis tasakaalutust põhjustab ehk mida vältida. Oluline on ennetada kahjulike ainete kasutust, et ei peaks pidevalt tagajärgedega tegelema ning kaasata teadlikud valikud juba disainiprotsessi. Tähelepanu tuleks pöörata ka kihtidele nii ruumis, mööblis kui materjalis. Üks halb kiht või materjal võib tühistada kogu panuse ülejäänesse.

Puidu omailma muudetakse ja selle looduslähedus kaob, kui seda viimistletakse tehisliku ainega. See viib nii ruumi kui inimese tasakaalust välja. Kui materjali koostises on juba kasutatud kahjulikke aineid, siis ökoloogilise viimistluse valimine ei ole enam piisavalt töhus tervisliku ruumi loomisel. Tekstiilide puhul on samuti oluline jälgida, millega on värvitud, töödeldud ja viimistletud. Pehme mööbli valikul tuleks iga kihiga arvestada. Kinnitusviisid on samuti oluline aspekt materjalikasutuses.

Material selection: guides

On the website, the interactive image of a room opens up material guides that draw attention to harmful substances. The first thing to understand is what causes the imbalance and what to avoid. It is important to prevent the use of harmful substances so there is no necessity to deal constantly with the consequences and to make informed decisions already in the design process. Attention should also be paid to the layers in the room, furniture and material. One bad layer or material can void the entire contribution to the rest.

The umwelt of the timber is changed and its naturalness disappears with artificial finishings and this disturbs the balance both in space and in human. If harmful substances have already been used in the composition of the material, the ecological finishings is no longer effective enough to create a healthy space. The same applies on textiles, it is important to keep track of what is used in the processing and dyeing. Each layer should also be considered when choosing upholstered furniture. Fastening methods are also an important aspect of material use.



Biosemiotika ühest rajajast Jakob von Uexküllist lähtudes, on inimesel tarvis olla üle enese omailmast ja suurem inimeste keelest ning selleks on vaja kahte lähenemist. Esmalt on tarvis tundma õppida, kuidas on teised omailmad ehitatud ning milliseid märke nad on võimelised vastu võtma ja edastama. Teiseks tuleb märgata milliseid märke nad tegelikult oma loomulikus olekus vastu võtavad. Kui samamoodi suhtuda materjalide loomisse ja kasutamisse, loovad inimesed endale ka loomulikuma keskkonna ehk refleksivabariigi, kus ei toimu kogemata mõne kodaniku kodurahu rikkumist ehk inimese enda organismi häirimist. Keskkond, kus valitseb kõiki osapooli arvestav tasakaal.

According to Jakob von Uexküll, one of the founders of biosemiotics, human needs to be beyond his own world (*umwelt*) and greater than human language, and this requires two approaches. First, it is necessary to know how other *umwelten* are constructed and what signs they are able to receive and transmit. Secondly, it must be noted what signs they are actually receiving in their natural state. By approaching the creation and use of materials in the same way, human creates more natural environment, or reflexive republic, where there is no accidental violation of the civil peace of some citizens, ie disturbance of one's own body. A balanced environment for all parties.