

We have been able to take risks to come back to work as to consume, not so much to politically affirm the necessity of pleasure and contact between strangers, as to claim different priorities.

If we will get rid of this virus, will we be able to get rid of the capitalistic blackmail?

Annex

The following pages represent a diary of half-public events of the summer 2020, (to get out from isolation) following the expansion of the Garden of Lemons and its stories. They have been conceived mostly to be a moment of ritual care to get back in touch with strangers, to meet new people out-of-the-virtual, to face the fear of dangerous contacts for pleasure, out-of the economic priorities and generate kinships and ideas for the future.



In May I had a first contact with Motus - Santarcangelo Festival, a positive feedback and the desire for further dialogue.

In June, **Workspace Brussels** dramaturg Simon Baetens, interested in the project, invited me to send him updates on developments of the project and to apply for a residency— *I've recently received a positive answer, **the project has been selected by Workspace Brussels** and we are discussing modality of support starting by scheduling 6 weeks residencies starting from August.*

During summer 2020 there were some public presentations of the project in different forms in Brussels:

- **a banquet** installed at the entrance of a van-caravan **in an open-garage**;
- **a walk** leading **to the landing site space of lemons** and a **lecture-performance** (featured with **Volkroom**);
- **a lemons adoption office**, **a slice of Garden living-installation** and **an exhibition** at **RECYCLART**, urban project

RECYCLART itself has also "adopted" a part of the garden (slice), which continues to grow in the courtyard **visible to the public (living-installation)**, an eco-erotic altar connecting to the website.

*In autumn, adoptions of slice of Garden (living-installations) have been also initiated with small centers of cultural resistance **Librairie Météores** and **Bosh_tanneurs**, in Brussels.*

Some seeds have been welcomed also in the **ZsenneGarden**, a collective garden that I joined and that carries on permaculture experimentations in a reappropriated area of Brussels.

I made contact with **Casa delle Agricolture (LE)** partner to deepen the **botanic knowledges** and **saving seeds** practice related to the project.

In fact, one of the wishes that arose from the experience at RECYCLART is to propose the adoption of "slices of gardens" to *galleriesfestivalsgroupsartcentersothers....* and **develop a protocol** so that, beyond the public exposure of the installation, the aforementioned **sign a commitment to take care of it and support its growth in the future** (in short, *something that clashes with the times and ways of programming and transformation of urban spaces, but which aims to produce a small long-term headache and that as it grows opens unexpected spaces*)

To do this the idea is, **with the help of Luigi Coppola** to give a legal status, or a semblance, to the **fictional enterprise LEMON GARDEN CORP.**

Luigi Coppola for **Casa delle Agricolture (LE)** is happy to **welcome the project** starting from April in the context of the opening of "Vivaio dell'Inclusione" a public plant nursery project at Castiglione D'Otranto.

<https://www.casadellegricolturetulilaegino.com/post/il-vivaio-dell-inclusione-luigi-russo>

Chiara Dellerba from **ZonaPlanetaria (LE)**, is proposing to work on a **paper-publication** of the story, starting from *the colorful envelopes with seeds developing the imagination of a future cosmogony no more built around humans or animals figures, but plants and movements.*

with **Valentina Desideri** we are thinking of **an installation** at **PA-F (Performing Art Forum)** and related practices in the occasion of **Elsewhere&Otherwise (July 2021)** with a focus on fiction and therapy (love spell)

Salvo Lombardo is proposing a productive insertion into the activities of his company Chiasma, starting with a residency in Ostudio in Rome in May

other contacts have been made and wait for answers.

meanwhile the story continue to be written by post. 📧

I am looking for **partners for production, residences, public presentations** willing to welcome stages of the thinking of this futuristic garden.

Or even simple interlocutors to imagine bits of story together

Meanwhile the expansion of the garden has opened up further **collaborations with other artists.**

VAN MALDEERSTRAAT GARAGE 13th July 2020

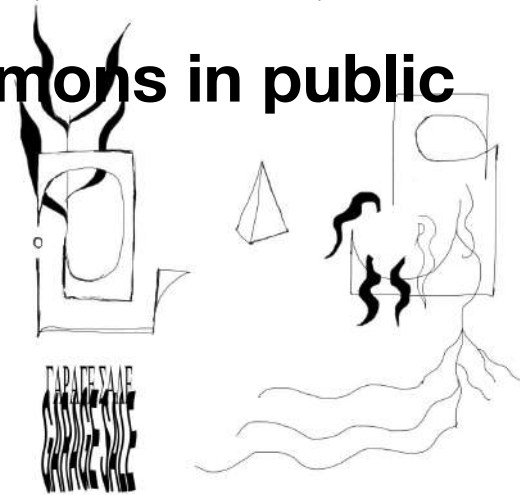
<https://www.facebook.com/matteo.deblasio1/posts/10222229496991398><https://www.facebook.com/matteo.deblasio1/posts/10222229496991398><https://www.facebook.com/matteo.deblasio1/posts/10222229496991398>

the first appearance of the Lemons in public
an open-garage gathering

adopters / kisses

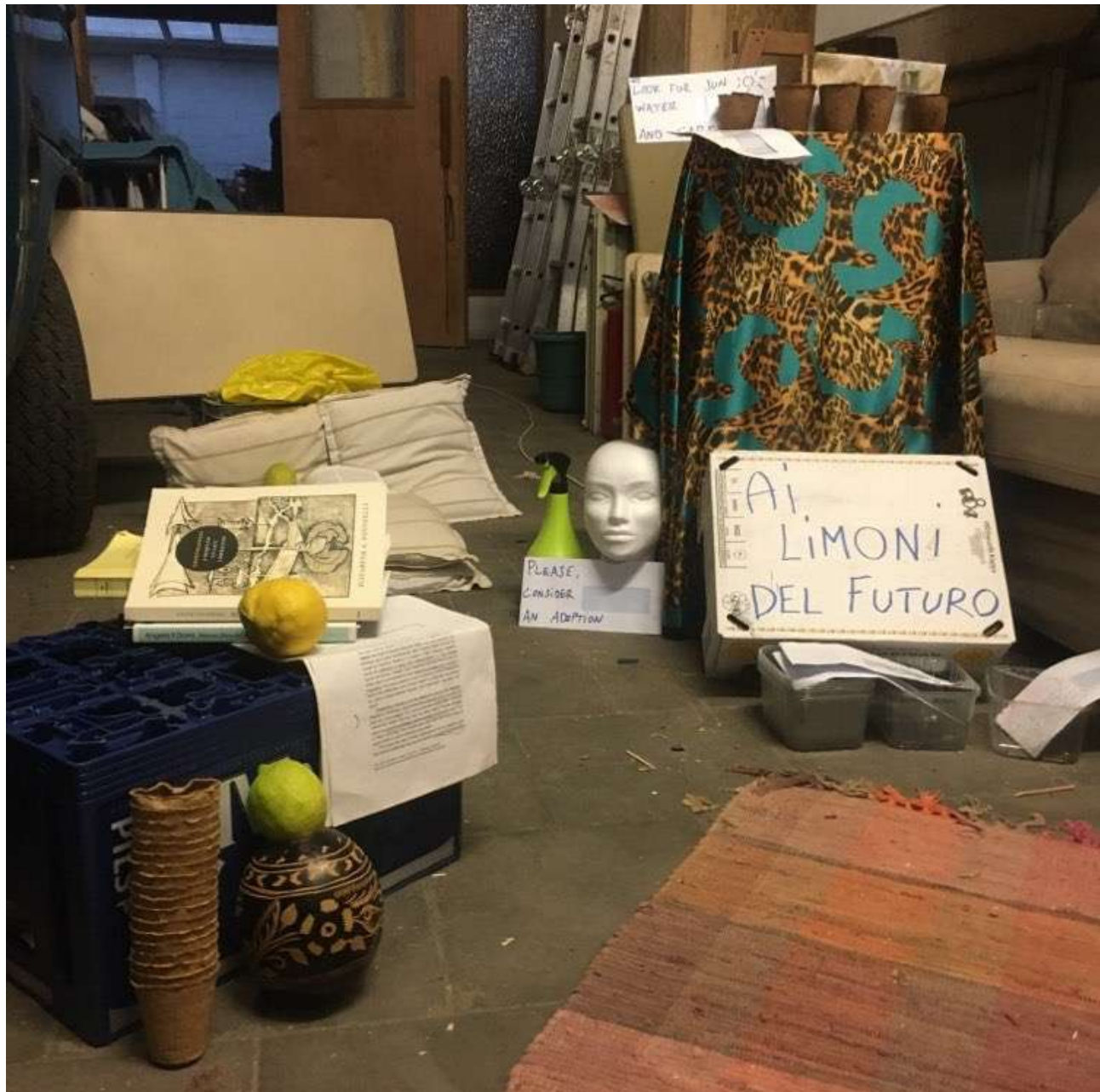
Egon
Elle
Serena
Laetita

5' Limone
5€
5' Limone
5€



SUNDAY 3PM
VAN MALDERSTRAAT 28

PINTJES!
MUSIC!
CRAPPY CLOTHES AND
CRAPPY COMPANY!





While big brand shops had been allowed to open more than one month before, huge lines of people were aligned to touch the same clothes coming from a global production and distribution that never stopped, the cultural sector and free gatherings of people had to happen “secretly” [with an aura of guilty fear, responsible for a possible contagion]

Can we really point the global misbehavior due to the capitalistic priority we are subjected to, by censoring ourselves the access to the physical sources of community power?



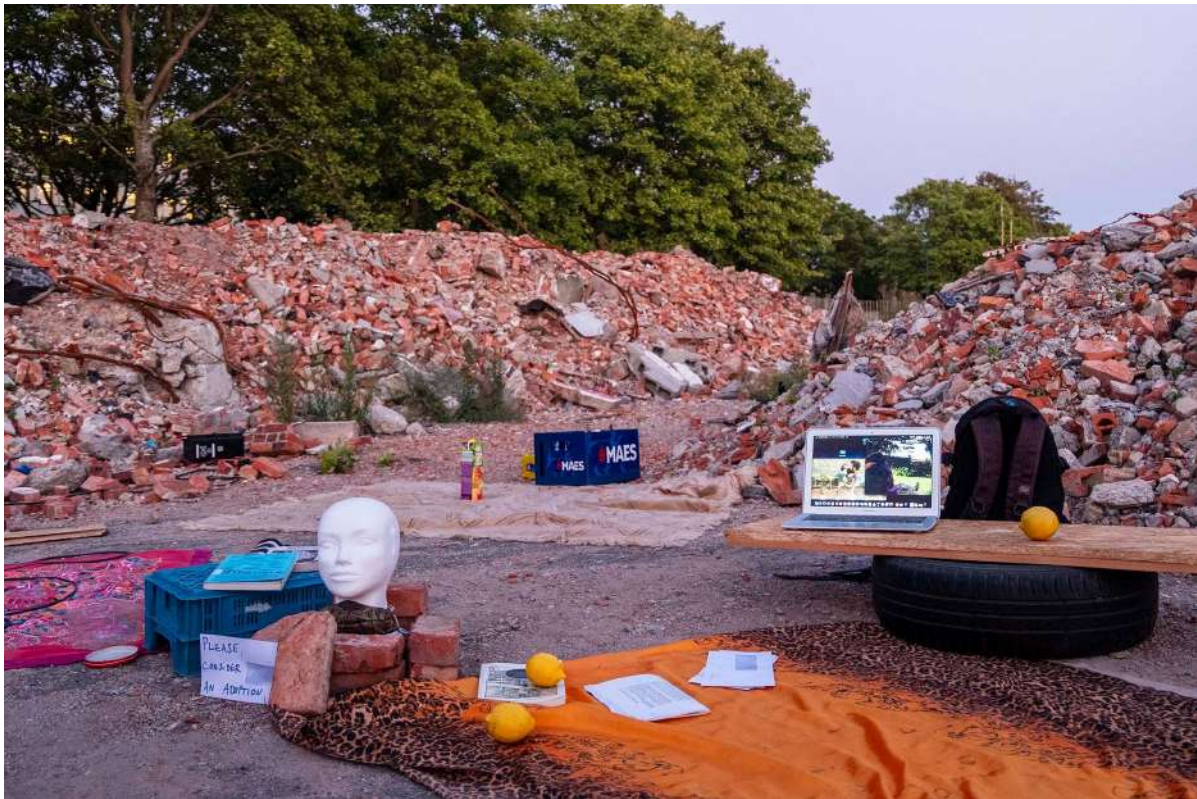
VOLKSROOM WALK 20th July 2020

lecture - performance

<https://www.facebook.com/events/582939399072411><https://www.facebook.com/events/582939399072411><https://www.facebook.com/events/582939399072411>

an astro - nomadic campsite of Lemons of The Future

A part of the garden has been temporary moved to an abandoned ex-industrial site in Anderlecht. The audience arrives at the site through a guided walk. In a corner of the open and extremely large space, cloths on the floor used as carpets create a temporary camp, around a small table on which seedlings are placed (very tiny in relation to the space), other seedlings appear in the surroundings, kisses on the screen around.





I welcome the audience on all-four, with a palm branch coming out of my buttocks, blessing the space, me, them and the plants with swaying of the branch-butt. I invite the audience to “camp”, while watering the plants and dedicating myself to reading some poems and text to the plants.

The chosen texts are Alice Walker "My desire is always the same", a paragraph taken from Geontologies by E.Povinelli fading-in an article by P.B.Preciado "Le féminisme n'est pas un humanisme".



I greet the audience to have joined and I open the talk.
I tell the biography of the garden mixed with my experience of lockdown and the attempt to make sense of what is happening (pandemic-lockdown-reopening).
I share my wishes.
I invite them to get closer to the expanded garden (kisses and plants).

It is one of the first moments of reunion with strangers after lockdown. It is mostly a moment of care. To find each other and come back in touch. For me to share the **lemon care**.





When the situation melts away, the audience starts to move around observing the plants, reading the texts, asking questions. I answer the microphone so that everyone can hear and I take the opportunity to continue the story.





Perhaps someone will want to adopt a plant and a kiss...

I water the plants.

Music fade in and we start a soft intimate party at sunset.



RECYCLART 24th July - 14th August

<https://www.facebook.com/matteo.deblasio1/posts/10222500470645570>

adoption office repèt pour l'adoption d'un Quartier de Jardin





Growing a Garden

During August 2020 we were invited to a 3-week residency at Recyclart.

I understood it as a residency for me and for the lemons, co-authors of the project.

During 3 weeks I inhabited the space of Recyclart, making grow new lemon plants, taking care of them, looking for ways to expose and protect them, trying to create a listening space around the lemon garden. The audience was present twice per week.

For three weeks I cultivated this small garden publicly, as if I were cultivating a dream. A future.

What else makes sense now if not cultivating gardens as dreams, trials for the future?



Articles

Rentrez, courez!
(Paul B. Preciado)

Why I stopped protesting and Started a Garden
(John Halstaed)

What should we expect from art in the next few years/decades? And what is art, anyway?
(Carmen Salas)





CON-SENSUAL FORM (prototype)

With this prototype con-sensual form you are asked to manifest your intention to engage in a responsible and pleasurable (experimental) relation with one plant, a slice of garden or an envelope of seeds.

You are also especially asked to formulate a specific practice of experimental care you will perform with your new friend.

[bare in mind: the first aim of the project is to heal a pandemic sickness - which affect humans since modern time (or at least a specific kind of human) - called "plant blindness", and that risks to compromise their existence. It consists in an extremely prevalent condition characterized by the growing inability to see or notice the plants in one's immediate environment, out of their "being part of the surrounding". I feel that this also affect the relations between humans themselves, but I do not have enough elements yet to argue]

So basically, to give attention to the plant will slowly helps you to prevent the growth of this disease.

If your engagement grows you could also invert the tendency.

Btw, the slowness of the process is a constitutive part of it, and it means to affect you.

If you feel like, to begin, you can chose a name to address to your lemon plant friend.

I, undersigned Jasmya Post (human being) on 6/8/2020
at Reecyclart
receive by matte (Garden care-giver)

- ☐ an envelope of seeds of lemon of the future
- ☐ a lemon of the future plant
- ☐ other plant

I decide to address to it/them with the name : maatie

I express my intention/motivation to engage in this special human/non-human relation, tending to proto-symbiotic

I will take care of my maatie like I would do to a lemon tree: with intellectual conversation, take night walks and shared meals.

and I imagine a practice of care, which I formulate here:

water, sun, talks and a late night walk to the cocktail bar around the corner

Beside this, I am committed to providing water, sun and love with continuity personally and equally when I am absent.

I am open to receiving the known and above all the unknown future benefits of this relationship.

I engage in an affective and erotic relationship, aware that this could transform my human idea of affectivity and eros.

I am committed to learning and practicing Lemon.

And to facilitate the connection with the rest of the Garden

chosen adoption contribution:

☒ 5€ ☐ 10€ ☐ 5' Limone ☐ 10' Limone ☐ other _____

I am aware that this behavior could cause me problems with the existing capitalist relationships between humans and non-humans, it could be hindered by other relationships that I have. for example, I could be considered mad, naive, useless, even criminal, dangerous anti-science. for this I cultivate with the green thumb the raised middle finger.

with pleasure

Jasmya Post

(the adopter)

Jasmya Post

Matteo D. Rossi
(the conceiver of the project and first Garden care-giver)

Facebook: Jasmya Post
Twitter: Jasmya Post
Email: jasmya.post@gmail.com

JASMYA POST



baci Recyclart:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOHUJzjB5fszOHn_gmrj-swPtHsa1yQKA

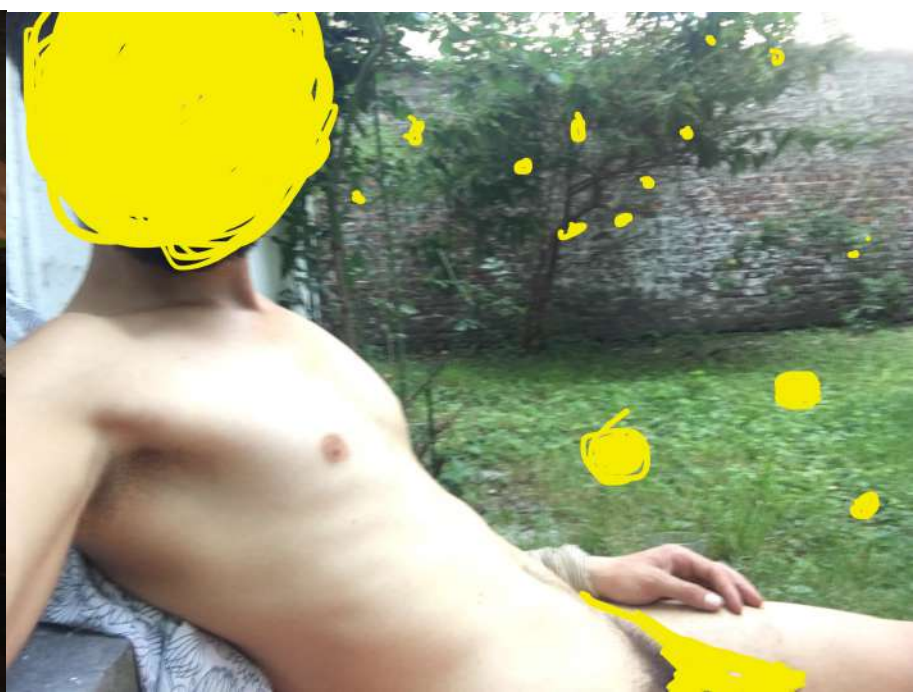
Make (out) new friends

In this context many shoots of collaboration have been planted and have been born. Some have names, others are slower, they move invisibly.

The current work will be to listen, map and take care of these connections.

how are things changing with many of us -even if precariously - “coming back to work” in a sort of normality?

- victor (VK), worker/maintainer for VK, enthusiast about the project, has been entrusted with the role of guardian and he is now the first care-giver of Recyclart adopted Lemon Garden. He gives them regularly water, checks what plants would need and he regularly text me to inform me and figure out what we can do for the future of the plants. •
- Jan e Antoine, adopted a couple of plants with a couple-kiss. Architects of the collective Babord and Gru <https://m.facebook.com/B%C3%A2bord-2236293129986886/> <http://collectifgru.fr> they involved me in an architecture project call. We are working on a project to build a Lemon greenhouse-cruising for ritual kisses to celebrate consensual pleasure publicly in pandemic time.
- Repair Mobile (RecyclartFabriek), built the pot and first green-house for the Lemon Garden adopted by Recyclart in August. In September the idea grew and they initiated a public weekly atelier of vegan cooking and building of “des petits serres de jardins, de balcons et murales, ainsi que des jardins verticaux intérieurs ou extérieurs avec les surplus de bois et de métal des ateliers. Ceux-ci seront dispersés dans notre quartier et vendus sur commande, formant de petites oasis vertes prêtes à être cultivées par tous”
- Jakie Léa Michel and her partner Lucas as currency of exchange for a lemon-plant are composing a music-album for the Garden. One song will imagine and evoke her future adopted-lemon. They are working also on an erotic-lemon fanzine.
- Jan didn't adopt a plant, but invited me to visit his garden in Brussels. He recovered an abandoned space with friends. He invites me to experiment there.
(I received many other invitations to visit private-shared gardens)
- Neri has a lingerie brand dedicated to citrus fruit. She argues that the apple of the heaven/ bible, the fruit of evil, was not an apple but a citrus. https://underthyskin.com/collection-2/van-eyck.html?fbclid=IwAR15LXvxZdU_0fJol1uzwi4hBIICcpe6wir_pBkQLSs56wo_TV10UAde6pw



Exhibition: celebrate pleasure

how can limoni curate an exhibition?

During the weeks an internal space was showing the collected material, as a speculative prosthesis : signed contracts of adoptions , videos of the kisses, video training for cervical through tongue activation, erotic poems, a collection of books related to the research, references of other artists working around the kiss movement, images related to institutional dispositive of control, article related to feminist storytelling, access to the website,...)

The spacecraft of the lemons of the future was welcoming the audience: it was a fresh and sensory space that recalled the moisture of the mouth and the ground, in which to enter barefoot, sit on a deckchair, lie on a blanket of flowers resting on the ground, celebrate pleasure while receiving multiple hypnotic stimula.

quick view of moments of the exhibition

<https://youtu.be/54z1cqdy85c>

https://youtu.be/O_NEWLEZZxM



Adoption of a Slice of Garden

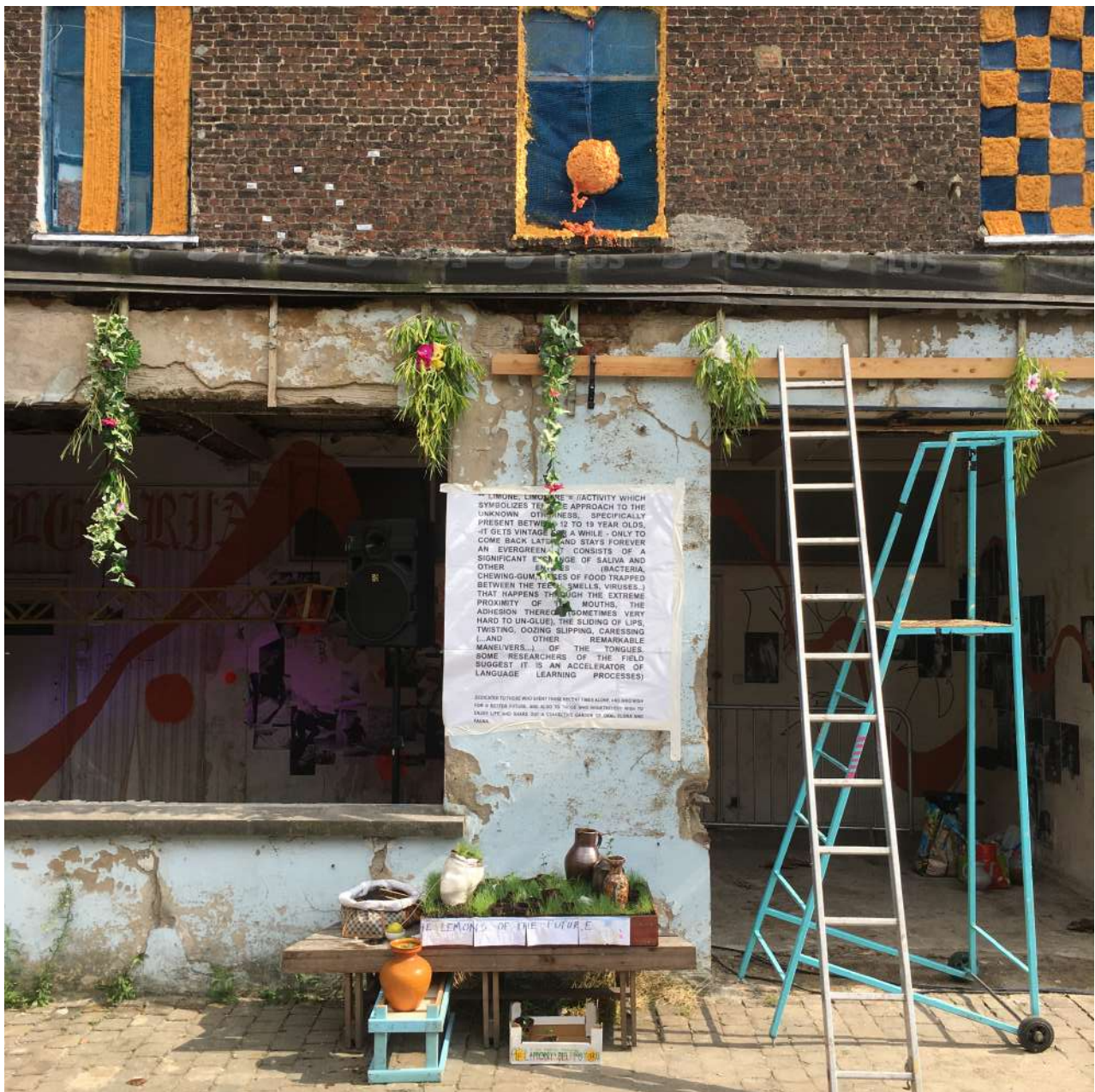
The Slice of Garden remains "in residency" at Recyclart who adopted it. There, as a *public alive installation*, it continues to grow under the collective care of Recyclart-team.

Exposed with the Garden:

- A panel translating and re-calling the movement of the italian-slang Limonare.
- The contract of adoption and con-sensual form available to be read.

Soon also:

- A plaque of certification of Recyclart adoption, crediting the collaborations to make it grow
- a list of the adopters
- and a QR-code connecting to the website



This is a garden of Lemons.
it is a magic object conceived by many
synchronic encounters.
The care of this garden is a ritual and symbolic
act which will spread sensual and erotic
pleasure.

It is a symbolic bud, which aims to grow gardens
(public, private, vertical, diagonal, clandestine,
fragrant, erotic) throughout all Brussels.
It is a vibrant point, a transition passage, a
border, between dream and wakefulness from
where dreams come out to grow as plants all
around.

look at this plants, their shapes, theirs leaves,
take some time to become sensible to their
movement...

To feel closer to them, you can read them an
erotic poem or Black Trans-Eco-Feminist texts.

It has been adopted by Recyclart from matte in
August 2020

Repair Mobil made the construction
Victor is its guardian





Brussels, December 15th 2020

To whom it might concern,

Matteo answered to an open call sent out by us for summer projects. In the specific context of this weird times, within the restrictions for organizing events imposed upon us, we were still hosting a nine week long summer festival. We could not use our inside spaces, so we constructed the whole festival around our outside courtyard, trying to activate the walls, gardens, windows, rooftops and all other spaces around it. We were looking for projects that would interact with our spaces in a way we could not imagine yet. Artists or collectives that could show us new possibilities, growth, destruct, construct, and open gates to sensations we had not yet encountered, paths we had not yet found maps for.

Matteo's lemon adoption bureau immediately talked to the senses, dragging its audience in by taste, touch, feelings of gustatory nostalgia and an unquenching thirst for lemonade and sensuality. He intervened during a couple of weeks in our courtyard and had a documentation/expo room as an annexe/refuge in one of our inside spaces. Matteo interacted with the audience in an extremely gentle, caring way, like a panther on the hunt for kisses, but never pushing anyone to go too deep into the jungle. He managed to awake the slumbering senses of a lot minds and hearts and convince some souls to go over to live limonare-(inter)action, this lead to truly sensational, touching, beautiful, transforming moments.

After the summer, a piece of the lemon garden stayed with us, leaving a living memory to all of this, to be handled with care and enough water from time to time. Recyclart will continue to interact with Matteo's garden and project, activating it in any way we can for future lemons to be born and raised in a new, more beautiful world.

Kind regards,

Amber Meulenijzer
Recyclart