

STUDY CYCLE REGENERATING GAIA

Guide

Dates: 07 – 28 June 2022

Time: 4 – 6 PM (Brazil time)

Guests: Antonio Nobre, Eduardo Góes Neves, Valdely Kinupp, Alice Worcman, Flavia Aranha, Maria Silvanete Lermen and Ailton Krenak

Facilitator: Fabio Scarano

Invited Artist: Mitti Mendonça

About the Cycle

We are part of Gaia, the living planetary system of the Earth. A self-regulating system, recycling all its atoms without leaving waste behind. This enormous collaborative process is what we call life. Currently however, Gaia suffers. Another system has been developed by the capitalist project, engaging a major part of humans and provoking [global heating](#).

Products are generated in mass, stemming from the extraction of what is called raw material. Consumption is an important link in this chain of actions, it is where all people connect and become part of the incessant production of things, of merchandise.

Facing this big market which eats the planet and produces a frantic quantity of fuel and plastic, metal, fabric, paper and glass materials, among many other goods, what can we do?

At the core of everything is our life impulse, what we wish for, the life we dream about. Perfect life-styles are for sale at a high price for the planet, and cruelly out of reach for most of the population.

This way the dream of achieving a perfect life is manipulated, reaching it by means of consumption, of the pact with the necessity for products

to be happy. Transform what we dream is therefore a way. To transform our cognition programmed for the utilitarian capitalist system.

This cycle is for those who seek to open a window in this matrix called humanity and research ways of becoming a regenerator of Gaia.



07/06 - FIRST MEETING

REGENERATING FROM DREAMS

Regeneration of body, home and cosmos.

With Antonio Donato Nobre, senior researcher at the National Space Research Institute (INPE).

The Kapok Tree [Samauma, refers to *Ceiba pentandra*], one of the biggest trees of the Amazon forest, is at the same time *body* (tree), *home* (villages are made around them and they house several other beings) and *cosmos* (connecting the earth and the sky, a “world-axis”). To regenerate involves to reconnect the so-called modern people to themselves, to their fellow people and to the non-human elements from nature.

Antonio Nobre recently said that “to forget our bodies is to forget Gaia, to forget the world, to forget flowers”. Somehow we even forget to dream, which takes this world to the current dystopic scenery. Antônio is going to discuss the importance of dreaming to regenerate.

ANTONIO DONATO NOBRE is a scientist and an activist, with a relevant role in promulgation and popularisation of science. He graduated in Agronomy, has a master’s degree in Tropical Ecology, and a doctorate in Sciences of the Earth Systems. His main study focus is the Amazon. He was a researcher at the National Amazonian Research Institute (INPA) and currently he is a senior researcher at the National Institute for Space Research (INPE).

14/06 - SECOND MEETING

THE AMAZON AND “ABUNDANCE MANAGEMENT”

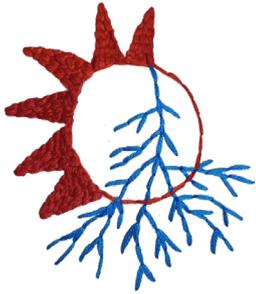
Biological diversity is fruit of cultural diversity and cultural diversity is fruit of biological diversity.

With Eduardo Góes Neves, archaeologist at São Paulo University (USP), and Valdely Kinupp, specialist in Non-Conventional Edible Plants ([NCEP](#) or PANC in Portuguese) and responsible for the School Farm Panc in Manaus.

“Abundance management” is really analogous to Ernst Götsch’s vision of abundance. We will talk about “black earth” and soil fertility. The Amazon Forest we see today results partly from a history of domestication, and partly from a history of reoccupation based on regeneration. Survival practices and abundance generation. The regeneration of Gaia encompasses dialogue and conversation between different people and worlds.

EDUARDO GÓES NEVES is an academic historian, has a Master’s and a Doctorate degree in Anthropology. He is a Professor at the Archaeological and Ethnological Museum of São Paulo University, where he coordinates the Archaeology Laboratory of the Tropics. His extensive scientific production and master’s theses and doctoral dissertation advising record focusses mainly on Amazonian Archaeology. He received the Research Prize at the Shanghai Archaeological Forum in 2019.

VALDELY KINUPP is a Phd at the Federal Institute for Education, Sciences and Technology, Campus Manaus-Zona Leste (IFA-M-CMZL) and Curator-Founder of the EAFM Herbarium of this institute. He is also a teacher and a post-graduate thesis advisor in Botany at INPA. He researches and promulgates NCEP, Non-Conventional Edible Plants. He has experience in the botanical area and focusses on the following themes: non-conventional vegetables, vegetal genetic resources, food security, floristics, olericulture (non-conventional vegetables) and agroecology. Author of the book *Plantas Alimentícias Não Convencionais (PANC) no Brasil* [Non-Conventional Edible Plants (PANC) in Brazil] with co-author Harri Lorenzi (Editora Plantarum, 2014).



21/06 - THIRD MEETING

PLANTS WHICH FEED AND REGENERATE CITIES

Plants regenerate Gaia.

With Alice Worcman, practitioner of Agroforestry, and Flavia Aranha, live clothes stylist.

The concept of regenerative cities has been spreading in literature about urbanism, design etc. This englobes urban agriculture and the insertion of different green spaces in cities. The double regeneration of space and time, in the sense of body and home, a “strap” to regenerate our relation with the cosmos. A conversation about the “seeds of a good Anthropocene”, a concept about things being done these days which may help us to “change the game”.

ALICE WORCMAN is the founder of “Organicidade” [Organicity], an institution that collaboratively regenerates environments and connects urban ecosystems with ancestral knowledge and new technologies to improve life in cities. Alice studied Art History and Design for Sustainability, along with being an autodidact in NCEP and researcher of food biodiversity. Practitioner and learner of urban agriculture, she believes that the continuity of our species’s existence is related to observation, interaction and regeneration with the nature that we inhabit and which inhabits us.

FLAVIA ARANHA was born in Campinas, in the state of São Paulo, and grew up in an environment close to nature and art. Her gaze has always lingered on everyday dualities; the delicacy and strength in everything that exists conduct her creative process and her entrepreneurial road. After her experience in conventional fashion industry, in 2009, she opened her first atelier shop in Vila Madalena, São Paulo, with natural dying as the core of her homonymous brand. The designer connects traditional knowledge to new technologies for the development of products that may cause a more positive impact on society and the environment by means of fashion.

28/06 - FOURTH MEETING

REGENERATION IS THE CURE

Plants that regenerate people.

With Maria Silvanete Lermen and Ailton Krenak.

Cure by using medicinal plants, or by the simple presence of plants and other elements of nature. The gardens.

Two new diagnosed illnesses are related to the fractures in human relations with the world: with ourselves, with our fellow beings, with the non-human elements from nature. One is being called the “Extinction of Experience” and stems from the lack of contact with nature, particularly common in urban youth. The other, “Eco-Anxiety”, is associated with a specific kind of anxiety, and eventually panic, facing the imminence of natural disasters. The medicine present in healing plants, as well as the simple exposure to natural systems (in some cases known as different forms of ecotherapy) are antidotes for these troubles.

With the advent of the covid-19 pandemic, the “One Health” concept gained evidence. This concept refers to the recognition by science that human health is dependent on and integrated with ecosystem health. The talk will not only introduce these concepts, but more importantly, discuss how these cures, therapies and treatments have been known for a long time by indigenous, local and ancestral peoples, although by other names.

MARIA SILVANETE LERMEN is a grassroots educator in community health, a traditional healer, ancestral gates guide, agroforester, practitioner and researcher of people’s practises. She lives in the Serra dos Paus Dóias, in Exu, in the Araripe savannah, in the state of Pernambuco.

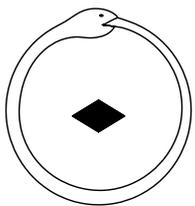
AILTON KRENAK is a thinker, environmentalist and one of the main voices of Brazilian indigenous knowledge. Ailton has created, together with Dantes Editora, the *Selvagem* – cycle of studies about life. He lives in the Krenak village, on the banks of Doce river, in the state of Minas Gerais, and is the author of *Ideas to postpone the end of the world* (House of Anansi Press, 2020), *O amanhã não está à venda* [Tomorrow is not for sale] (Companhia das Letras, 2020) and *A vida não é útil* [Life is not useful] (Companhia das Letras, 2020).

FACILITATOR: FABIO SCARANO

Professor in Ecology, who holds the chair in Regenerative Futures of the Brazilian College of Advanced Studies (CBAE) of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). He has been working to strengthen the dialogue between scientific research on biodiversity and climate change with indigenous knowledge, religions and art. Consequently, he collaborates in projects and with institutions which create space for dialogue, like Selvagem, the Institute for Studies of Religion (ISER), Livmundi and the Museum of Tomorrow in Rio de Janeiro. He received two Jabuti prizes for his books. He participated in several projects of Dantes Editora and published *Regenerators of Gaia* (2019), which partly inspires this cycle.

ARTISTA CONVIDADA: MITTI MENDONÇA

Mão Negra Resiste is the art label created by the textile artist and illustrator Mitti Mendonça. Created in 2017, the brand strives for black protagonism in the arts universe. Her main approaches are black poetics, memory, ancestry and affection. The artist seeks to value the history of embroidery, which runs for almost 100 years among the women in her family. This way she makes use of embroidery, design and digital illustration to create her work. She is from São Leopoldo, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, where she lives and has her atelier.



SELVAGEM

Study Cycle Regenerating Gaia

07 – 28 June