

PRESS FILE



pre-architectures

06.11.24 - 30.03.25



C I.II.III.IV. A
Culture — Architecture

civa.brussels
Rue de l'Ermitage 55
1050 Bruxelles

For one of its last exhibitions before moving to the cultural hub in the heart of Brussels, KANAL, CIVA reflects on the latent potential of architecture. With the participation of a transdisciplinary field of architects, artists, sociologists and archeologists, the exhibition *pre-architectures* critically unveils how the study of prehistory might uncover not only causes of modernity's present crisis, but also signs of architecture's future past.

CIVA invites you to discover *pre-architectures* during an exclusive visit with the curators on the 5th of November 2024 from 10am to 6pm.

Envision a world without architecture, a world-ecture without arche, the latter meaning not only beginning or origin, but also the authority to arrange and subordinate persons, objects, and processes into an identifiable power structure.

Pre-architecture is not simply “not architecture”—it is what architecture could have become, but ultimately disavowed. The same unfulfilled potentialities haunt not only the distant past but also architecture's anxious present in a time of environmental crisis, energetic transformation and related social challenges.

Referring to the beginnings of human habitat and the “birth” of design, the exhibition speculates about the cultural, social, economic and political foundations of spatial organization.

With works by: Kader Attia, Mariana Castillo Deball, Jacques Gillet, Hans Hollein, Frederick Kiesler, Gianni Pettena, Ettore Sottsass, Anton Vidokle & Pelin Tan, Paulo Tavares, David Wengrow & Eyal Weizman with Forensic Architecture.

The exhibition is accompanied by the publication *pre-architectures*, edited by Silvia Franceschini, Nikolaus Hirsch, Spyros Papapetros; with a text by David Wengrow; French/Dutch/English. Soft cover, 84 pages, 10 × 16 cm, approx. 40 ill., Spector Books.

A series of events and talks will be organized alongside the exhibition including Mariana Castillo Deball, Laurent De Sutter, Charlotte Malterre-Barthes, Sébastien Marot, Spyros Papapetros, Pelin Tan, Paulo Tavares, Anton Vidokle, and many others.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR:

Nikolaus Hirsch

SECRETARY GENERAL:

Jeremy Uhr

CURATORS:

Silvia Franceschini, Nikolaus Hirsch

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE:

Spyros Papapetros

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HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES:

Via this link

AN EXHIBITION ORGANIZED BY CIVA WITH THE SUPPORT OF

Région de Bruxelles-Capitale, urban.brussels, Instituto Guimarães Rosa, Embassy of Brazil in Brussels, Austrian Frederick, Lillian Kiesler Private Foundation

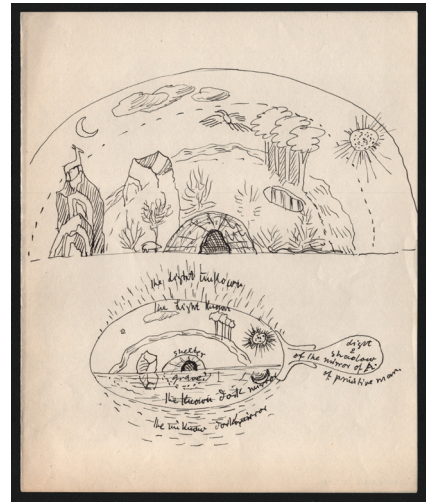
PARTNERS:

KANAL, Bruzz, Le Soir, A+

© Frederick Kiesler, *Magic Architecture*, Part I, Chapter 8, "The Universe as Architecture"

Preliminary drawing related to Plate 13, ink on paper, c.1946-47.

Courtesy of the Austrian Frederick and Lillian Kiesler Private Foundation in Vienna



© Frederick Kiesler, *Magic Architecture*, Plate 24 (III 4)

Collage: typewriter and pencil on paper, c.1946-47.

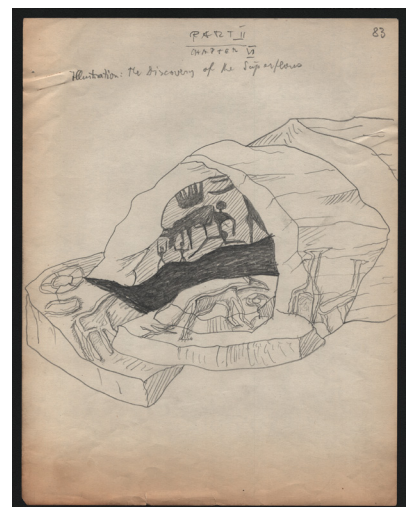
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© Frederick Kiesler, "The Discovery of the Superfluous"

Preliminary drawing for *Magic Architecture*, pencil on paper, c.1946-47.

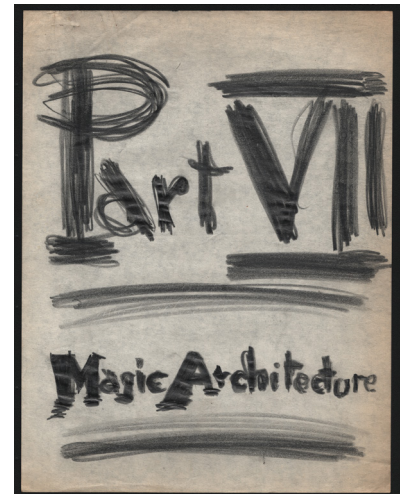
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Manuscript: pencil on paper, c.1946-47.

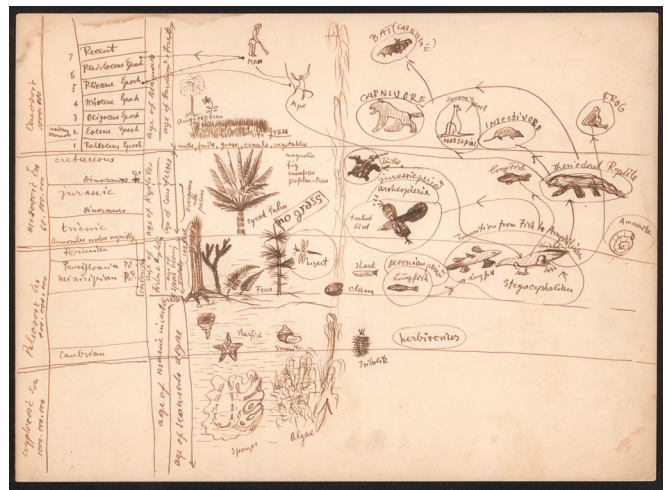
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© Frederick Kiesler, *Ecology Exhibition, study for a project in the American Museum of Natural History*, New York.

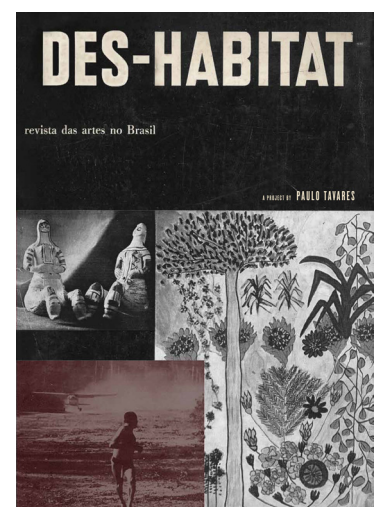
Ink on paper, c.1944.

Courtesy of the Austrian Frederick and Lillian Kiesler Private Foundation in Vienna



© Paulo Tavares, *Des-Habitat*, published by K.Verlag, 2019.

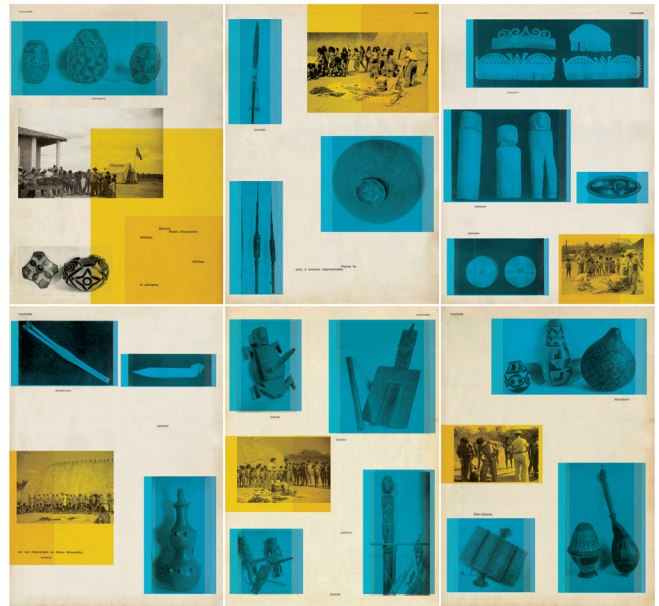
Courtesy of the artist



© Paulo Tavares / autônoma,
Pacificação. Des-Habitat Didática.

Digital print, screen print, 2024.

Courtesy of the artist



PACIFICAÇÃO

© Paulo Tavares / autônoma, *An Architectural Botany*, 2018-2023.

Courtesy of the artist



© Paulo Tavares / autônoma,
An Architectural Botany, 2018-
2023.

Courtesy of the artist



© Mariana Castillo Deball,
*Once I thought the world was
somewhere else*, installation
of textiles and printed textile,
2020.

Courtesy of the artist



© Mariana Castillo Deball,
*Once I thought the world was
somewhere else*, installation
of textiles and printed textile,
2020.

Courtesy of the artist



© Kader Attia, *Hypomnemata*,
papier-mâché sculpture
on four plywood tables,
cabinet of archival materials
(reproductions of vintage
colonial postcards, framed
vintage silver prints), 2023.

Courtesy of the artist and
Galerie Mor Charpentier, Paris



© Kader Attia, *Hypomnemata*,
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on four plywood tables,
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(reproductions of vintage
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vintage silver prints), 2023.

Courtesy of the artist and
Galerie Mor Charpentier, Paris



© Anton Vidokle & Pelin Tan,
*Gilgamesh: She who saw the
deep*, film, 2022.

Courtesy of the artists



© Anton Vidokle & Pelin Tan,
Gilgamesh: She who saw the deep, film, 2022.

Courtesy of the artists



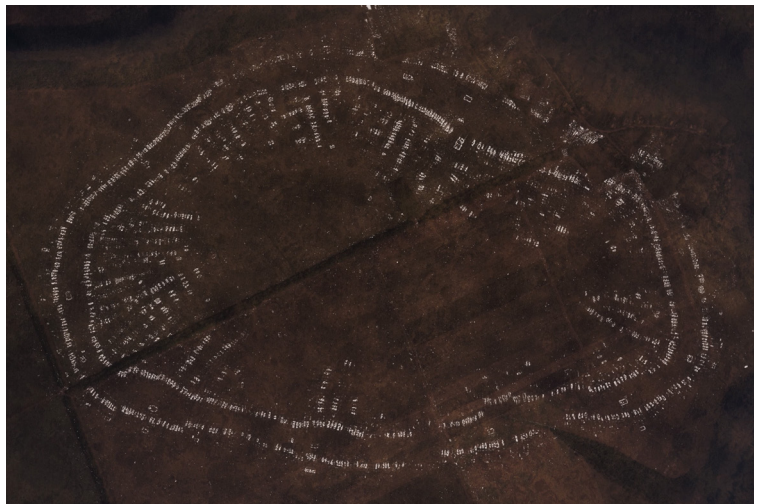
© Anton Vidokle & Pelin Tan,
Gilgamesh: She who saw the deep, film, 2022.

Courtesy of the artists



© David Wengrow and Eyal Weizman with Forensic Architecture and The Nebelivka Project, *Rendered impression of Nebelivka*, a rendered impression of the archaeological settlement of Nebelivka, reconstructed geophysical data, 2023.

Courtesy of the artists



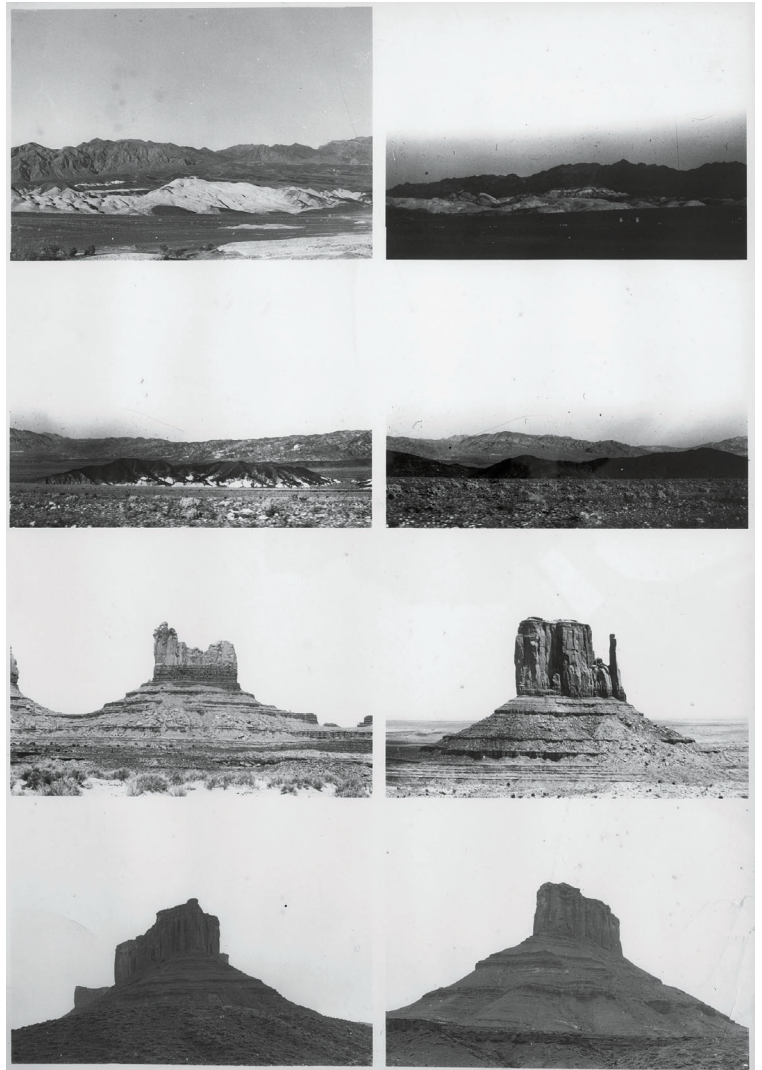
© Jacques Gillet, *Maison sculpture à Angleur*, gelatin silver prints, undated.

Courtesy of GAR- Archives d'architecture (ULiège), fonds Jacques Gillet, Liège



© Gianni Pettena, *About Non-Conscious Architecture*, photograph, 1972.

Courtesy of Galleria Giovanni Bonelli, Milan



© Ettore Sottsass, *Metafore*.
2. *Architettura virtuale*. 1973
(*Seo de Urgel*), photograph,
1972-79.

Courtesy of BDC - Bonanni
Del Rio Catalog, Parma, Italy



2. ARCHITETTURA VIRTUALE

© Hans Hollein, *Stadtstruktur*
(*City Structure*), ink on paper,
1960-1963.

Courtesy Private Archive
Hollein

