

[MICROCLIMATES ENSEMBLE]

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Societies nowadays, bound by new concepts of social ties find through these, common grounds for individuals to associate with others. Latour expressed "The sense of belonging has entered a crisis" and with that being said, grounds are laid allowing new connections and interactions to happen. However, the present pandemic apart from shedding light on contemporary struggles for racial and economic equality has also limited our ability to generate and construct society through physical contact and communication. There is a sense of collectivity that needs to be reinforced within social distancing. For students who particularly develop some kind of kinship through working collectively over time, spaces that allow spontaneous and informal encounters while being safe are essential as they counteract dense urban living isolation. Our project creates a new type of collectivity under a bubble of air with an inflatable flexible structure that can host meetings as well as provide students with private microclimates. The aim of the design is to create an architecture of atmosphere where the human bodies interact with ambient changes and can observe different forms of air as humidifiers create microclimates of mist. The pavilion can house up to 20 people socially distanced. The inflatable structure is filled with hot air heated by a wood stove. In the daylight the translucent material allows the light to enter, while at night bright and ethereal hues are selected to create a phenomenological experience. The furniture constitutes an extension of the exterior structure with inflatable seats installed in the structure that allow visitors to sit or lean during workshops, presentations, meet-ups or moments of relaxation.

