

Press Release

## PLANET MATTERS

### A Conference at the Architekturzentrum Wien (Az W)

Venue Architekturzentrum Wien  
Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Vienna  
Date 3 – 4 September 2021

A new approach to the planet and all of its species requires the application of a broad spectrum of knowledge. During this conference at the Architekturzentrum Wien international representatives from the realms of architecture, art, design, the environment and economics discuss a variety of approaches to Planet Love in four panels: EAT LOVE, NATURAL TECHNOLOGY, LAND MATTERS and CIRCULAR SOCIETY. Participating institutions at the VIENNA BIENNALE FOR CHANGE are programming the conference together.

The EAT LOVE panel approaches the topic of food and tomorrow's food culture through the lens of architecture, exploring new forms of food production, distribution and consumption as a means of tackling the climate crisis. EAT LOVE is also the motto of a mobile studio/think tank station, which is touring the city from May to October 2021 and informing the EAT LOVE panel's work.

The NATURAL TECHNOLOGY panel has a focus on practices and streams of thought that engage with rethinking the relationship between nature and technology, reconfiguring our planetary connections through epistemological systems that undermine the extractivist logic that has been long facilitated by colonial legal mechanisms and late capitalism.

The LAND MATTERS panel explores the land issue in a context of the climate crisis, food security, international politics and colonialism, covering the spectrum from an international research platform to land-grabbing in the global south and east, to artistic positions. What is the role that land and our handling of land play in safeguarding a climate-friendly future?

The CIRCULAR SOCIETY panel explores how to base our economies on biological and technical cycles and why we have to switch from the linear system of "take, use, waste" towards a truly circular society. Special mention is to be made of key areas, such as food, textiles/clothing and the building sector with the presentation of a number of outstanding initiatives.

The two keynote lectures are held by the internationally acclaimed architect Anna Heringer – Architecture is a Tool to Improve Lives – and the scientist Holly Jean Buck – Can We Reverse Climate Change?.

As honorary professor of the UNESCO Chair of Earthen Architecture, Building Cultures, and Sustainable Development, Anna Heringer's work is ground-breaking for the use of natural building materials and local labour. Her work has received numerous awards: the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture, the OBEL Award, the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, the Loeb Fellowship at Harvard Graduate School of Design and a RIBA International Fellowship. Her works have been extensively presented to the public, including in exhibitions at the MoMA New York, the V&A Museum in London and the Architecture Biennale in Venice.

Holly Jean Buck is a geographer and environmental social scientist studying how emerging technologies can help address environmental challenges and build a regenerative society. She currently works as an Assistant Professor of Environment and Sustainability at the University at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, where she teaches courses in environmental justice and emerging technologies. Her research programme focuses on rural futures and participation in environmental future-making. Her recent book, "After Geoengineering: Climate Tragedy, Repair and Restoration", explores best-case scenarios for carbon dioxide removal.

Sponsor of the conference PLANET MATTERS

 **Federal Ministry**  
**Republic of Austria**  
Climate Action, Environment,  
Energy, Mobility,  
Innovation and Technology

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