

portfolio

pablo calderón salazar (he/him/his)

designer / educator / researcher

profile

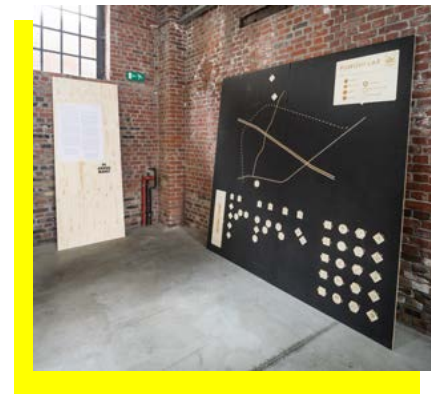
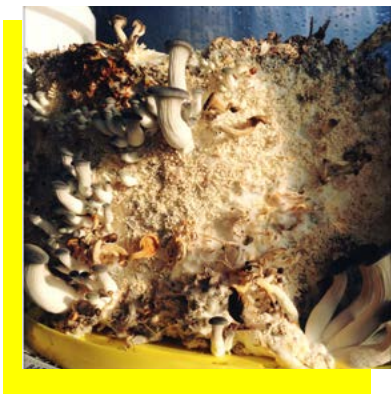
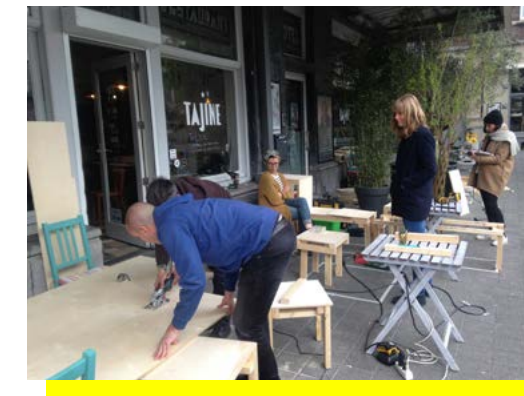
I'm a Colombian designer, educator and researcher.
I studied Industrial Design at the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University (2008), **Social Design (Master in Design)** at the Design Academy of Eindhoven (2013) and I successfully defended my PhD in the Arts (2021) at the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven), for which I was granted a Marie-Curie research scholarship .

I have developed my work as a **border practitioner**, walking along –and trespassing- the borderline between academic and popular knowledge, theory and practice, teaching and creation, as well as between different knowledge domains (my work is situated between design, art, architecture, anthropology, sociology and political science).



creation

A minga in three acts. Hasselt, Belgium. 2017.
Collective work for the adequation and improvement of a common space in front of Hasselt's train station.



Funghi Lab. Genk, Belgium. 2016.
Design and construction of the infrastructure and process for growing organic mushrooms out of waste, and which after resulted in a local cooperative business.

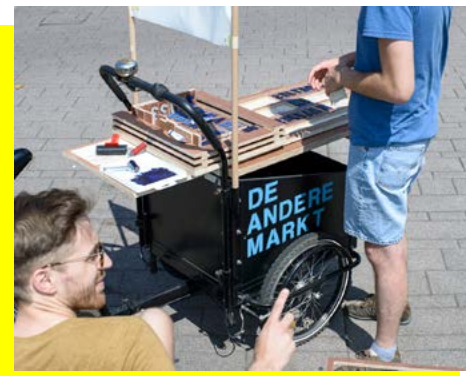
Routes through the roots. Taipei, Taiwan. 2015.
Passport-souvenir and walking tour for the reappropriation of the historic district of Wanhua, by the citizens of Taipei.



La voix de Trassenster. Seraing, Belgium. 2015.
Participatory community re-branding of a run-down neighbourhood, via new slogans (printed in posters and flags) and collective walks.

research

Design and politics of the soup. Bogotá, Colombia. 2020.
Participatory design process set up to support a women's collective of the neighbourhood of Belén, in building and managing a **local community kitchen** (ongoing).



De Andere Markt. Genk, Belgium. 2014-2019.
Living lab and **relational interventions** designed to democratize the discussion -and crafting of alternatives- on the future of work in the city.



TansUrbanLab. Bogotá (Co) - Roubaix (Fr). 2016-2019.
Re-building a **community orchard** under the principles of **permaculture**, designing a self-organization system and facilitating exchange with a community in Roubaix (France).



TRADERS. Europe. 2014-2017.
EU-wide research project aiming to explore the ways in which **artists and designers** could open new ways of **participation in public space** / sphere.

teaching

Critical Dynamics. Bogotá, Colombia. 2018-2020.

Studio course for industrial design undergrads, concerned with understanding the **social narratives** in society and **designing fictions** that put them in question.



Design and narratives for peace. Zipacoa, Colombia. 2019.

Summer course for students of any study program across the university, developed 'on site' with a **community of victims** of the Colombian armed conflict.



CPG (Graduation Course). Bogotá, Colombia. 2018-2020.

Graduation course for industrial design undergrads, focused on **accompanying students** in developing their graduation projects related to **social, political and decolonial topics**.



Citizen / public design module. Genk, Belgium. 2014-2016.

Module for interaction and game design undergrad students, focused on developing **on-site interventions** in **collaboration with communities** in the city.

writing

PD otherwise will be pluriversal (or it won't be). Presented at the PDC conference. 2020.

In this paper we suggest to look at the **experiences with participation** in Latin American social research, as an inspiration for contemporary design practice and research. Furthermore, we put forward the **decolonial notion of 'pluriverse'** as an alternative for design.

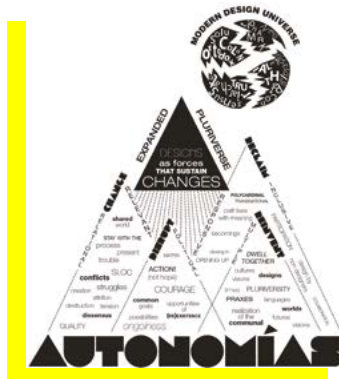


Over the southernmost border of social design, trees are people too. Published in 'Social matter, social design'. Valiz, 2020.

In this text I recount an encounter with an **indigenous philosopher and artist** from southern Colombia's 'misak' peoples, and call for designers to situate their **'place of enunciation'**.

Bourgeois. Entry for 'Designing in Dark Times: an Arendtian Lexicon'. Bloomsbury, 2020.

Through this text we aimed to **question the attempts to 'universalize knowledge'** in design, based on Hanna Arendt's understanding of 'the bourgeois'. Furthermore, we call for designers to embrace **the potential of situatedness** to open space for an expanded design practice



Southern manners in northern lands: design interventions for autonomía. Published in the special edition of the Strategic Design Research Journal on 'autonomía', 2017.

This paper aims to unpack the notion of **'autonomous design'** put forward by Arturo Escobar and suggests a way of conceiving **interventions that respect the internal workings** of communities.

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