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Continuing our enthusiasm for exploring new perspectives within the field of architecture and the built environment, *EAR 38* questions anthropocentric approaches to architecture, emphasising the need to re-evaluate human dominance in the face of environmental concerns and the aftermath of the pandemic. These include investigations that examine human impacts on ecosystems, and exploration of the intersection of the human and the artificial through technological advancements. Following from *EAR37: Moving onwards: Methodological explorations*, we continue our quest to explore new ways of looking at architecture and the built environment. In *EAR38: Navigating boundaries: Architectures beyond human*, we acknowledge the interdisciplinary nature of the field and the necessity to adapt to contemporary issues and envision alternative futures.

In response to the call of *EAR 38*, we received a variety of inter-, multi- and trans-disciplinary proposals with links to spatial practice/architecture where topics such as posthuman architecture, the Anthropocene, plant-human relationships, more-than-human architecture, ecological approaches, and alternative forms of knowledge production were addressed. We were delighted to receive a significant number of intriguing responses, examining various aspects of 'architectures beyond human,' which we have been keen to present to our readers. We have, therefore, decided to split the contributions across two issues.

EAR38: Navigating boundaries: Architectures beyond human No. 1 compiles contributions which revolve around a transformative exploration of the relationship between the built environment and the plant life of our surroundings. It also gathers research centred on the transformative aspects of artistic practices within the built environment, redefining the relationship between art, space and perception. Each paper delves into innovative perspectives that challenge traditional human-centred notions and boundaries, seeking to redefine how we perceive and engage with the world around us.

Charikleia (Haris) Makedonopoulou's paper "Palmscaping Athens: Towards a new reading of the Greek landscape;" Ariel Handel, Ganit Mayslits Kassif, Yael Chen Agmon and Omri Levy's paper "More-than-Human Jerusalem: Rethinking the urban landscape with post-anthropocentric imagination;" and Irene Aldazabal's paper "Assemblages as Ecologies: Sculptural Collaborations with Subterranean Bodies" inquire into the world of plants and ecologies beyond human. Makedonopoulou's paper focuses on the role of plants, particularly palms, and discusses how plants influence not only the physical environment but also cultural and social identities. The paper emphasises the transformative impact of plants as they travel, introducing new species and creating hybrid ecosystems that redefine the idea of urban landscapes. Similarly, Handel, Kassif, Agmon and Levy present a unique perspective on the urban by researching the city of Jerusalem through its more-than-human components. The study explores the intertwining of water, vegetation and soil in the urban space and proposes nature-based solutions for urban resilience, justice and inclusion.

Aldazabal then introduces us to another realm in which more-than-human interactions can be explored—the creation of art—emphasising the collaborative and cooperative nature of fungi and wheatgrass. The paper's focus on subterranean bodies, temporalities and interspecies cooperation reframes the concept of 'assemblages' as ecologies.

Following this, Subham Mukherjee and Arunima Ghosh's paper "Reconfiguring art and architectural meaning, matter, and space with Cornelia Parker's *Cold Dark Matter* (1991)" advocates for a reimagining of artistic practices within the built environment, emphasising the transformative and dynamic nature of art, whether expressed through collaborative assemblages or through the deconstruction of traditional exhibition practices. Both papers highlight the potential for art to redefine our understanding of space, perception and the built environment. Mukherjee and Gosh's work present Cornelia Parker's art as a speculative space that disrupts conventional exhibition practices, offering a non-totalising approach to spatiality and perception. It emphasises the transformative potential of art to produce events and become something more, challenging architectural rigidities in exhibitions. Finally, Emma Van Daal's paper "Entanglement of 'trauma' spaces: how people, place, and objects co-produce the mental, therapeutic, and physical space(s) in trauma-informed design" explores architecture as a therapeutic intervention. Emma problematises the concept of Trauma Informed Design (TID)—an emerging interdisciplinary approach combining architecture and psychology—and argues for a New Materialist turn, challenging anthropocentric assumptions in TID and emphasising its capacity for offering "a dynamic process of 'becoming' trauma-informed that simultaneously drives the 'unbecoming' of trauma."

Our exploration of architectures beyond human, particularly in the realms of plants and art, underscores the limitations of traditional approaches and emphasises the necessity to reassess human dominance, particularly in response to current environmental concerns. The articles in this issue highlight the significance of adopting a posthuman approach, through investigating the impact of human activities on ecosystems and examining the interplay between plants and culture. The articles included in this issue step away from the notion of the environment as conceptually neutral. By questioning/reassessing humanity's agency on the environment, they demonstrate how a posthuman approach can add complexity to various concepts, and they make the case for a more comprehensive and interconnected approach to the built environment.

The subjects covered range from the transformative influence of plants on urban landscapes to the collaborative dynamics between fungi and wheatgrass in the creation of art. By promoting a deeper comprehension of the relationship between human and non-human elements, these studies open new avenues for research, offering fresh insights. This is especially important when dealing with challenges such as urban resilience, mental health interventions, and the redefinition of spatial perceptions. The articles that bring *EAR38: Navigating boundaries: Architectures beyond human No.1* to life, enable a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of the complex relationships that shape our built environment.