

WASTORIES



GLOSSARY

ALUMINA

Alumina, also known as aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3), is a white, nearly colourless crystalline substance. It's a key component in the production of aluminum metal and has also various industrial applications due to its high hardness, chemical stability and electrical insulation properties. Alumina is primarily produced from bauxite ore through the Bayer process.



BAUXITE

Bauxite is a sedimentary rock with a relatively high aluminium content. It is the world's main source of aluminium and gallium.

BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life on earth at all levels, from genes to ecosystems. It encompasses plants, animals, microorganisms and the ecosystems they form. This variety is not static, but constantly changing. Human activities have significantly impacted biodiversity, leading to habitat loss, pollution, climate change and species extinction. Protecting biodiversity is essential for the well-being of both the planet and humanity.

C RADLE TO CRADLE



« Cradle to Cradle » (C2C) is a design principle focused on creating products and systems that are safe and beneficial for humans and the environment, ensuring materials can be perpetually reused in closed-loop cycles. It essentially envisions a world where materials don't become waste but rather serve as nutrients for new products, either in biological or technical cycles. This contrasts with the traditional "cradle to grave" approach, where products are discarded after use.

RED DUST

Red dust can refer to several things, but most commonly it describes the fine, reddish-brown powder caused by the oxidation of iron-rich minerals in soil, especially in dry climates. In a cultural context, "red dust" can also represent the mortal world, or the hustle and bustle of a busy city.



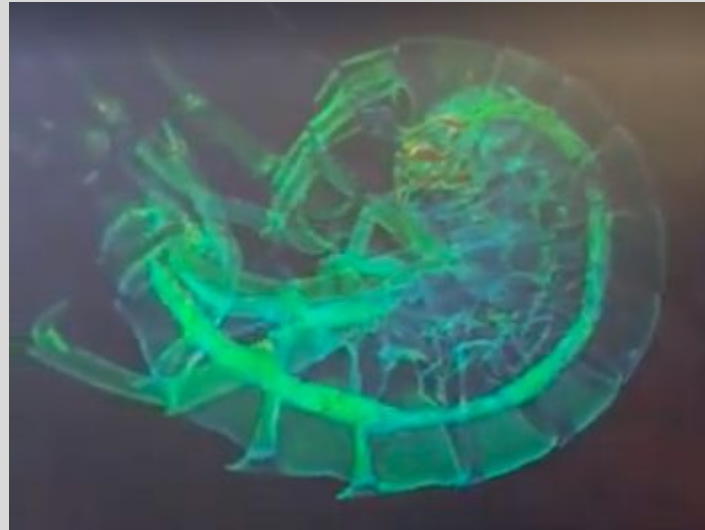
EUTROPHICATION

Eutrophication is a process where a body of water (like a lake, river or coastal area) becomes overly enriched with nutrients, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, leading to excessive growth of algae and other plants. When the algae die, bacteria break them down, thereby using up the oxygen in the water. Fish and other aquatic life can suffocate and die, and the water may become murky, smelly and lifeless. Some algae, notably cyanobacteria, can produce toxins that are dangerous to human and animal health. In addition, the decomposition of algae can release hydrogen sulfide, a toxic gas.



GAMMARUS

A gammarus is a genus of amphipod crustaceans commonly known as freshwater shrimp or scuds. They are small, typically less than 2 cm long, and have a laterally compressed, curved body. Gammarus are found in various freshwater habitats like streams, rivers and lakes, and some species can tolerate brackish water. They are an important part of the ecosystem, serving as a food source for many animals and playing a role in the decomposition of organic matter.





GRAVIORIS CAELI

In Rome, air pollution was known as *gravioris caeli* (heavy heavens) or *infamis aer* (infamous air), and it could be both a blessing and a curse. As the Roman poet Horace wrote: “Cease for a moment to admire the smoke, the wealth, the noise of Rome...”

HELLGIRLS

An endangered species of mountain goat that originally comes from the Salzburg region. For the past forty years, the HELLGIRLS have been living on the landfill mound Rautenweg in Vienna, grazing among the residue from the city's waste incineration plants.

> publication of "Reasons to be Cheerful" about hellgirls and the site - [Is This the World's Most Eco-Friendly Landfill?](#)



INCINERATION

Incineration is a waste treatment process that involves the combustion of organic substances contained in waste materials. It involves burning of waste at high temperatures, typically in an incinerator. Its purpose is to reduce the volume and mass of waste and sometimes to generate energy. By-products of incineration are bottom ash (solid residue), flue gases or energy like electricity or heat.



IQALUIT

In 1999, Canada ceded a territory to the Inuit. The size of this territory is similar to that of Western Europe. The Inuit have chosen Iqaluit as their capital. A city that pretends to be bigger than it actually is. Accessible only by air. 20 years ago: 6,000 inhabitants, 2,500 cars. Only 25 kilometers of roads.



In 2005, the BERLIN documentary theater company spent a month in the Arctic, in this new capital of the Inuit. The material was documentary-style, and the result was an installation with seven screens showing seven different scenes of exactly the same length. More recently, BERLIN decided to create YOUTURN, a project designed to enable other artists to re-use BERLIN's video archives in new contexts. Iqaluit appears in a scene from WASTORIES (see the left photo).



RED MUD

Red mud, also known as bauxite residue, is a by-product of aluminum production from bauxite ore, primarily through the Bayer process. It's a reddish-brown, highly alkaline, and fine-grained material that poses significant environmental challenges due to its caustic nature and potential for containing heavy metals. For every ton of alumina produced, nearly 1-2 tons of red mud are generated.

REVERSIBILITY

Reversibility is a concept that refers to the ability of a system, process, or change to be undone or returned to its original state. In the context of eutrophication and biodiversity, reversibility refers to how easily or to what extent an ecosystem can return to its original state (or a healthy state) after being disturbed or degraded.

SCHUBART

Christian Friedrich Daniel Schubart (1739 Obersontheim – 1791, Stuttgart) was a German poet, organist, composer, and journalist. He gained historical significance particularly through his sharply worded, socially critical writings, in which he publicly denounced the absolutist rule and its decadence in the Duchy of Württemberg at the time. His poem “Die Forelle” was set to music by Franz Schubert. But Schubert cut the last stanza of the poem, which explicitly urges young people to resist and protect the trout.

TITANIUM DIOXIDE

Titanium dioxide (TiO_2) is a naturally occurring oxide of titanium, widely used as a pigment and sunscreen ingredient. It's known for its high refractive index, making it effective at scattering light and providing opacity and brightness in various products. Titanium dioxide is a key ingredient in paints, coatings, plastics and paper, providing white color and opacity. In sunscreen, it protects against both UVA and UVB rays. While it was previously used as a food coloring, it's been banned in the EU and some other countries due to safety concerns. Red mud, a waste product of alumina production, contains significant amounts of titanium dioxide, typically ranging from 4% to 15%. There have been concerns regarding its potential health risks, particularly when inhaled as a powder.



TROUTS & *TRUITOMÈTRES*, PARIS XIV

Trouts are known for their distinctive spots, slender bodies and preference for cool, clear waters. Franz Schubert's famous song "Die Forelle" is about the joy of watching a trout swim in clear waters, evading the angler's rod.

Unfortunately, the fish is eventually caught. The first two verses of the song are set to the same stable, cheerful music. For the final verse, Schubert moves to a different harmonic area, an end suggesting a greater sympathy for the tricked trout than for the victorious fisherman.



At the entrance to the Montsouris water reservoir, one of the five largest drinking water reservoirs in Paris, old aquariums are installed in a faux rock wall. They once contained trout, which are sensitive to pollution. Called *truitomètres*, they were used to test water quality. If the trout showed signs of weakness, the water was considered polluted and was directed to the sewer.



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Slide 11: BERLIN - <https://berlinberlin.be/en/productions/iqaluit>

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