

ikkii\ it's cold

ABSTRACT

ENGLISH

The structure celebrates inuit ingenuity, through both adaptation and resistance, to the changing surrounding ecological and cultural phenomena. It seeks to celebrate the unprecedented new encounter with the cold through the display of traditional food related resources, skills and craft, while also bringing awareness to the rapidly changing contemporary conditions of these traditions as a result of climate change and colonization of knowledge. The resulting architectural intervention seeks to respond to these threats through both symbolic and functional gestures of design advocacy.

Acting as a cold embrace, the sculptural structure gathers and protects community members to support traditional knowledge and skill building, through the medium of food security. The cold is an essential resource supporting the fragile food network of northern communities.¹ Anthropogenic climate change is a direct assault on the limited food resources and traditional knowledge supporting the sustainability of arctic cultures.² Advocating for the ‘right to be cold,’ as described by Shelia Watt-Coultier, challenges these conditions impacting vital resources for arctic communities.³ The proposed adaptable, architectural intervention offers a series of functions supporting the local food network through means of cold storage, drying and preparation spaces as well as a symbolic sculptural form rooted in traditional building.

The form takes its cues from traditional whale bone structures, while its subsidiary functions such as integrated storage, preparation surfaces and aquatic meshes are adapted to the unique contemporary needs of its community. The structure expresses the aforementioned theoretical and functional frameworks through a sculptural ‘porch’. The porch, as an inuit architectural intervention, represents a place where all are welcome, and acts as a threshold into home.⁴ The structure’s representation of the porch symbolizes the entering into a new approach for this design which brings together traditional and modern food networks, celebrating the inuit experience of cold.

¹ “Arctic Adaptations : Nunavut at 15,” Canada at the 14th International Architecture Exhibition Biennale di Venezia, Lateral Office, last modified 2014, https://www.archdaily.com/514644/inside-arctic-adaptions-special-mention-winner-at-the-venice-biennale-2014?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter.

² Sheila Watt-Cloutier, “The right to be cold” in *The Right to be Cold*, (New York: Penguin, 2015), Chapter 7.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Andréanne Brière, et Frédéric Laugrand, “Maisons en communauté et cabanes dans la toundra : appropriation partielle, adaptation et nomadisme chez les Inuits du Nunavik et du Nunavut,” *Recherches amérindiennes au Québec* 47, no. 1 (January 2018): 35-48, <https://doi.org/10.7202/1042897ar>.

ikkii\ c'est froid

RÉSUMÉ

FRANÇAIS

La structure célèbre l'ingéniosité des Inuits, à la fois par l'adaptation et la résistance, aux phénomènes écologiques et culturels changeants qui les entourent. Elle cherche à célébrer la nouvelle rencontre sans précédent avec le froid à travers l'exposition des ressources, des compétences et de l'artisanat traditionnels liés à la nourriture, tout en sensibilisant aux conditions contemporaines rapidement changeantes de ces traditions en raison du changement climatique et de la colonisation des connaissances. L'intervention architecturale qui en résulte, cherche à répondre à ces menaces par des gestes à la fois symboliques et fonctionnels de défense du design.

Agissant comme une étreinte froide, la structure sculpturale rassemble et protège les membres de la communauté pour soutenir le savoir traditionnel et le développement des compétences, par le biais de la sécurité alimentaire. Le froid est une ressource essentielle qui soutient le fragile réseau alimentaire des communautés nordiques.¹ Le changement climatique anthropique est une attaque directe contre les ressources alimentaires limitées et les connaissances traditionnelles qui soutiennent la durabilité des cultures arctiques.² La défense du “droit d'avoir froid”, tel que décrit par Sheila Watt-Coultier, remet en question ces conditions qui ont un impact sur les ressources vitales des communautés arctiques.³ L'intervention architecturale adaptable proposée offre une série de fonctions soutenant le réseau alimentaire local par le biais d'espaces de stockage, de séchage et de préparation du froid, ainsi qu'une forme sculpturale symbolique enracinée dans la construction traditionnelle.

La forme s'inspire des structures traditionnelles en os de baleine, tandis que ses fonctions subsidiaires, telles que le stockage intégré, les surfaces de préparation et les mailles aquatiques, sont adaptées aux besoins contemporains uniques de sa communauté. La structure exprime les cadres théoriques et fonctionnels susmentionnés à travers un “porche” sculptural. Le porche, en tant qu'intervention architecturale inuit, représente un lieu où tous sont les bienvenus, et agit comme un seuil d'entrée dans la maison.⁴ La représentation du porche dans la structure symbolise l'entrée dans une nouvelle approche pour ce design qui réunit les réseaux alimentaires traditionnels et modernes, célébrant l'expérience inuit du froid.

1 “Arctic Adaptations : Nunavut at 15,” Canada at the 14th International Architecture Exhibition Biennale di Venezia, Lateral Office, last modified 2014, https://www.archdaily.com/514644/inside-arctic-adaptions-special-mention-winner-at-the-venice-biennale-2014?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter.

2 Sheila Watt-Cloutier, “The right to be cold” in *The Right to be Cold*, (New York: Penguin, 2015), Chapter 7.

3 Ibid.

4 Andréanne Brière, et Frédéric Laugrand, “Maisons en communauté et cabanes dans la toundra : appropriation partielle, adaptation et nomadisme chez les Inuits du Nunavik et du Nunavut,” *Recherches amérindiennes au Québec* 47, no. 1 (January 2018): 35-48, <https://doi.org/10.7202/1042897ar>.

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