



(UN)ROOTED

A N I N T E R A C T I V E I N S T A L L A T I O N
E X P L O R I N G B E L O N G I N G , G R O W T H &
C O N N E C T I O N

Mid Term Presentation
Fabricademy 2025/2026
Johanna Schründer



How am I rooted when everything is in motion?



image credits: Peter Marlow/Magnum Photos

- We live in a time of continuous mobility
- Places, identities, and relationships are fluid
- Rootedness as a Process
- Rooting is no longer only physical or social. It also exists in digital space.

INSTALLATION - Reconnecting with our roots

- Inviting people to reconnect with their roots and experience a sense of groundedness.
- The installation creates space to reflect on what it means to feel rooted—physically, emotionally, and collectively.



ROOTS & PARAMETRIC DESIGN

- Blanket is main exhibition piece
- Participants grow roots in individually designed molds based on questionnaire responses.
- Parametric molds reflect each participant's relationship to their roots.
- Grown roots are returned and assembled into a quilted blanket.



SENSORS & INTERACTION



AI-generated image

- **Proximity sensor**
Amplifies root growth sounds I recorded during the growing process — louder when close, silent when distant.
- **Touch sensor**
Triggers video projection of the root growth footage I filmed.
- Visitors interact directly with the roots, experiencing connection through movement and touch.

QUESTIONNAIRE

- Each participant completed a questionnaire exploring their sense of rootedness
- The responses were translated into Rhino to generate unique parametric designs
- Each design forms a personal mold—a space for participants to grow their own roots

(UN)ROOTED

I invite you to fill out the questionnaire and select the answers that resonate most with you. There are no right or wrong responses. Take your time and follow your intuition.

1 • Your Deepest Root

Where do you feel the strongest sense of belonging? This could be a place, a relationship, a memory, or a moment.

Place Memory Relationships

How strong does this sense of belonging feel?

1 ●●●●●●●●●● 10 Scale 1-10 (1 = loose, fragile · 10 = dense, supportive)

2 • Living In-Between

How much do you live "in between" different identities, languages, cultures, or roles? Does your inner path feel clear — or searching and winding?

1 ●●●●●●●●●● 10 Scale 1-10 (1 = straight, defined · 10 = curved, meandering)

3 • Your Nourishing Circle

How many people form your close social ground? Those who support, witness, or accompany you.

1 - a single anchor 4-7 supportive soil 2-3 - a quite circle 8+ -living earth

Do these relationships feel stable or in transition?

← transition ●●●●●●●●●● stable →

4 • Connection and Independence

How do your relationships grow? Do they intertwine closely — or extend outward independently?

← strongly bound ●●●●●●●●●● independent →

5 • Reflection

If your roots could breathe one word, what would rise from the ground?

Home Lost Curious Free Entwined

Your name:

Thank you for sharing your inner landscape. Your responses will be converted into a mold shaped by your personal answers. From it, your roots will grow and merge with others, forming a collective root blanket.

GRASHOPPER - PARAMETRIC DESIGN

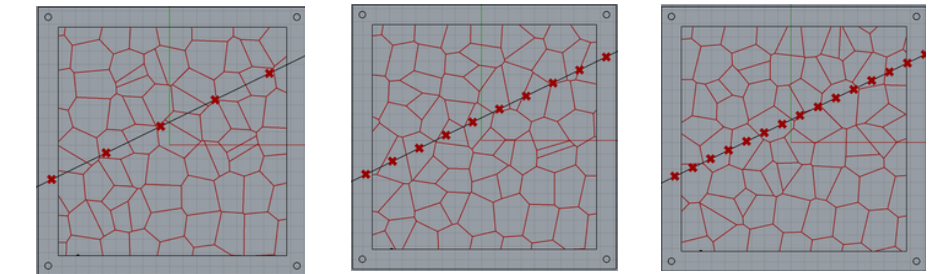
Question	Answer	Translation	Grashopper
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1 • Your Deepest Root

a. Where do you feel the strongest sense of belonging ?

Place
Memory
Relationships

Decides on amount of points on the attractor curve



Place = 10

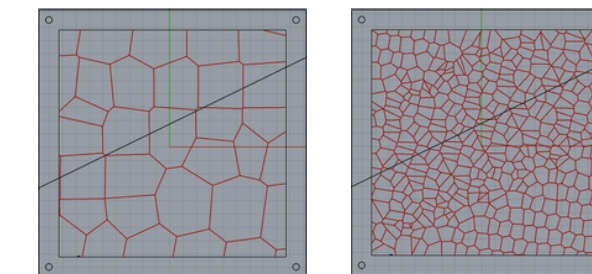
Memory = 20

Relationship = 30

b. How strong does this sense of belonging feel?

Scale 1-10
1 = loose
10 = dense

Number of points in voronoi pattern
1 = low number of points
10 = high number of points



1 = loose

10 = dense

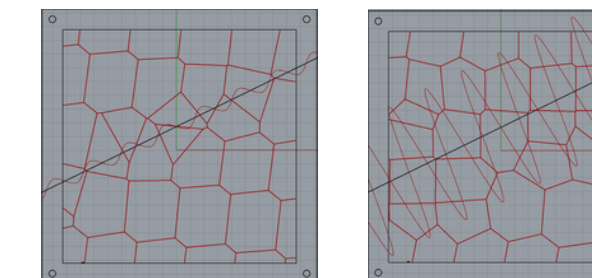
2 • Living In-Between

How much do you live “in between” different identities, languages, cultures, or roles.

Does your inner path feel clear — or searching and winding?

Scale 1-10
1 = clear
10 = winding

Influences attractor curve
→ straight or winding
1 = straight
10 = strongly curved



1 = clear

10 = winding

GRASHOPPER - PARAMETRIC DESIGN

Question

Answer

Translation

Grashopper

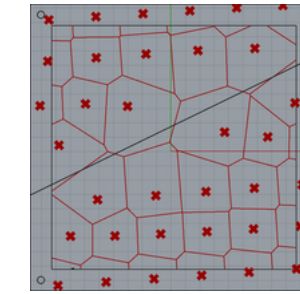
3 • Your Nourishing Circle

a. How many people form your close social ground?

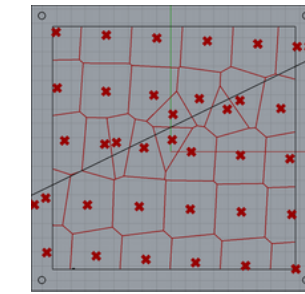
1 - a single anchor
2-3 - a quite circle
4-7 supportive soil
8+ -living earth

Distance of vonoroi center points to attractor curve

1 = points are further away from attractor curve = cells are bigger in the center
8 = points are closer to the attrator curve = vonoroi cells smaller in the center



1 - a single anchor



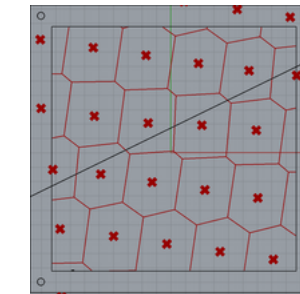
8+ -living earth

b. Do these relationships feel stable or in transition?

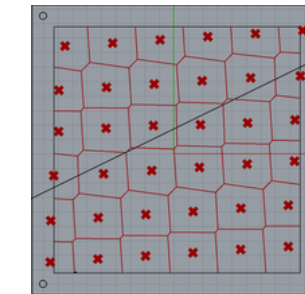
Scale 1-10
1 = in transition
10= stable

Distance between vonoroi center points = size

1= high distance between cells
10= low distance



1 = in transition



10 = stable

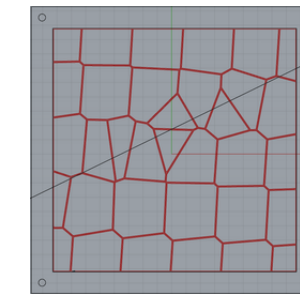
4 • Connection and Independence

How do your relationships grow?
Do they intertwine closely — or extend outward independently?

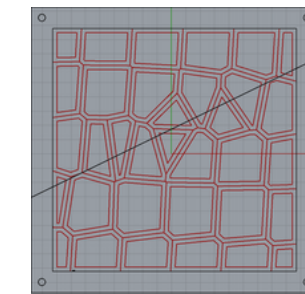
Scale 1-10
1 = independent
10= strongly bound

thickness of vonoroi cell walls

1= thin vonoroi walls
10= thick vonoroi wall



1 = indepenent



10 = strongly bound

5 • Reflection

If your roots could breathe one word, what would rise from the ground?

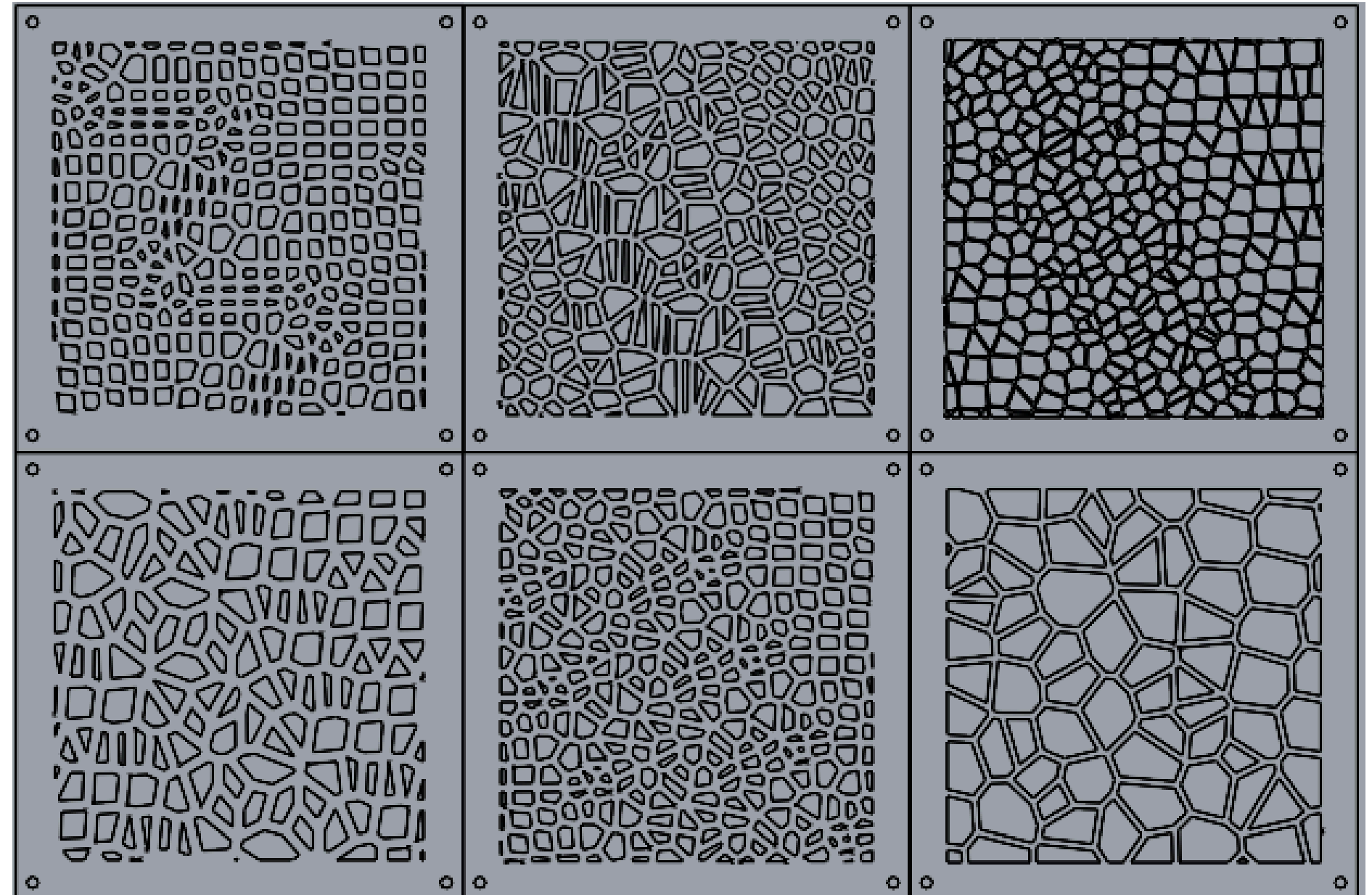
Home Entwined
Lost Curious
Free

type of seed participants receive

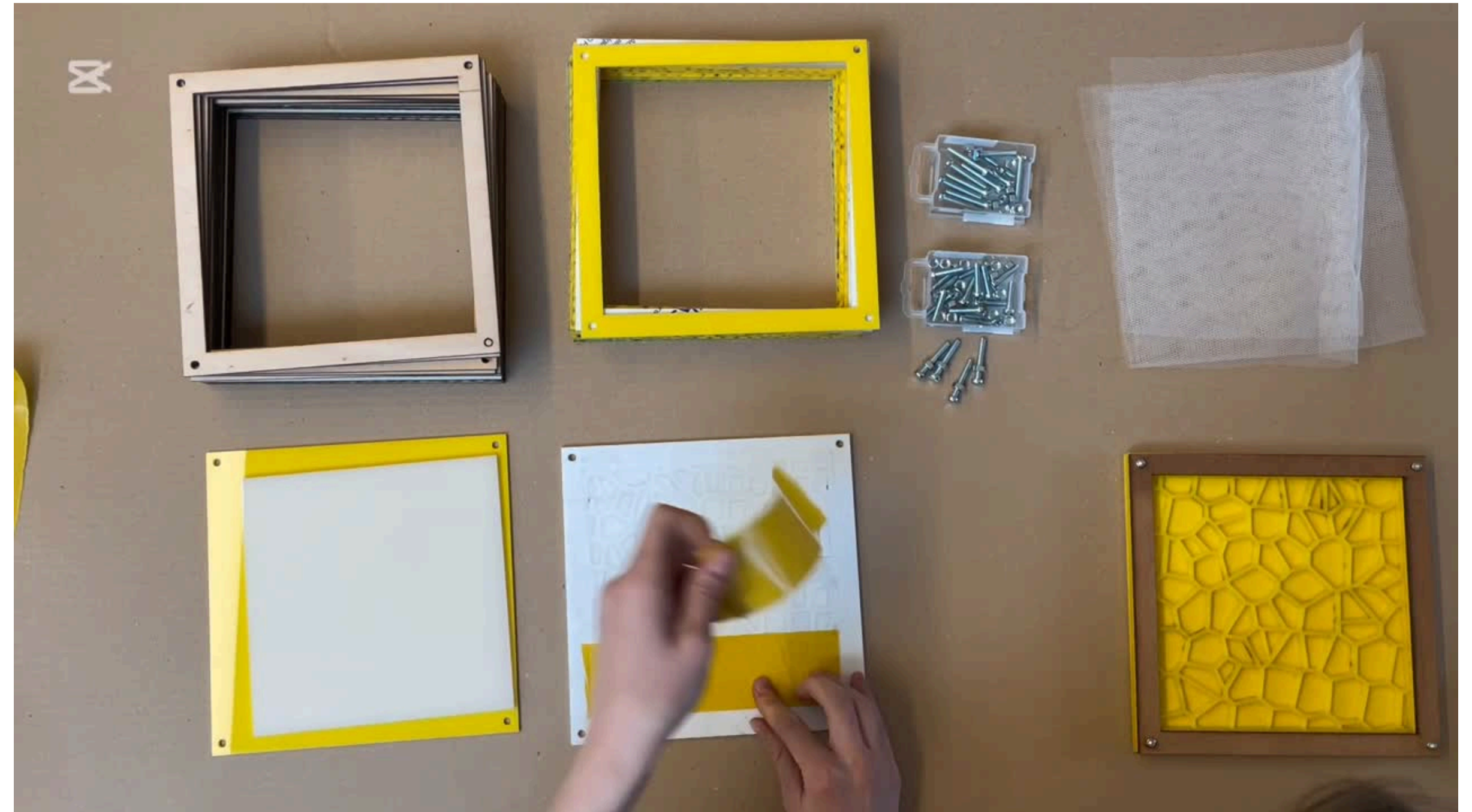
wheat → Home, entwined
barley → Lost, Free, Curious
(no grasshopper parameter)

INDIVIDUAL MOLD DESIGN

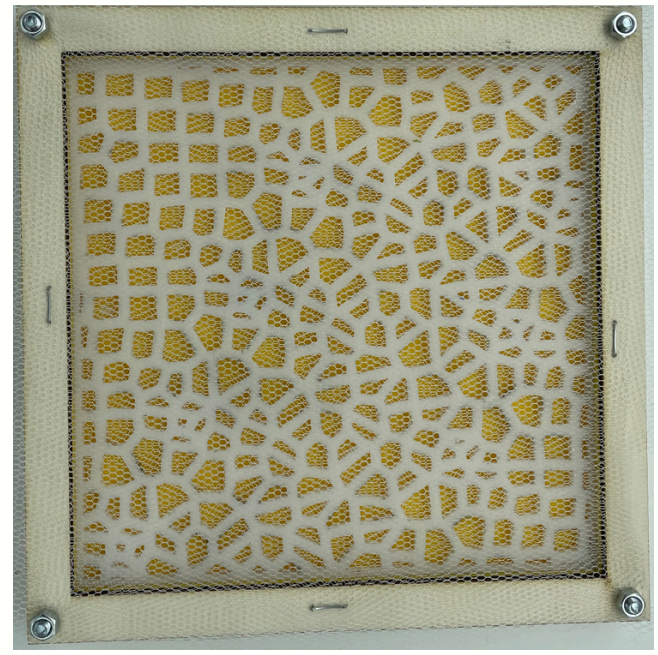
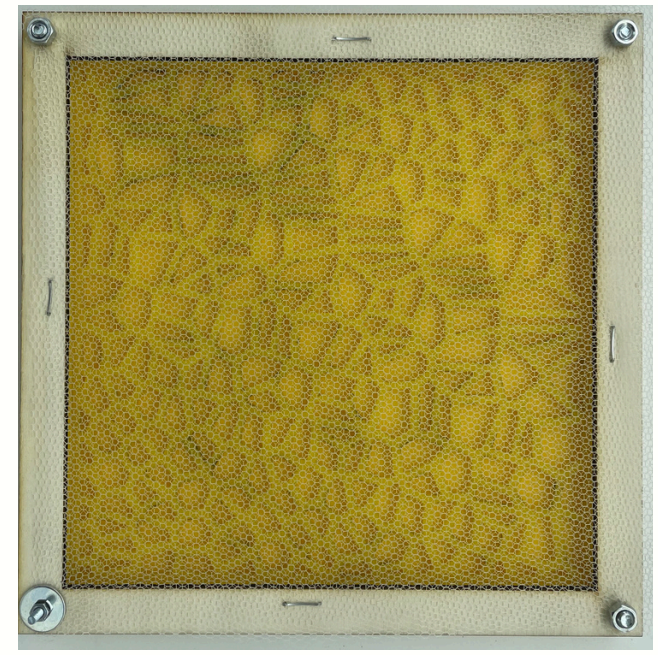
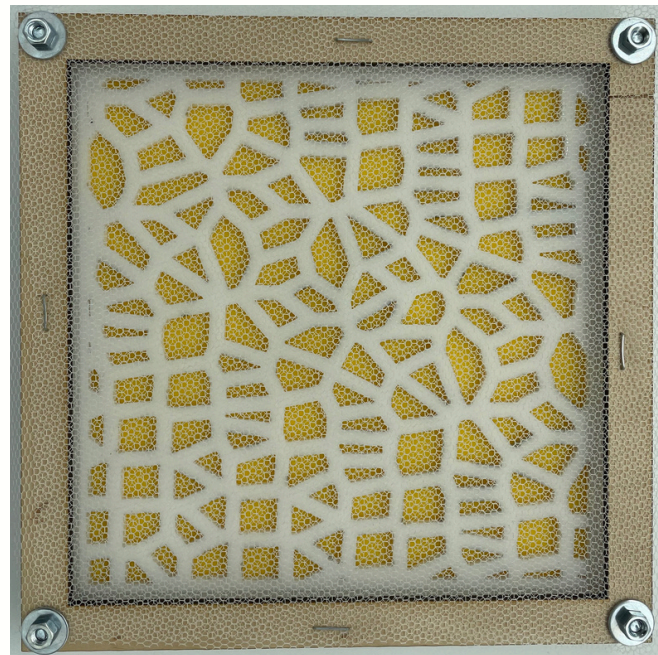
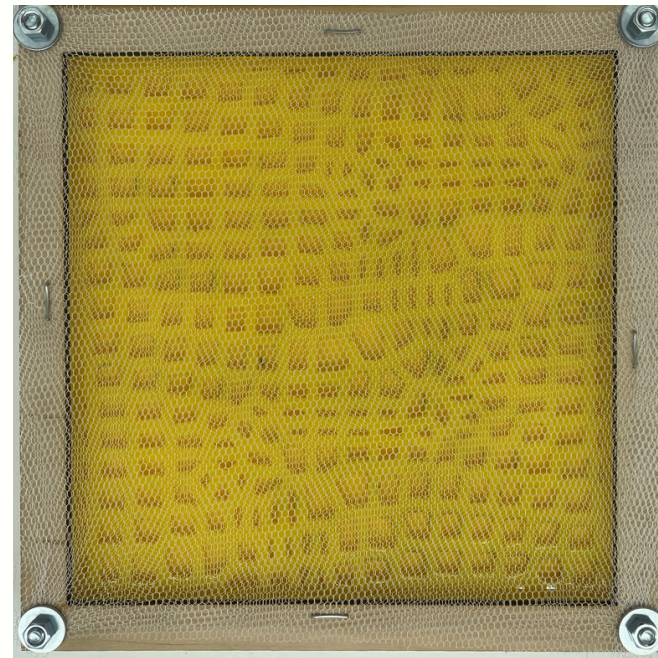
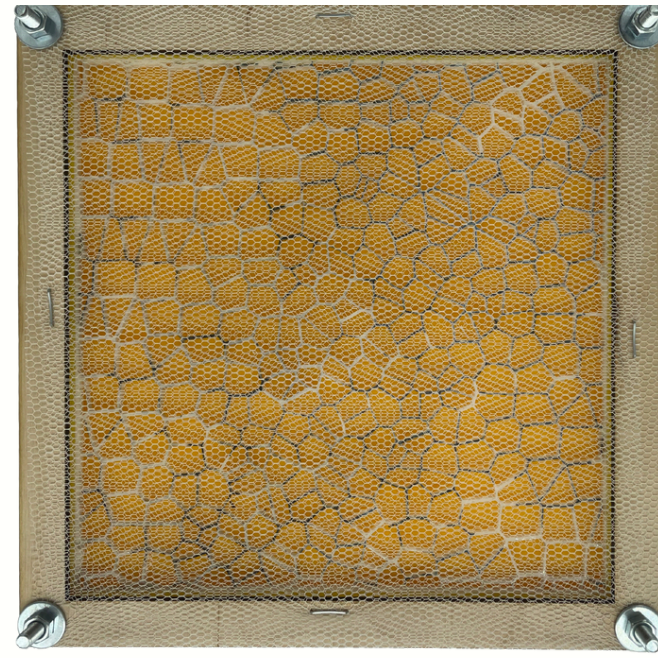
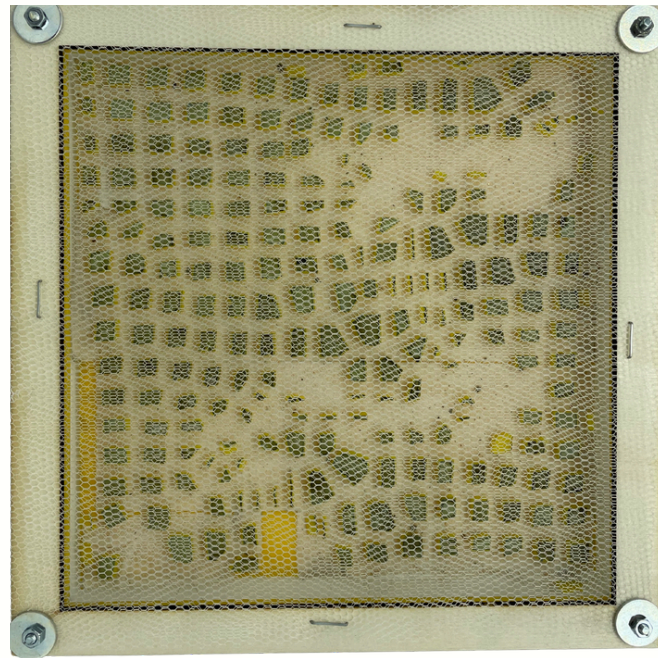
- individual molds of 6 participants based on (Un)rooted questionnaire
- laser cutted out of acrylics and wood



BUILDING THE MOLDES



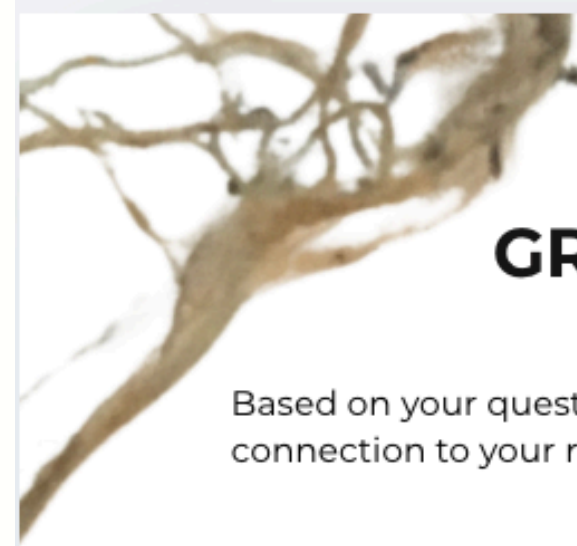
PREPARED MOLDES



GROWING KIT

● Participants receive a growing kit containing:

- individual mold
- seeds
- growing instruction

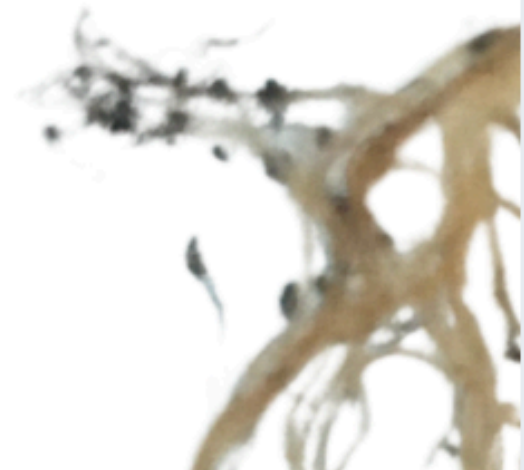


GROWING YOUR OWN ROOTS

Based on your questionnaire, a parametric design has been created that reflects your personal connection to your roots. Over the next two weeks, you'll have the chance to let your own roots grow.

How to do it:

1. Soak the seeds for 20 minutes in a mixture of white vinegar and water (1:3 vinegar to water) to clean them and prevent mold. Rinse them thoroughly afterward.
2. Then soak them overnight (about 8 hours) in water. Rinse once more and place them in a sieve to drain.
3. Transfer the seeds to a large bowl or a growing box and keep them in a bright place for 2–3 days.
4. Rinse them twice a day with clean water, drain them, and return them to the box. As soon as the seeds begin to sprout, place them into the prepared form and let them grow.
5. Make sure the seeds stay moist but do not dry out—spray them daily with a little water from a spray bottle. Avoid overwatering or letting them sit in water.
6. You can now watch how the roots grow into the form while the grass starts to grow above it. After about 10–12 days, the roots will be fully developed.
7. Once the roots are ready, you can bring them back to me, and I will incorporate them into the collective tapestry.



SEEDS

WHEAT GRASS
Triticium aestivum



BARLEY
Hordeum vulgare



ROOT FARM



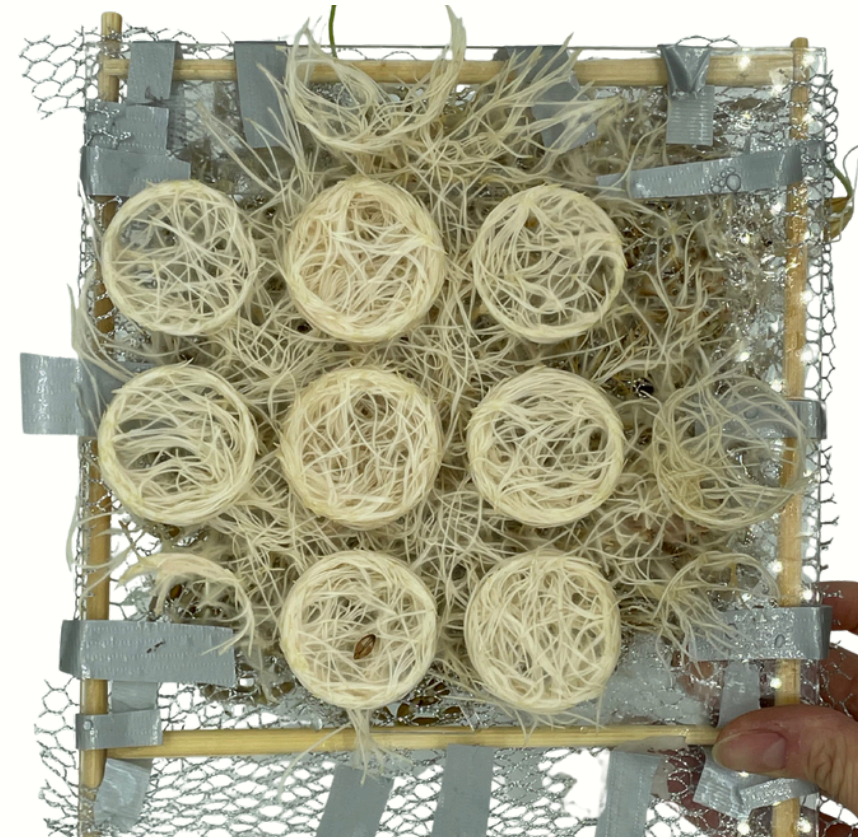
BARLEY



3 days



10 days - front



10 days - back



dried

HARVESTING ROOTS



DRIED ROOTS





THANK YOU