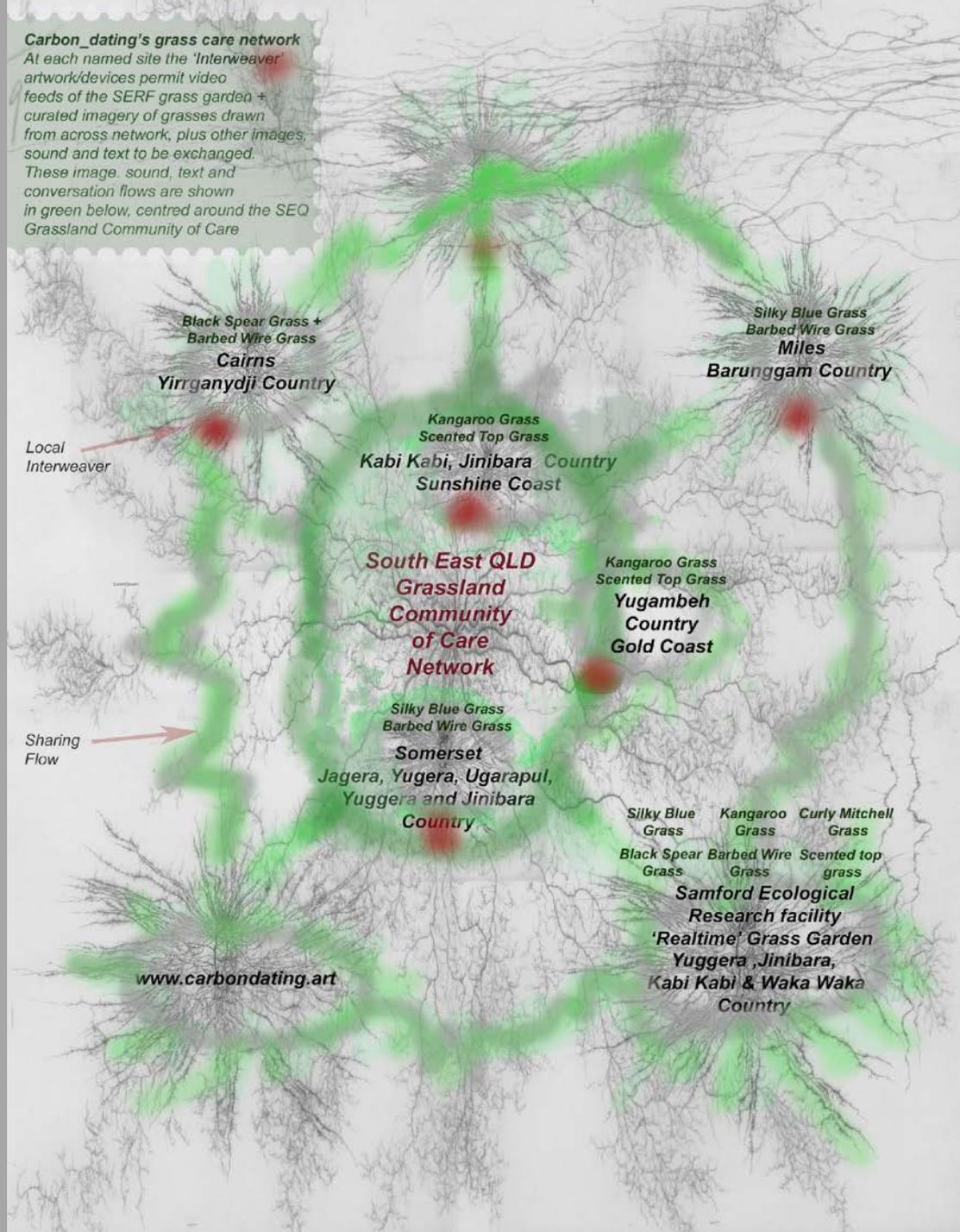
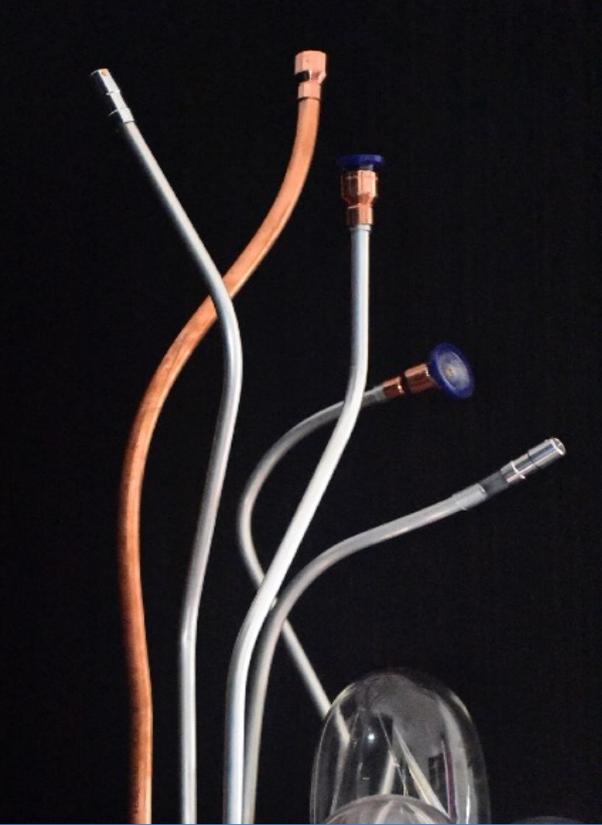


Carbon_Dating

Weaving a Care Network
for Native Grasses & Grasslands
(Information for Carers)

Carbon_dating's grass care network
At each named site the 'Interweaver'
artwork/devices permit video
feeds of the SERF grass garden +
curated imagery of grasses drawn
from across network, plus other images,
sound and text to be exchanged.
These image, sound, text and
conversation flows are shown
in green below, centred around the SEQ
Grassland Community of Care





Interweaver + Carer



Planting



Native Grasslands

Carbon Dating consists of 6 x 'Interweaver & carer experiences', 6 x local native grasses plantings and connections to local native grasses and grasslands. These elements are woven together with by a connecting website (www.carbondating.art) that documents the project's progress and explores and celebrates rich cultures and knowledges around native grasses and grasslands.

Carbon Dating is distributed across 6 Queensland sites, located (by definition) on Indigenous land and each located within a separate bioregion. Each site is framed by a local iconic native grass species, strongly informed by local cultural and scientific knowledges. Carers and their 'Interweavers' will work together over summer 2022, connected via the Internet to the projects' website *carbondating.art* and they will each receive a daily stream of grass growth imagery from the project's dedicated 'grassland' planting. Our 'Grassland Community of Care Artist' will help link all the carers, sites and activities together, leading towards a concluding even in late 2022.

Each site's participant-carer is supported by a local host arts organisation. Their role is to look after the Interweaver, be an advocate for native grasses and to communicate with the project through image, text and sound when prompted by Carbon Dating's 'Grassland Community of Care artist'. Exhibitions of these process outcomes will be developed into a touring exhibition in 2023-4.

CONCEPT ONLY

Prototype Mark II_Artwork Concept

BREATH / RESPIRATION
 Breath exchange tube
 Symboitic exchange of breath
 [breath activates
 kaleidoscope
 image and sound]
COMMUNICATION
 Speaking to the grass
 [metaphorical]

This device uses
 4 of the 5 senses to
 aid in relationship
 building.

SOUND
 Speakers play sounds composed by
 Luke Lickfold inspired by data feeds from
 SERF Grasslands

SMELL
 Essential oils
 [Native Grass TBC]

SIGHT
 Kaleidoscope of grass imagery
 from SERF Grassland

TOUCH
 When hand placed over solar
 sensor - light activated to reveal
 Native grass seed

SIGHT
 Data/Text screen [prompts from Daniele
 + data readings from SERF]

The device is designed to be a gateway/
 initial introduction to native grasses with
 the ultimate goal of the
 participant building a deep committed
 relationship with native grasslands;
 through a staged approach:

- a. Attraction: Interweaver
- b. Attachment: Community of Care
- c. Commitment: Planting seed

Ref: Stomata
 (dynamic view of respiration)
 Imagery from SERF Grassland
 viewed through a kaleidoscope
 mechanism.



NATIVE SEEDS: to be planted at the end of the Interweaver
 experience to complete the 'Love Affair/Relationship' with a
 commitment to care, nurture and love our Native Grasslands.

- Materiality:**
1. Copper tubes ref:
energy transfer
between human/grass
 2. Solar panel ref:
photosynthesis
 3. Tubes ref:
nutrient/O2+CO2
flows
 4. Glass balls ref:
closed loop system
Biosphere ; and
Cellular processes of
C4 plants. [light
dependant reactions]

NOTE: Glassware not final forms,
 indicative of placement only.

The Interweaver: An Interspecies Relationship Device

Each participant-carer is given a unique 'Interweaver' device/sculpture - a Wi-Fi enabled sculpture/device that they can keep in their home or workplace. About the size of a small electric appliance, this aesthetic object has a range of functions from sculptural object audio-visual display, text display, seed store and breath receptor. It also connects to daily images from a grassland patch located at Samford Ecological Research Station (SERF) – which they witness through a mirrored, kaleidoscopic display.

The unit sits in the carer's domestic or work environment and becomes a part of their; daily lives - just asking to be attended to at minimum once per day.

The Interweaver's miniature kaleidoscopic video screen and text display images of grasses, sound and interpreted environmental data, gathered live from the grasslands @ SERF.

These digital elements are each activated by a breathing tube, which symbolically captures the participant-carers contribution of CO₂ - i.e., their exhaled breath that 'feeds' the local grasses photosynthetic needs.

Together the participants develop six one-to-one durational 'performance experiences' over the three months, focussed around their caring for grasses - that online audiences can also observe key elements of via the projects connecting website and social media feeds.



The Planting:

In addition to the 'Interweaver' a small grassland garden or planting will be established at each site from a custom planting kit that we send out. These plantings will be prepared and imagined as small artworks in themselves - and also as places for fostering the appreciation and understanding of native grasses for the broader public.

These mini grassland gardens will be optimally maintained where possible and promoted as sites for wonder and imaginative meetings around plant-human connectivities. Each site therefore becomes a special place that the participant/carer will visit periodically, to either tend or simply to spend time with, getting to know the local grasses more intimately.

This ensures that each site is both a place of ecological/cultural heritage, and part of the larger work of art - becoming a place for gathering, conversation, meditation and relaxation, as well as being one of the project's local legacies.



Native Grasslands:

Each 'Interweaver' and their participant carer build a further connection with a local native grassland area, situated reasonably close to their home - which they are periodically asked to visit, tend to and spend time with.

It is assumed that these native grasses will grow somewhere relatively close by, and already be established.

Once these six consensual' private/public partnerships, have been initiated, our 'Grassland Community of Care Artist' will fertilise those relationships through weekly messages, instructions and prompts, in text, image and sound, delivered regularly to 'Interweavers' (over 3 months).

These cues will relate to the daily ritual of tending to the Interweaver, the grass plantings, whilst also occasionally asking participants to visit the remote site as part of their deepening engagement with the local native grasses. Participants will be asked to document and respond to their experience at times of their choice - in order to share their learnings with the project network.