

# AUSTRAL

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**Hosted by:** Tim Couwenberg

## Project Information (EN)

Hello, I'm Tim Couwenberg, an artist and design student at the Amsterdam Fashion Institute, and I'm passionate about redefining sustainability through my work. At INNOVY, we're dedicated to creating innovative plant-based biomaterials that push the boundaries of what's possible in design. Our materials, crafted from a unique blend of eco-friendly ingredients, are 100% biodegradable and incredibly versatile. We're part of the global movement exploring the Symbiocene, a concept that emphasizes balance between people, technology, and nature. Our research here at INNOVY explores how we can learn from and develop natural systems, fostering cross-disciplinary collaboration among artists, designers, scientists, and writers from around the world. Together, we're delving into the future of our food, energy, and climate solutions, embracing the fusion of art, design, and biodesign known as bioart. Through our work, we aim to make the invisible world visible, question the status quo, and experiment with new possibilities. The Symbiocene concept calls for a harmonious coexistence of humans, technology, and nature, a stark contrast to the Anthropocene period we are transitioning away from. As an artist, my role is to inspire, provoke thought, and explore innovative ideas. Bioart, the fusion of art and biodesign, is at the heart of our approach. It allows us to use art as a medium to raise questions and provide unique perspectives on complex issues, including the climate crisis. In the realm of sustainability, I've come to appreciate that it's not just about creating new materials, but also about producing smarter materials that align with the circular economy. Nature itself operates without waste, and by mimicking its intricate systems, we can develop materials that can be more easily reintegrated into natural cycles. It's a journey towards the Symbiocene, where we aim to coexist and thrive alongside the natural world. The future may seem uncertain, but I firmly believe that trust, collaboration, and innovation are our tools for overcoming challenges. At INNOVY, we foster a trusting environment for young talents to explore, question, and experiment. Our upcoming exhibition, 'The Symbiocene Forest,' reflects this trust in the future and in each other. Together, we're making strides toward a more sustainable and harmonious world through our dedication to eco-conscious design and biomaterial innovation.

## Image List

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The images above are included in the ZIP under /images.