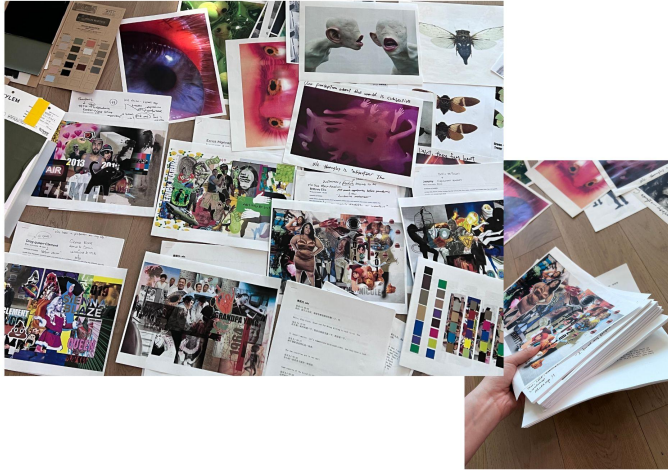


**Name(s):**

Hanwei Su, BFA Fashion design, Parsons, 2022

Ziyu Zhang, MPS fashion management, Parsons, 2022

**Project Title:** The Mind's Eye

Our current project is aimed to raise social awareness and understanding towards the visually impaired group through Design X Technology. By the end of this project, we will deliver a fashion collection that embeds voices(real stories and insights from the group) into garments through media and technology such as QR codes or other immersive approaches so that the general audience can be educated through this effortless and impactful way. The team currently has two members, VV (Hanwei) SU-myself, a senior fashion design student at Parsons, and Grace (Ziyu) ZHANG, who graduated from BFA fashion design major last year

now is an MPS fashion management student. So far, we have reached out to many visually impaired individuals since we are experiencing difficulties in getting in touch and working with organizations. The great diversity really excited us. We have a blind gay Latino in his 30s, a straight Caucasian male in his 20s, a plus-sized African-American female in her 30s, a blind Asian drag queen in his/her 30s, a blind president of a hospital from China at age 75, and a blind Chinese doctor from China in his 30s. We are also working with the Blind ice hockey team in Long Island, which aims to join the next paralympic in Italy. We are thrilled to see even the beginning of the research is very difficult due to the pandemic and the fact that we need to step out to our comfort zone and to network with a group that we aren't familiar with at all before, but now as we are building our network, we are digging into more and more exciting individuals and stories that the society ignored. Through this project, we have two goals. First, to educate the general audience about the visually impaired group and showcase to them a multi-angle, rich image of the group instead of the stereotypical sad and pity image. Second, we want to show how fashion can indeed be a part of the solution, and with hard work, we can tie humanitarian issues with ready-to-wear.

**Name(s):** Julián Muro, Master of Music Performer-Composer, Summer 2022

**Project Title:** La Tierra, una criatura



Image credit: Hochalm, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Bayern, Germany. Photo by Julián Muro

As a musician who struggles with the relationship with cities and the need to spend time in them, who is accustomed to leaving in connection to nature, I want to share some of what I have seen and heard and love, with the hope that both the audience and my musical collaborators will come out of the experience transformed and more aware of the beauty of the planet and how important it is to find a way to avoid its destruction.

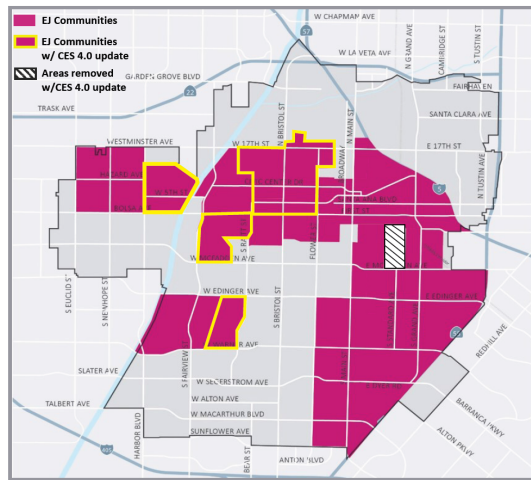
I think there is a certain appreciation of the world we live in, the world we are destroying, that is virtually impossible to achieve if one has spent a lifetime in cities, with a few months traveling here and there as a tourist, instead of actually living in connection and interdependence with nature. In my life, I have had enormous privileges that go from my upbringing in Patagonia, where I have lived and worked as a sherpa in mountain cottages with such rudimentary principles that I have not seen anywhere else, to living at a mountain cottage over a glacier at 3,500 meters above sea level in the surroundings of Monte Cervino or Matterhorn, one of the most impressive mountains of the Alps, to living in a cabin in the middle of the fields of Llsanés plateau in Catalunya, without drinkable water, heated solely on wood, and with the nearest neighbor being 1,5 kilometers away.

Because I do not expect all the people to have the interest, commitment, and enthusiasm that is needed to live and enjoy these kinds of experiences, I wonder how to bring some of the things I know and love to the audiences, in order to have more conscious, more appreciative human beings. Some months ago, encouraged by my graduate music and interdisciplinary studies at the New School, I started a new project that consists of field recordings that I gather during my travels to create soundscapes that are combined with visual poetry as a starting point for improvisation and collaboration. Concerned as I am about environmental issues, I think of this as a way to interact and appreciate nature in a creative process in which the Earth is the main collaborator.

I look forward to furthering this project, which is a result of the intersection of narrative, composition, improvisation, and collaboration, by creating new material, both visual poetry and soundscapes, to invite more artists to engage in it and with the dream to have a substantial work that may be published, performed or exhibited in the year to come. Some musicians that have participated in this project are viñuvinu (Canada), Magnus Løvseth (Norway, member of my cohort at TNS), Ches Smith (US, faculty at TNS). I am currently reading authors I know like poets Gary Snyder and Haroldo de Campos, and writer Henry David Thoreau, but I am also very much expecting to research new authors to enrich the conceptual framework of the project.

**Project Title:** Evaluating Meaningful Engagement Under Environmental Justice Mandates: A Case Study of California's SB1000 Implementation in Santa Ana

California's Senate Bill 1000 (2016) requires general land use plans to integrate environmental justice policies throughout. This research explores the City of Santa Ana's general plan update from 2014-2020 to understand whether SB1000 contributed to meaningful engagement of community concerns regarding environmental justice. I use a pluralistic definition of environmental justice that draws from theoretical definitions—distributional, procedural, capabilities, and recognition—as well as environmental justice movements as an evaluative



Map above based on draft CalEnviroScreen 4.0 data published by CalEPA, as of February 2021

This map shows the combined boundaries of 23 census tracts in Santa Ana that are considered environmental justice communities.

Diesel Emissions  
 Air Quality  
 Groundwater Contamination  
 Cleanup Sites  
 Solid Waste Sites  
 Low Birth Weight Infants  
 Education  
 Housing Burden  
 Linguistic Isolation  
 Poverty  
 Lead Risk

For more information, please visit  
[www.santa-ana.org/general-plan](http://www.santa-ana.org/general-plan)

tool. Methods include a gray literature review, semi-structured interviews, and thematic analysis. This research shows the limitations of SB1000, in particular as a method to provide meaningful engagement of environmental justice communities in Santa Ana. The general plan framework that was defined by business and homeowner groups lacked environmental justice dimensions and created challenges for the city when it was required to include these dimensions under SB1000. The role of environmental justice activists was instrumental in pushing the city to comply with SB1000, and their continued involvement may increase meaningful community engagement. This study contributes to the growing body of scholarship that documents white supremacy in planning and its harmful effects on low-income and Black, indigenous, people of color communities. This research points to the challenges of implementing statewide environmental justice mandates at the municipal level and provides recommendations for practice.

This research is rooted in my work as the former director of Orange County Environmental Justice, a non-profit organization based in Orange County, CA. In that role, I worked with community members, university partners, and community-based organizations to advance an environmental justice agenda throughout the county and I also learned about the power of integrating research and on-the-ground action. The intention of this project is to provide a synthesis of successes and challenges of environmental justice planning in Santa Ana, CA that can inform future practice. I want to express gratitude to my mentors Dr. Michael Méndez at the University of California, Irvine and Madeline Wander, an urban planning doctoral student at the University of California, Los Angeles who were instrumental in guiding me through this process. Additionally, I want to thank The Policy Academies, an organization that seeks to increase the number of underrepresented people in the field of policy analysis, for providing financial support. Since starting my education at The New School, I have made extensive use of the university's library resources and I particularly want to thank Brita Servaes who pointed me to key resources for my literature review. Finally, I want to thank the community activists and public officials who graciously participated in the semi-structured interviews. To date, I have completed a second revision of the research manuscript and the research abstract has been accepted to the 2022 American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting.

**Name(s):** Dillon Bernard, Eugene Lang, Journalism + Design, 2022

**Project Title:** Content By Us #AmplifyClimate



Content By Us is a youth-led media lab created to empower young, multicultural storytellers who use digital media and narratives as a force for self-empowerment and transformative justice. On its mission to empower young Black and Brown content creators and cultural organizers, Content By Us is expanding the digital media infrastructure of social justice movements by providing critical digital amplification and content production support. As we accomplish this mission, we are developing

an issue-specific amplification network for climate, dubbed #AmplifyClimate. We will complete an audit of the climate justice space by interviewing key communications team members from prospective and current partners about their views on what's needed in terms of climate communications.



**Name(s):**

Veronica Olivotto, PhD in Public and Urban Policy (Milano School for Urban Policy, Management and the Environment), Graduation expected date Spring 2023

Katinka Wijsman, PhD in Politics (New School for Social Research), Graduation expected Summer 2022

**Project Title:** Procedural Justice and Participation: Insights from Theory and Practice



With this project we seek a deeper engagement of policy makers and academics with the roots of what participation means theoretically and empirically. Democratic participation is infused with procedural justice (PJ) issues. PJ is concerned with the norms, rules, and approaches that govern decision making which in turn inform the distribution of rights, liberties, and entitlements among social groups. The theoretical literature on PJ is scattered across many disciplines, including, social psychology, environmental justice, political theory, governance and critical theory. We

first investigate procedural aspects of justice and participation across interdisciplinary literature. We noticed an apparent lack of underlying principles for PJ as well as their clear systematization across disparate literature, particularly those related to environmental work. So we ask: How can an interdisciplinary literature review of PJ inform what PJ principles matter in environmental work? What do empirical Environmental Justice (EJ) studies say about what matters on a case by case basis, instead? The theoretical part of this study is enriched by also asking: How do EJ practitioners in NYC frame what matters for PJ in urban resilience to climate change and other environmental threats? We will qualify what 'good' participation looks like for EJ organizations through interviews and document analysis and reporting on this through an academic article and policy brief to audiences. The outcomes of our research will help better prepare academics and policy makers seeking to engage in partnerships with EJ organizations, so that the leaders from the latter can focus on their work rather than explaining their core values time and again. Ultimately, we hope that this work will be contributing to solidarity and mutuality by sharing EJ organizations' goals and values about PJ across groups and with policy makers.

The work we propose is not only a theoretical inquiry but also a practical and policy relevant investigation of grounded meanings of justice coming from EJ practitioners. Both our dissertations involve understanding justice theoretically as well as when it is negotiated in urban resilience planning processes. For example, Katinka engages with the Rebuild by Design process, whereas, Veronica collaborates with RISE Rockaway on a series of Community Visioning workshops for vacant land where other complex urban justice issues come into play. We are in conversation with RISE and other groups working in frontline communities in NYC in preparation to conduct interviews that probe the practical understandings of PJ. Ultimately the work we propose shines a new light on the core social justice topic of community participation, by exploring its normative and empirical groundings in both literature and practice.

**Name(s):**

Evan Henritze, NSSR, Clinical Psychology PhD, May 2024

Sonora Goldman, NSSR, Psychology MA, May 2022

**Project Title:** Addressing the Moral Injuries of Climate Injustice: Ecological Embeddedness and Community Cohesion as Pathways to Collective Action



The current climate crisis contributes to feelings of dread, uncertainty, and powerlessness even among people who have not or do not perceive themselves to have experienced a climate change related event. As an ever-present, ever-growing threat, climate change pushes the bounds of existing trauma frameworks by complicating binaries such as past-future, symptom-disease, victim-perpetrator, and cause-effect. One useful but understudied framework is that of moral injury (MI): the experience of betrayal that results from engaging or witnessing actions that violate one's beliefs that often leads to feelings of guilt, shame, and anger. The MI framework addresses the psychological complexity of the crisis: we are each to varying degrees complicit in contributing to unsustainable carbon emission and yet are embedded within systemic governance and cultural practices that are failing to set necessary limits. The individual citizen can feel both responsible and powerless resulting in despair associated with inaction and anxiety. Yet to our knowledge, no existing

empirical studies have studied MI as it relates to the climate crisis.

Our final outcome for this project is a visual representation of the differing "narratives" of moral injury related to climate change. First, we will conduct a survey to identify groupings among participants, e.g. those high in certain dimensions of moral injury and low in others as well as distinctions based on social identity. Previous research on moral injury has identified two types of moral injury that are particularly applicable to climate change: injuries related to one's own actions (MI-self) and those related to the action of others (MI-other). We suspect that the groupings will differ based on where people are located on these two spectrums. Given existing data indicating wide disparities in how climate change affects the health of marginalized people, we expect that differences based on class, race, gender, age, and degree of activism will reveal important distinctions in terms of moral injury. We will also be exploring participants' perceptions of their own and others' social power using the Social Dominance Theory framework, as well as questions related to place-attachment, and community cohesion, factors known to contribute to sustainability efforts and wellbeing. Second, we will bring our statistical-based profiles to life by conducting a series of qualitative interviews. In these interviews, we will explore an individual's relationship with their home environment, their communities, and presence or absence of climate activism in their lives. We will visually document each interview exploring the subjective-experience of climate change moral injury as well as their sense of home and community cohesion. Our third and final step will be to map the data and personal stories by demonstrating how moral injury is pervasive and yet shows up distinctly in our mapping visualization.

**Name(s):**

Cynthia Golembeski

**Project Title:** Carceral and Climate Crises: Advancing health equity solutions by addressing the impact of the climate crisis on people involved with the criminal legal system.



Figure 1 “Lord” Bones, 72. Incarcerated in Angola, also known as the Louisiana State Penitentiary, takes care of the horses and drives the hearse when burying people who have died while in prison. (“Angola” is the largest maximum-security prison in the U.S. housing nearly 65,000 men as well as the execution chamber for both men and women. “Angola,” the name of the former plantation that was in the same area was named after the African country from which many slaves came to Louisiana. “I know I’m blessed. All my troubles, I put them in the Lord’s hands. I don’t get mad. I take it a day at a time. While you’re in here, life is still going on. You’ve got to make the best of it where you’re at. I take pride in what I do. When I go to driving [the hearse], I’m working for the Lord. I’m bringing his children home. Everyone here’s inmates just like me. All us got to die and that’s something I don’t worry about. One day, someone’s gonna have to drive me.” Photo Credit Ron Levine, Prisoners of Age).

This project will include a critical review and analysis of key policies and court cases associated with climate related conditions associated with criminal legal institutions. and categorization of elements across key domains. Mapping will be undertaken using existing data in order to identify zones within which criminal legal systems are located that are most vulnerable to climate induced disasters and extreme temperatures.

We will have support from and collaborate with a cross-disciplinary team, which is diverse in terms of gender, race/ethnicity, affiliation, rank, discipline, location as well as

method. We are all committed to health equity, particularly for vulnerable populations including those involved with the criminal legal and immigration detention systems. The Milano School of Policy, Management and the Environment where Cynthia Golembeski is a doctoral student provides robust support for such a project.

This project focuses on extremely vulnerable people and populations that are often neglected in discussions of climate change and related health effects. We seek to provide evidence and analysis that will support positive policy changes to advance environmental justice in ways that will prevent injury, illness and death for people who are incarcerated, correctional staff, and these people’s families and communities plus neighboring residents.

This project bolsters the concept of advancing health equity solutions by addressing the impact of the climate crisis on people involved with the criminal justice system, particularly as residents of prisons and jails. Based on our research and analysis we will make recommendations to advance equity and justice in these critical areas of concern. We will work within New York and more broadly and incorporate the voices, expertise, and experiences of those directly impacted.

We incorporate insights and technologies, plus methods and theories, from various disciplines plus we are guided by informing practice and advancing health justice. We leverage the unique support and tools plus people associated with The New School and seek to modestly contribute to the center and university’s mission and legacy.