

Manifesto of the House of Cardboard

The Anthropocene is a time of human creations which deconstruct the natural Earth to an extent where human actions make significant changes to the planet's geological stasis. Much of the deconstruction to the planet caused by humans is merely a design issue. Redesigning human architecture, for example, would radically change human impact. The structures humans build for shelter and business which cause this impact are often referred to as *boxes*.

*"Little boxes on the hillside,
Little boxes made of ticky tacky
Little boxes on the hillside,
Little boxes all the same,
There's a pink one and a green one
And a blue one and a yellow one
And they're all made out of ticky tacky
And they all look just the same."
-Malvina Reynolds from the song Little Boxes*

For this project, I was given a cardboard box to work with in recreating a structure while contemplating the composition of a box. I listened to the song, *House of Cards*, by Radiohead while imagining a dream house--"box"--that I may want to live in someday with my best friend. It has been a form of escapism for me during the pandemic to dream about a sustainable future with my best friend. I designed my ticky tacky box with windows, solar panels, a rain drainage system to water a vegetable and flower garden, skylights, a balcony, a front door and a back door sitting on a hillside that will oversee an agroforestry farm.

As a side note: I think my deconstruction of the human made cardboard box and transforming it into a model of a somewhat sustainable architecture dream house model has a metaphor to how on a global level humans are faced with their deconstruction of the natural planet head on and now must scavenge in the aftermath to recreate a sustainable future from what remains, rebuilding a completely new social structure.