



The Environmental Issue

ATC

UNSW Student Life
College of Fine Arts



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Al Poulet, 'Chop', production
still, 2011

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THANKS

All contributors, and
Arc @ UNSW Ltd.

cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au



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thing

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Kudos Gallery Program

Wednesday 12 October
11am @ COFA: SRC LUNCH

Free Full Moon lunch provided by your SRC
Out the front of COFA Library,
next to the canteen, COFA



EDITORIAL
COFAtopia #8 2011



Protesters demonstrate against Drax Power Station, tNorth Yorkshire, 2006

Our last COFAtopia for 2011! Choking on the constant dust coming out of the COFA courtyard's excavation pit, we thought an enviro theme was timely...

This issue Kelly talks to hot hot hot emerging talent from SPI, Al Poulet about his performance and video documentation work concerned with plantation forests. We share a smoothie with ROCKET - COFA's new collective - raw organic cofa kids eat together. Alan checks in with two of our activities interns @ Kenso who have been crafting up a storm this year. We get more info bout this Food Co-op in The Roundhouse. And Kelly reveals some yet to be widely released eco products.

Amongst all this, we're planning a glitzy beer garden after party for this year's COFA Annual coming up at the Roundhouse on 25 November - it's going to be gold!

To fill in time between assessment and the COFA Annual, we encourage you to get involved with COFA presents MASHED on 20 Nov at OAF - proceeds go toward your communal student lounge and kitchen facilities in the new D Block at COFA ... contact andy_burf@hotmail.com

Till next year, yours sincerely,
Arc @ COFA xx

P.S Arc @ COFA Art & Design Grants, PG Grant, and The Green House Studio Residency program applications are due 14 October!! Kudos Gallery exhibition proposals for 2012 are due 17 October, visit <http://cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au>

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LOGGER HEADS

Interview with Al Poulet

Al Poulet is an artist in his 3rd year of a BFA at COFA majoring in Sculpture, Performance and Installation (SPI). Spanning performance, video and sculpture, Al recently exhibited in Artsweek as part of the exhibition 'Art Through The Ages: The Bog From Whence We Came' at Kudos. Al was also a recipient of our new GROUP WORK grant with the exciting COFA Raw

Food Collective called R.O.C.K.E.T (see pgs 6-7) I got Al to answer a few questions for COFAtopia on art and the 'eco' craze.

Tell me a bit about your work that was in 'Art Through the Ages...', "Chop" and "Liftdead".

'Chop' and 'Liftdead' are the resultant documentation of an action. Exhibited as a two channel 'live art' work, this

work highlights my futile power and the subsequent realisation of my place in today's great mechanism. The failed Mining Tax of 2010 that saw our Prime Minister removed sent me, frustrated, to the trees and then to the streets with a silent protest.

A lot of your performance videos use the natural contrasted with the urban environment- is this a significant choice?



Al Poulet, 'Chop'. production still, 2011.



The two settings of natural and urban I use in my work create a consuming contrast that displays our expansive effect on the earth. Humans only concerned with other humans are the ones that create plantation forests and the urban set. Our consciousness affects the environment that we live in, and ultimately the whole Earth.

Would you say there is an underlying philosophy behind your work?

'It is impossible to live a pleasant life without living wisely and well and justly. And it is impossible to live wisely and well and justly without living a pleasant life.'
- Epicurus.

I like Epicurus' teachings. His human observations and teachings are so old (341-270BC) and yet they are still highly relevant to today's society, which blows my mind. However, knowingly or not, we continue to make the same mistakes and the circle continues. Humanity continues to conveniently massage and contort philosophy to fit the day.

In these times is being environmentally aware important?

I leap to say, YES! I believe that everyone should be environmentally aware. Being aware and conscious of what you are impacting with your actions is very important. Yet with so

many differing environments across the world, it is easy to lose perspective of the right thing.

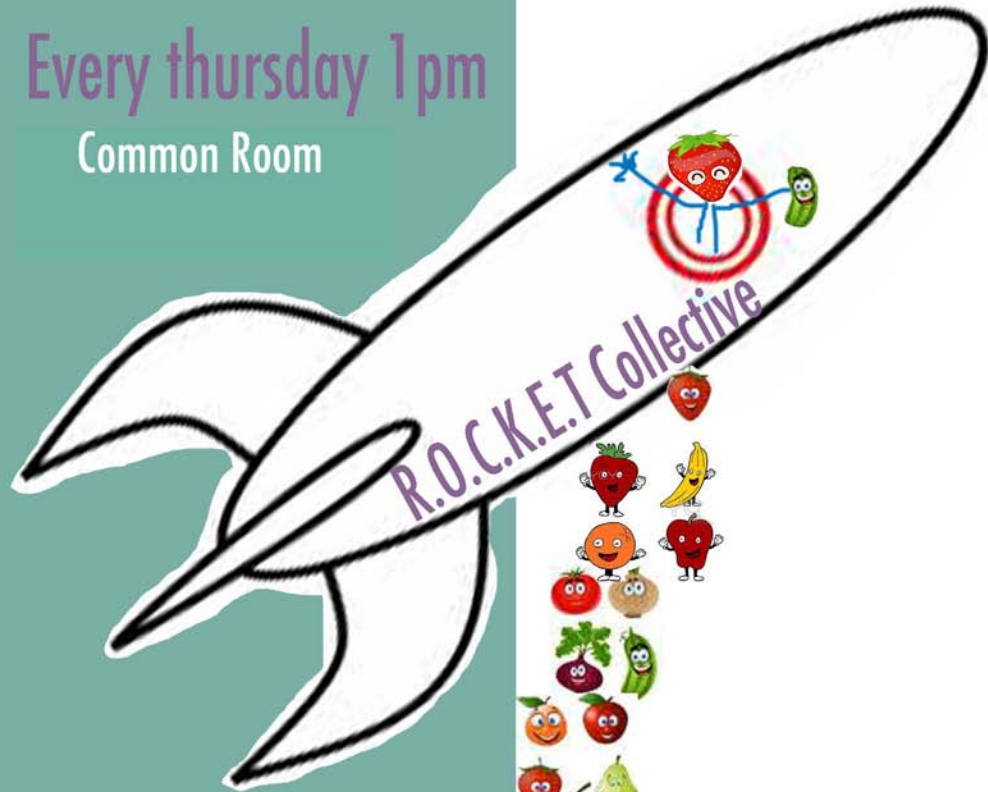
How do you practice environmental sustainability day to day?

I ride my bike, skateboard, fell my own timber, walk, surf, sex, swim – I generally burn my own gas. I have been a vegetarian for a time and this has led me to a more self-aware approach to food. I only take in what my body needs. I grow my own veggies. Sometimes I do over indulge, like driving or showering for too long but to mash Socrates words: 'doing anything consciously is better than fluking it.'

FREE Food + smoothies

Every thursday 1pm

Common Room



**100% RAW
ORGANIC**

**R
O
C
K
E
T**
Raw and
organic
kids
eat
together

Thoughtful Foods
ARC
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R.O.C.K.E.T: A NEW COLLECTIVE ON CAMPUS

One of the two recipients of the new GROUP WORK grant from Arc @ COFA, ROCKET are dazzling us with fancy fruit fusions (eh eh nevermind lots of food smeared into the floor and benches in the common room), salads in a cup, and an ever-growing fan base of smiling students



ROCKET stands for Raw Organic COFA Kids Eat Together

We have only just started so there are just a few of us but we are already making exciting plans while eating great food and creating epic smoothies. We formed so we could get some cold hard \$\$ from the Arc @ COFA GROUP WORK grant. We were awarded \$500 and now every week we get to enjoy healthy food for free while hanging out with like minded creative COFA folk.

Because it's so simple and tasty, not to mention very nutritious. Also none of us wants to wash any dirty pots

and pans...seriously dude, washing pots is f#cked up and BORING

We meet every Thursday at 1pm at COFA for a totally epic lunch extravaganza. (It's free for all COFA students - so just come!) I bring a totally fresh box of bio-chemical-warfare-free goodies from the UNSW food co-op "Thoughtful Foods" (big up to Rivka) and we all prepare our picnic style lunch together. This is a great opportunity for networking as the redevelopment has put such a fracture in COFA life. A face book page is on the way as well as a ROCKET recipe zine to name just a couple.

Fav recipe?...Probably Tom's

'Sweet Red Delight' almond milk smoothie. best summer drink EVER

Almond milk
banana
strawberries

Put in blender with ice and go go go

To make almond milk soak almonds overnight. Place soaked almonds into a food processor with water(quantity depending on how rich you want it) add a few dates and teaspoon of vanilla extract. Mix for a few minutes. Voila.



WHAT'S ON WHAT'S

WEEK ELEVEN

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

MON 3 October
9-10 am @ KENSO:SRC
Free Breakfast
Library Forecourt

1-4pm @ KENSO:
Craft With Alan:
Linear
Sculpture Workshop
COFA @ KENSO
Courtyard.
Free for Arc
Members,
\$2 non members

TUE 4 October
2-5pm @ KENSO:
Doily Art workshop
COFA @ KENSO
Courtyard.
Free for Arc
Members,
\$2 non member

1-2pm @ COFA: SOCCER
Come and kick the
ball at Moore Park...

6-8pm @ COFA:
COFA Talks
COFA lecture
theatre: EGO2

WED 5 October
1-3pm @ COFA:WATCH
MOVIES
Wong Kar-wai:
Chungking Express
COFA Common Room,
Lvl. 1 E Block COFA

3-4pm @ COFA: YOGA
with Jess Olivieri.
Free for Arc Members,
\$5 non. E109,
Common Room, Lvl. 1
E Block COFA

4-7pm @ COFA:
Wednesday Night Social
Pizza! Cider!
Bingo! Get social...
Free for Arc
Members, by
donation for
non. members
E109, Common Room,
Lvl. 1 E Block COFA

THU 6 October
1pm R.O.C.K.E.T
Raw Food Group Lunches
Common Room

8pm @ KENSO:
Annual Volunteer's Ball
Roundhouse, UNSW

FRI 7 October
10-12 @ COFA:
Sketch Club
Free for Arc
Members, by
donation for
non. members
F Block COFA

WEEK TWELVE

MON 10 October
9-10 am @ KENSO:SRC
Free Breakfast
Library Forecourt

1-4pm @ KENSO:Craft
With Alan:
Fabric on canvas
COFA @
KENSO Courtyard.
Free for Arc
Members, \$2
non members

TUE 11 October
2-5pm @ KENSO:
Craft with Alan: Art
on Styrofoam cups
COFA @ KEN-
SO Courtyard.
Free for Arc
Members, \$2 non member

14 OCT DEADLINE!

**POSTGRAD GRANT
GREEN HOUSE RESIDENCY
ART AND DESIGN GRANTS**

17 OCT DEADLINE!

**KUDOS GALLERY EXHIBITION
PROPOSALS**

<http://cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au>

WEEK THIRTEEN

1-2pm @ COFA: SOCCER
Come and kick the
ball at Moore Park...

6-8pm @ COFA:
COFA Talks
COFA lecture
theatre: EGO2

WED 12 October
1-3pm @ COFA:WATCH
MOVIES
Dancer in the Dark
COFA Common Room,
Lvl. 1 E Block COFA

3-4pm @ COFA: YOGA
with Jess Olivieri.
Free for Arc Members,
\$5 non. E109,
Common Room, Lvl. 1
E Block COFA

4-7pm @ COFA:
Wednesday Night Social
Pizza! Cider!
Bingo! Get social...
Free for Arc
Members, by
donation for
non. members
E109, Common Room,
Lvl. 1 E Block COFA

THU 13 October
1pm R.O.C.K.E.T
Raw Food Group
Lunches
Common Room

Oktoberfest!
Roundhouse, UNSW

FRI 14 October
10-12 @ COFA:
Sketch Club
Free for Arc
Members, by
donation for
non. members
E109, Common Room,
Lvl. 1 E Block COFA

MON 17 October
9-10 am @ KENSO:SRC
Free Breakfast
Library Forecourt

1-4pm @ KENSO:Craft
With Alan: String Art
COFA @
KENSO Courtyard.
Free for Arc
Members, \$2
non members

TUE 18 October
2-5pm @ KENSO:
Craft with Alan:
Friendship Bracelets
COFA @
KENSO Courtyard.
Free for Arc
Members, \$2
non member

1-2pm @ COFA: SOCCER
Come and kick the
ball at Moore Park...

6-8pm @ COFA:
COFA Talks
COFA lecture
theatre: EGO2

WED 19 October
4-7pm @ COFA: **END
OF SESSION PARTY!!**
Come celebrate
with food and
alcohol and music...
Free for Arc
Members, by
donation for
non. members
E109, Common Room,
Lvl. 1 E Block COFA

THU 20 October
1pm R.O.C.K.E.T
Raw Food Group Lunches
Common Room

**Clubs End-of-Year
Party, 3.30pm @ Club
Bar followed by
End-of-Session party
Roundhouse, UNSW**

**CATCH YOU AT
THE GOLD ANNUAL
AFTER PARTY, 25
NOV, THE WHITE
HOUSE, UNSW
8-LATE**

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ARC@COFA ACTIVITIES INTERNS

This year Arc @ COFA started a voluntary internship program for COFA students to get involved with running activities. They could help Alan in the courtyard at Kenso or get funding to run their own events or event. Alan caught up with two of our interns to find out how they went and what they got out of it...



Kate Harris, BFA

What do you enjoy most about being a COFA student?

There is always a good vibe at COFA due to all the cool cats that attend, I definitely enjoy being in that atmosphere and being given

a range of diverse projects. I also like the idea that I could wear my pyjamas to class and get away with it.

What has been the highlight/s of your COFA Events Internship?

The COFA Events Internship has provided many highlights from becoming a certified Arc sticker checker to creating paper moustaches. All of our craft activities have been enjoyable and diverse but as a renowned sweet tooth the fortnightly afternoon tea we provide is always a highlight.

If you had \$1 million dollars spending money, what event/activity/workshop would you run for COFA students?

Hands down I would create a school wide laser tag game in which COFA would verse National Art School or another university faculty in an epic laser tag battle. The winning school would be named the 'Heavy weight champions of the art world',

there would be sashes involved.

What has been one of your favourite events/activities/workshops this year?

One of my favourite activities has been the Felt and Wire



Birds Workshop. I did not know how to sew prior to this workshop and it was great to acquire new skills, although it has been said that my birds looked more like fish, perhaps I should donate them to the aquarium.

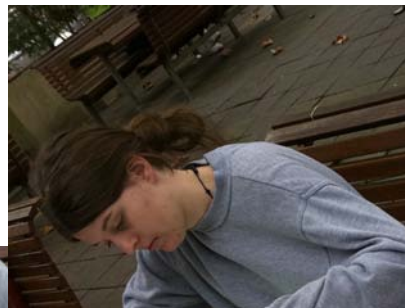
Would you recommend the COFA Events Internship for future students?

I would definitely recommend the COFA Events Internship for future students because it is a great opportunity to meet fellow COFA students and to

get involved with student life. It is also a great opportunity to try out different art techniques.

Any last minute thoughts or comments?

A big thank you is in order for Alan who runs and organises all of the workshops, it has been a pleasure working with him and his stylish shoes.



Jacqueline Au, BATH

It seemed only yesterday when I sat nervously at the interview in the COFA Arc Office with a pocketful of ideas and a biscuit in my mouth (Tip of the day: Don't eat Oreos during an interview!). Since then, those ideas have become reality via Crafternoons at Kenso, where I have made art, posters and, most importantly, friends. Here are some of my favourite moments of my COFA Events Internship experience:

1. Everything Buttons
It was raining that day so we sat indoors at the courtyard cafeteria.

We sat and we sewed, binding coloured buttons to felt. Alan sewed his on firmly, looping thread after thread.



That's "labour-intensive", I said. He says, "no, you're just 'lazy-intensive'".

2. Badge Making
For half an hour we wrestled with the machine, Trying to work out its mechanics
"Use more force!" Kate suggests.
"Is it broken?" I ask.
We push, pull and fumble. Then finally SLAM!
And voila! A badge!
Ah the wonders of technology.

3. Xu Bing Calligraphy
We hold our brushes like old Chinese masters
Dip the bristles into ink And make Long
Smooth strokes
Step back
What have we written?

4. Spray and Stencil Art
I hold my nose
Put my finger on the nozzle
Press down
The spray can siiigghhss....

5. Bubble Wrap Printing
Under the speckled shade of the Kenso courtyard
We paint colours on bubble wrap
And press it against white crisp paper
To make patterns that reflect The patterned sunlight above us.

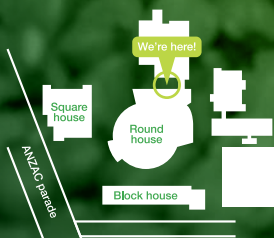


Applications to be the new Alan, I mean 2012 COFA @ Kenso Officer (paid) close on 4 November. Job details here <http://jobs.arc.unsw.edu.au>

ORGANIC AND ETHICALLY SOURCED FOOD AT UNSW

DISCOUNTS FOR
MEMBERS AND
VOLUNTEERS
UP TO 40% OFF

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TEA RANGE FOR
ONLY \$0.50
PER CUP



Opening hours
(During Session)

Tue & Wed 10:30 - 4:30
Thurs 9:00 - 6:00

info@thoughtfulfoods.org.au



Thoughtful Foods

Pigweed Food Co-operative Limited trading as Thoughtful Foods

UNSW has its own ethically, ecologically & economically conscious store on campus. Thoughtful Foods is a not for profit food cooperative which is owned, managed & run according to the wishes of its members.

Our aim is to provide cheap, minimally packaged and ethically produced wholefoods & household products to UNSW students, staff & the local community. Most of our products are unpackaged & bought in bulk. You bring along your own containers & scoop or pour out exactly the amount you want. Neither you nor the environment pays for unnecessary packaging. We try to supply ethically, socially & environmentally sound products. Unlike supermarkets, we have a concern for who produces the goods, under what conditions & by what methods.

OPEN:
Tuesday & Wednesday
10.30am - 4.30pm,
Thursday 9am - 6pm
during Session

The beauty of Thoughtful Foods is that the more involved you are, the cheaper the goodies become & the cheaper the goods are, the more people become involved.

Thoughtful Foods members receive 10% off almost all products. Membership costs \$20.



\$10 of which is a redeemable share in the coop. M'ship can be renewed annually for \$10. We also offer 6mth m'ship.

Members who work for at least 1hr/wk receive the working members' discount (currently 25%) off. Members who work at least 2hrs/wk get the working members' extra discount (currently 40%).

Non-members can shop at thoughtful Foods and it is still cheaper than other shops. It is cheaper because you aren't paying for the packaging. This is unbelievably apparent when purchasing herbs & spices. A jar containing 10 grams of dried basil bought from Coles will cost you \$2.05. If you bring

the same jar into Thoughtful Foods & fill it with basil, it will cost you about 5c if you are a working member of the food coop or 7c if you're not!

We endeavour to stock goods which are organic (that is produced without chemicals) or biodynamic, vegetarian, not irradiated or genetically modified to reduce the impact on the environment; fair trade to ensure their producers are paid properly & locally produced to minimise the consumption of fuel & resulting CO2 emissions associated with transportation & to support local businesses.

visit thoughtfulfoods.org.au or go to the co-op!!

Sustainability News: new products to get your eco going

Through buying and supporting sustainable and eco-aware products in the day-to-day of our lives we can help make a difference to landfill, chemical pollution and toxicity, to our bodies and the earth. But what makes a product 'eco-aware'? Firstly there is the carbon factor: clever ideas, thoughtful work practices or emissions offsets that help minimise our carbon footprint. The care factor, companies that actively give back to a community through charity and or support. The Materials factor: does it use organic or recycled materials that put less strain on our natural resources? Lastly look for the Package factor: does it have smart packaging, merchandising or shipping in order to create less waste and less energy. Well, I have found some great new products that do all of the above. Some are quirky & some are like duh!, everyone should have 1!

BIODEGRADABLE TOOTHBRUSH



In Australia, over 30 million toothbrushes are disposed of each year, amounting to approx 1000 tonnes of landfill. The plastic they're made of won't break down in our lifetime. Nor within the lifetime of our children. Invented by a Brisbane dentist, The Enviro Toothbrush is made from bamboo, a natural cellulose fibre, biodegradable, environmentally sustainable, and do not pollute.

WOODEN PHONE



Still in prototype mode, this wooden encased phone is made from cypress trees that have been selectively cut from ecologically sustainable forests, aimed at maintaining and replanting forest in Japan.

SOLAR SUN JAR



This solar light or 'Sun Jar' charges during the day & lights up an LED automatically at night. Saving on electricity costs & energy usage with solar power means you can lower your carbon footprint

SOLAR COOKER



This solar cooker cooks purely from sunlight - no need for any gas, electricity or charcoal. BBQ anyone?

SWISS ARMY BLANKET BAG



This travel bag is created from surplus military blankets. The Helveticus Swiss Army Recycling Collection came about after the discovery of huge stockpiles of military goods in Switzerland. Leather detailing is made out of gun leashes and soldier's belts. Every bag is handmade in the alpine village of Törbel and the production line is the largest employer in a tiny community short on jobs.

CARDBOARD COMPUTER



This fully functional PC houses all off-the-shelf components, including an Intel Core 2 Duo CPU, and 2GB of RAM. Less time, labor and parts go into the production of this unit, so there will ultimately be far less to dispose of when the computer's life ends.

KUDOS AWARD

Now in its 10th year, the Kudos Award seeks to recognise innovation and excellence across all disciplines at the UNSW College of Fine Arts, supporting our emerging artists and designers.

The major award is \$1,500 funded by Arc @ COFA, plus four runner up prizes supported by our sponsors

This year the award will be judged by external panelists:
Zoe Brand (gaffa gallery & artist/designer)
Anna Kristensen (painter / install artist)
David Haines (media artist, 2011 Anne Landa Award winner)

AWARDS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT OPENING 5-7.30PM
TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER
EXHIBITION CONTINUES TO
22 OCTOBER 2011



LIVING PATTERNS: BEN NORRIS & PHEOBIE RATHMELL

Living Patterns is an exploration of the rhythm and ritual of the everyday. Ben Norris and Phoebe Rathmell explore the shared experience through their tangible, meditative sculptural pieces. While technological advances increasingly force a disjuncture between physicality and communication, the work of Norris and Rathmell is a timely rejoinder for us all to inhabit our own bodies and spaces.

This is an exhibition ruminating on the simple life, on its possibility and potential in a world in which we can easily become disconnected to that which is most important.

OPENS 5-7.30PM TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER
EXHIBITION CONTINUES TO 5 NOVEMBER 2011



SLOW GLOW

'Slow Glow' is the name given to this year's lighting exhibition from 2nd year Applied/Object design students. The exhibition combines the theory of 'slow design' into contemporary lighting, solutions for both domestic and commercial spaces. 'Slow Design' prompts a new model for design inspiring a move beyond economic markets to form a balance between cultural, environmental and spiritual wellbeing.

Students have been inspired by a range of influences such as the use of energy efficient lamps and technologies such as LED's.

OPENS 5-7.30PM TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER
EXHIBITION CONTINUES TO 19 NOVEMBER 2011



KUDOS GALLERY 6 Napier St Paddington NSW, 2021

Wed to Fri 11am - 6pm, Sat 11am - 4pm, Mon + Tue by appointment only
T: (02) 9326 0034 arc.unsw.edu.au kudos@arc.unsw.edu.au

Kudos Gallery is run by COFA Students and funded by Arc @ UNSW Limited



GO OUT THERE 2012

The Green House studio residency, Fowlers Gap
arid zone research station in far western NSW

APPLICATION OPEN TO ALL COFA STUDENTS
Free for COFA students who are Arc members!

DEADLINE FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER 2011

info + appln forms at cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au or from Arc Office @ COFA



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