

Why I'm a Landscape Architect – Carl Runge, 3rd Year BLA

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January 28, 2015

There is a growing disconnect between the world and we humans that inhabit it. As the global economy grows, and new technologies provide us with new things to buy and distract ourselves with, we are becoming more and more distant from nature. There has become a worldwide emphasis on progress; we are always looking to “improve” our state of being. But at the same time we are trying to achieve this we are turning our backs on the most fundamental things that we so desperately need, in exchange for things we have tricked ourselves into believing are the primary sources of happiness. One of my favorite things to do is take pictures of flowers. I love the geometries of them, their vibrant colors, and their delicate interior structures: simple things. And it's simple things like these found in nature that I draw a lot of my happiness from. The natural world works in a beautiful way when you oversimplify it, a perfect system that has proven she can sustain herself, if just allowed to. It has become so easy to completely neglect the natural world around us. There are so many other things that we have created and become invested in that make it almost impossible to pay it the attention that it and we deserve. Nature is essential to human health, it's scientifically proven. But if that's the case, then why is it always an afterthought in our decision making processes? **I want to change this.** *I want to create intimate spaces in which people can find repose from the stresses of their daily lives.* Places where they feel as if they have escaped it all, even if only for a moment. A reintroduction of that which is so primitively essential to our well-being. Because it should and needs to happen.



