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SUBSIST

Harvest in the CTY

In 2010, more people live in cities than in rural areas and thus the need to cater to the nutritional needs of the city is on the rise. Projecting new thoughts into our nourishment, farming is given a serious focal point as part of the sustenance of our future.

Words: DANIEL SCHEFFLER Images: DESIGN INDABA

nvision this: you've just arrived home from work. You've put your leather brogues up on the couch and are sipping from the glass in your left hand, your right hand reaching for a snack. Your mind trails to an unusual, unfamiliar place; the life process of things that surround you: your things, the things that fill, enrich and clutter your life.

Thoughts as to the origin of these products start to fill your head, becoming understandings of how modernity has removed our comprehension of organic processes:

the majestic cow that lived and breathed and ate grass until shedding its skin for the leather your brogues required. It is farming, or at least a farming function, that was involved in the products; these items at hand – the shoes and the couch, the drink and the food.

A forward-thinking development of a newfangled aesthetic has emerged with nimbleness and virility, rooting itself as a farm vernacular. A new lexicon of thinking and expression has developed from the understanding of austere farming. With the world searching for a new concept of luxury, the beacons of

hope now rest as space, time and stillness. This propels the new human back to his roots and foundations by speaking a language of care and mindfulness. Nature no longer exists as an intangible fragment of the world but rather as a deluxe investment. And by giving nature an economic value or pinning a currency to it, not only is it an investment, but an investment that will accrue. The cost and pay back from a financial perspective will prevail in due time.

Thus, emerging globally, are self-sufficient farms that are off the grid. And what becomes interesting here is translating this