RED DUST MINETT CYCLING CHAPTER: WITH A SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY JOHN WATSON (THE RADAVIST)

Sergio Carvalho
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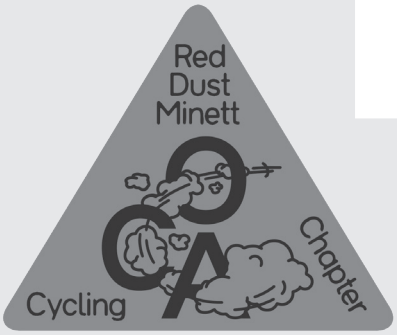
The Red Dust Minett Cycling Chapter is a new monthly initiative organised by Cultures of Assembly (COA), taking place throughout the Minett region, particularly around Esch and along the French–Luxembourgish border. Conceived as more than simply a cycling event, the project creates a shared social space where movement through the landscape becomes a way of building dialogue, connection, and collective experience.

Through gravel and social group rides, the initiative encourages forms of public encounter grounded in accessibility, inclusivity, and mutual support. Operating with a strict no-drop policy, the rides prioritise camaraderie, exploration, and collective participation over competition or performance. Riding at a conversational pace allows participants to engage not only with the surrounding environment, but also with one another – creating opportunities for exchange between people from different backgrounds, experiences, and cycling cultures.

The routes themselves move through territories shaped by the industrial and post-industrial history of the Minett region. Once defined by steel production and extractive industries, these landscapes now reveal new ecological, cultural, and social transformations. By traversing forests, former industrial sites, border territories, and evolving urban spaces, the rides invite participants to collectively rediscover and reinterpret the region through embodied experience and shared movement.

In this sense, the Red Dust Minett Cycling Chapter reflects the broader ambitions of Cultures of Assembly: to create unconventional formats for gathering, participation, and collective imagination. The bicycle becomes both a practical and symbolic tool for assembly – enabling temporary communities to emerge through rhythm, conversation, and the experience of travelling together across changing landscapes.

The project seeks to foster an open and welcoming cycling culture that values solidarity, curiosity, and collective exploration. Whether participants are experienced gravel riders or newcomers to group cycling, the rides are designed to provide an inclusive environment where social connection, care, and discovery remain central. Through these recurring encounters, the initiative contributes to building new relationships between people, territory, and the evolving cultural identity of the Minett region.



SERGIO CARVALHO is an architect and partner at 2001 in Luxembourg, a practice he co-manages with Philippe Nathan. Specializing in sustainable and low-carbon architecture, he brings a European perspective shaped by a strong academic background and fluency in six languages. He has held guest professorships and served on juries at institutions across Europe. Beyond architecture, his work includes scenography, exhibitions, and public projects. His multidisciplinary approach reflects a commitment to cultural and environmental engagement, with 2001 placing nature and climate-related resilience at the centre of its focus.

MARKUS MIESSEN is an architect, writer, and Professor of Urban Regeneration at UniLu, where he holds the Chair of the City of Esch. Miessen has previously taught at the AA, The Berlage, Städelschule, USC LA, and has been a Harvard Fellow. His work revolves around questions of critical spatial practice, institution building, and spatial politics. As a spatial consultant, he currently works with the Kosovo Foundation for Cultural Heritage without Borders and The Munich Documentation Center for the History of National Socialism. Amongst many other books and writings, Miessen is the author of "The Nightmare of Participation" and "Crossbenching". Since 2024, he is also part of the Dean's Visiting Faculty at Columbia GSAPP, New York.

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