

deep justice



communali sm

a manifesto

the beginning of a world is the end of a world is

the planet is degraded  
the world of infinite growth and capitalist  
modernity is dead  
plant a world of deep justice in its place

1. vision

## The ethics of deep justice

1. Deep time – intergenerational justice
2. Deep ecology – interspecies justice
3. Diversity – biological and cultural
4. Autonomy – for animals, human and non-human
5. Interdependence



life will replace the ruins

## Communalism

The growth-oriented model of neo-liberal capitalism that dominates the global economy is contributing to climate change, mass extinction, and massive inequality.

Communalism is an alternative system of community ownership and direct democracy.

In communities organized around the ethics of deep justice, governance would be guided by the following principles:

1. Respect the systems on which life depends.
2. Learn, teach, and promote knowledge and awareness.
3. Don't take more than you need.



Systems like communalism are often practiced in communes in rural areas; however, when roughly half the world's population lives in cities, isolated communes are not a scalable model. The size and distribution of the human population necessitates models of urban communalism. These communities would be confederated with other urban and rural communities. Urban and rural communities within the same region would communicate and collaborate to exchange goods.



2. change recipients

This system of communalism would be created by and for members of communities worldwide.

Through direct democracy and community autonomy, this system would empower people.

Communal ownership and distribution would reduce inequalities and barriers to access.

The regionalization of supply chains would cut down on emissions, thus combatting climate change. The ethics of deep justice would guide decision making within communities, ultimately benefiting all species.



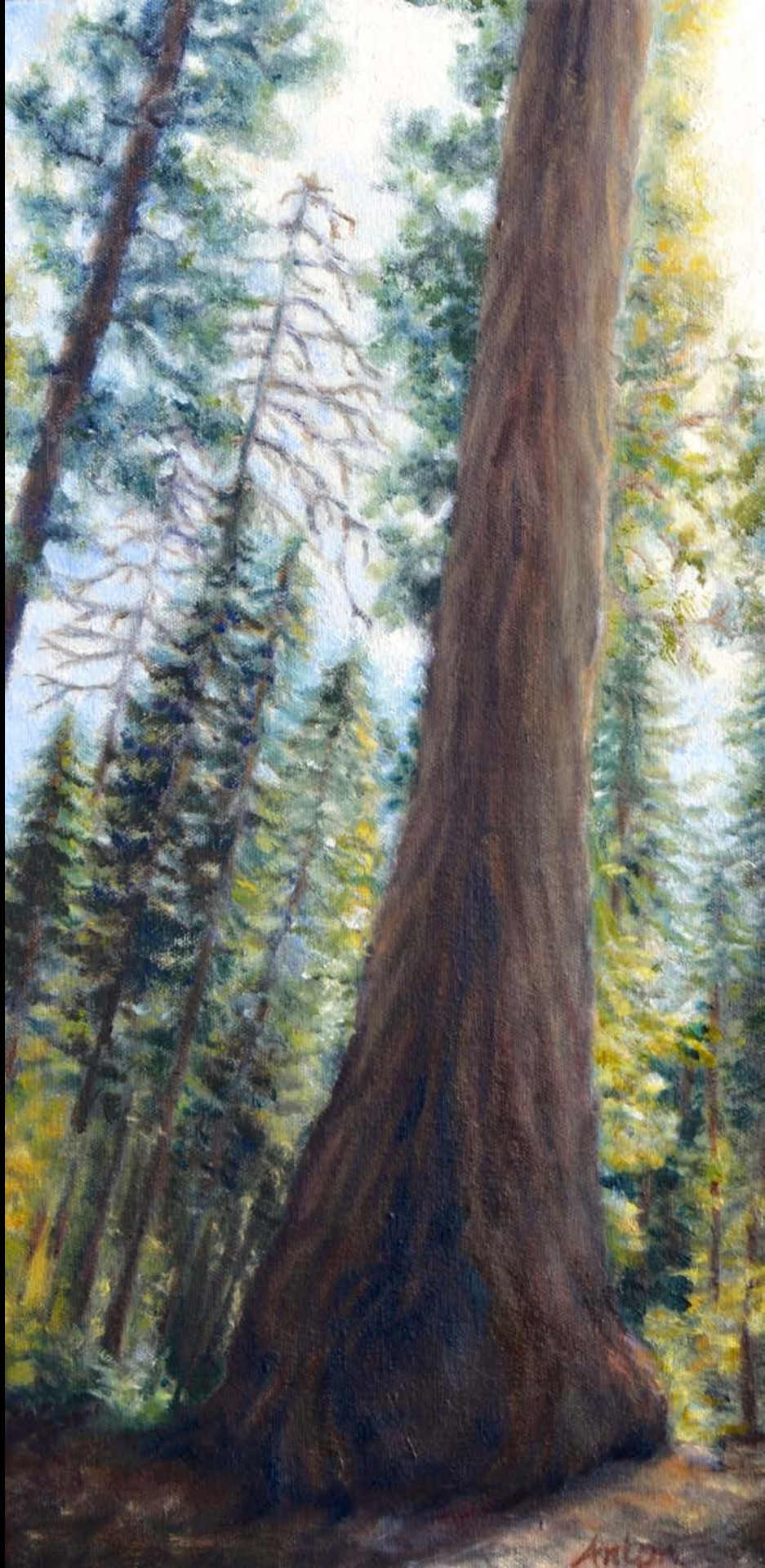
together



3. action

This world has already begun. While deep justice communalism will not become a universal reality, experiments in eco-communalism are already underway in the form of intentional communities and cooperative structures. Networking between existing cooperatives can expand these structures and build larger systems of communalism that are capable of serving more people. Emphasizing an ethic of deep justice within these cooperatives will lead to more future-oriented and eco-centric systems.

see the forest in the seeds





4. partners

Making this cooperative network function will require many partners and collaborators, including but not limited to: housing cooperatives, food cooperatives, farmers, teachers, student cooperatives, artists, cooks, and community organizations.



5. target state

A transition to deep justice communalism would involve changes to economies, governments, cultures, and worldviews. This multi-faceted and comprehensive change aligns deep justice communalism with green radicalism.



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6. barriers

The physical infrastructure and social structures that dominate our planet are not conducive to deep justice communalism. This poses physical, economic, psychological, social, and cultural barriers. Examples follow:

Physical: Current patterns of agricultural land use require excessive amounts transportation to get food to people.

Economic: Many people people are tethered to unfulfilling jobs and exploitive systems out of financial necessity.

Psychological: Many people in wealthy nations have become accustomed to high levels of consumption.

Social: Social status in some cultures, particularly in western nations, is based on consumerism.





cultural: those in wealthy nations will have to  
leave a world where oranges apples, and mangoes  
are always in season

## 7. benefits

## Physical benefits

Drastically reduced emissions – minimizing further climate change and ocean acidification

Less development, more ecological restoration, and more respect for other species – increased biodiversity, and decreased extinction

## Social benefits

Democratic and equitable communities – increased equality, increased autonomy, and decreased poverty

A sense of interrelation with the human and non-human world

## Knowledge benefits

Familiarity with the necessities of life, practices of growing food, treating illness, and storytelling

Ecological education and increased understanding and appreciation of all life



8. success

What is success?

Decreased global emissions.

Decreased extinction rates.

Decreased poverty.

A greater sense of community.

More equality.

More communal and cooperative structures.

More people caring about the future of all species.

The end of alienation from one another and from the multi-species worlds we inhabit.



this world is growing

## 9. communication



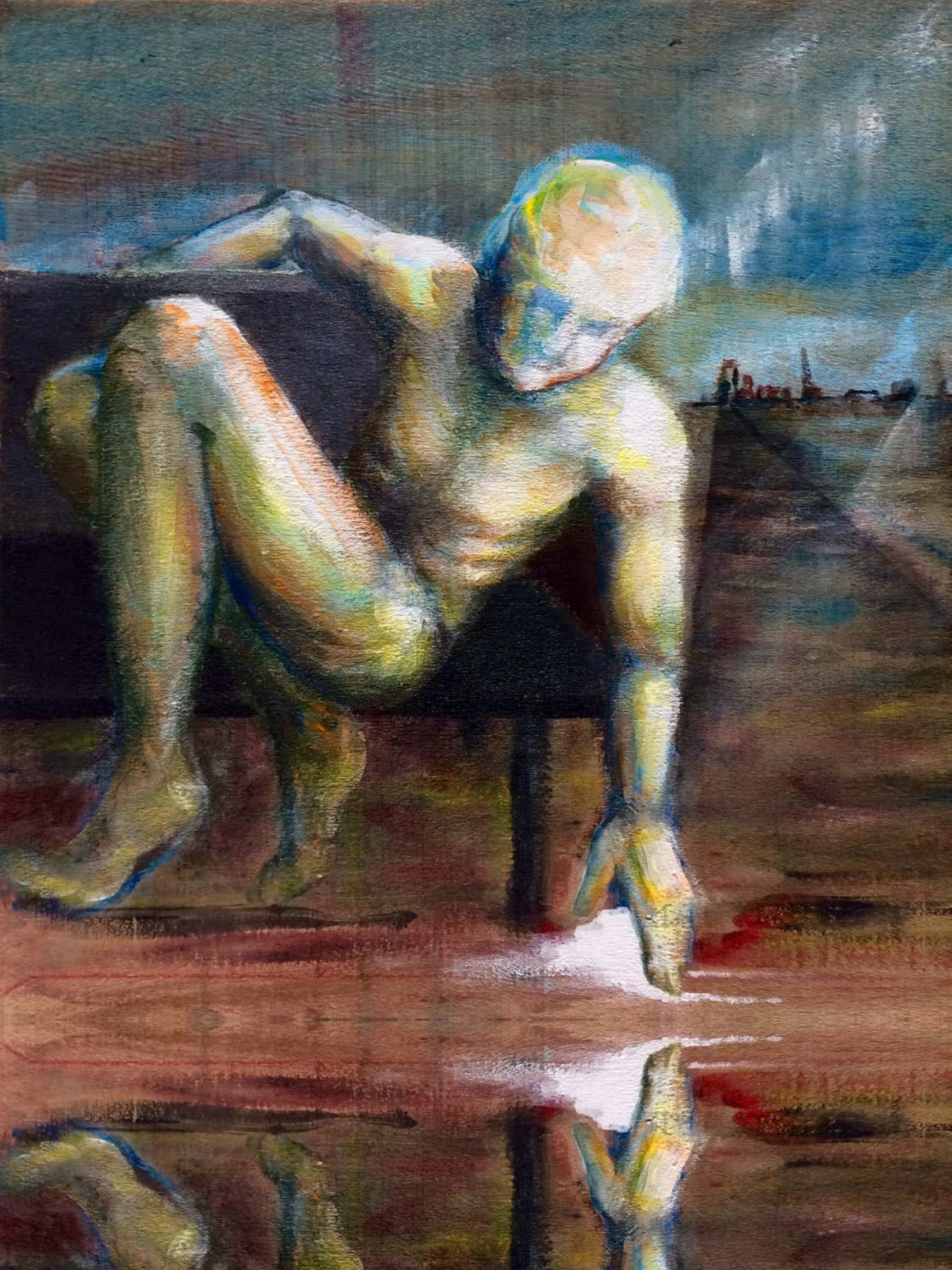
Deep justice can be communicated through poetry, dance, theater, novels, forums, zines, blogs, murals, conversations, and an infinite amount of other mediums.

Deep justice communalism will evolve and grow as it spreads.

The communities invested in creating just communal structures will decide what deep justice looks like for them.

There is no code or one “right way” for a community to embody deep justice.

Communities will forge their own diverse paths with a shared concern for the future of all species.





deep justice starts now