

M A T E A B A K U L A

The core of my sculptural work is making material transformations visible and tangible. Through experiments I investigate the properties of materials in order to reveal their inherent hidden aspects and to bend them to my will. I ask myself the question: how do I remove the material from its original context and transform it so that it gains a new meaning, while remaining true to itself?

In a sense you could compare my work with that of a choreographer: just as the movement of the dancers can never be completely controlled, the material also has its own capriciousness and movement pattern. I don't have total control over it. How can I manipulate the material in such a way that I maintain a fragile balance between control and loss of control? That is an important question for me.















Nested In soil
2025
Installation
Clay



Matea Bakula
RELEASE





Burst
2024

Installation

Egg cartons , latex, fabric, ink, pigment, steel



Burst
2024

Installation

Egg cartons , latex, fabric, ink, pigment, steel



Core
2024
Installation
Egg cartons, plaster, ink, pigment





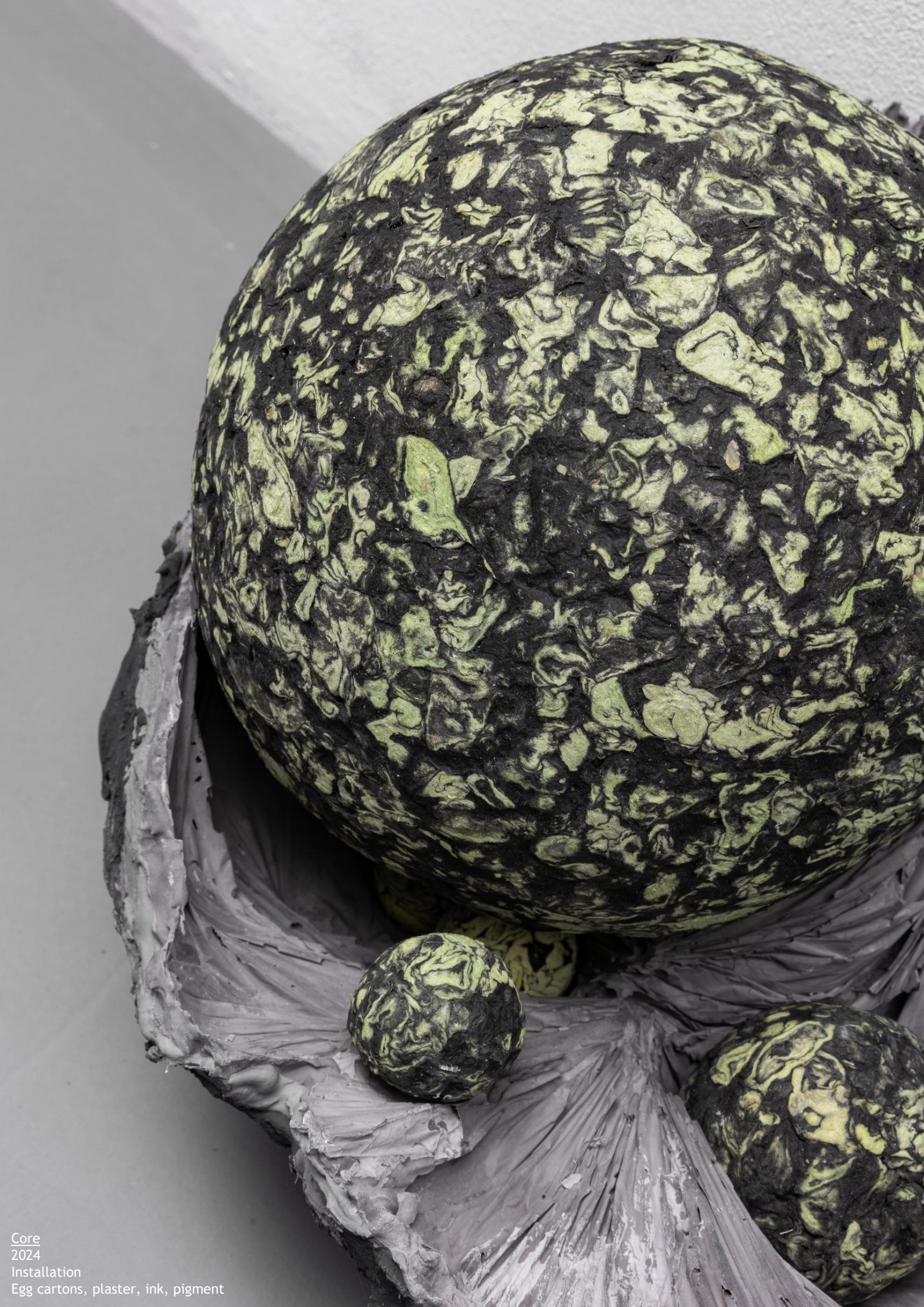
Core
2024
Installation
Egg cartons, plaster, ink, pigment



Core
2024
Installation
Egg cartons, plaster, ink, pigment



Core
2024
Installation
Egg cartons, plaster, ink, pigment



Core
2024
Installation
Egg cartons, plaster, ink, pigment







Harvest
2024
Installation
Egg cartons, ink, pigment





Sweet Expanse
2023

310x 55 x 55cm

Caramelised sugar, polystyrene, epoxy, steel



Sweet Expanse (detail)
2023

310x 55 x 55cm

Caramelised sugar, polystyrene, epoxy, steel



Stones of the sky #1
2023

385x 198 x64cm

Used paper, pigment, wood, steel



Stones of the sky #1
2023

385x 198 x64cm

Used paper, pigment, wood, steel



Stones of the sky #2
2023

185x 136 x64cm

Used paper, pigment, wood, steel



Stones of the sky #2
2023

185x 136 x64cm

Used paper, pigment, wood, steel









Usurping the body
2022

118x 32 x28cm

Corrugated cardboard, polyurethane rubber, steel



Manipulation tactics
 2020
 64x 45 x56cm
 Corrugated cardboard, plastic, epoxy, steel

Shapeshifting
 2020
 81 X 55 X69cm
 Corrugated cardboard, beeswax, polyutherane rubber, steel



Manipulation tactics
2020

64 x 45 x 56cm

Corrugated cardboard, plastic, epoxy, steel



Shapeshifting
2020

81 X 55 X 69cm

Corrugated cardboard, beeswax, polyurethane rubber, steel



A letter from a free man
2020
650 X 110 X 110 cm
Waste paper, pigment, polyurethane, steel



A letter from a free man
2020

650 X 110 X 110 cm

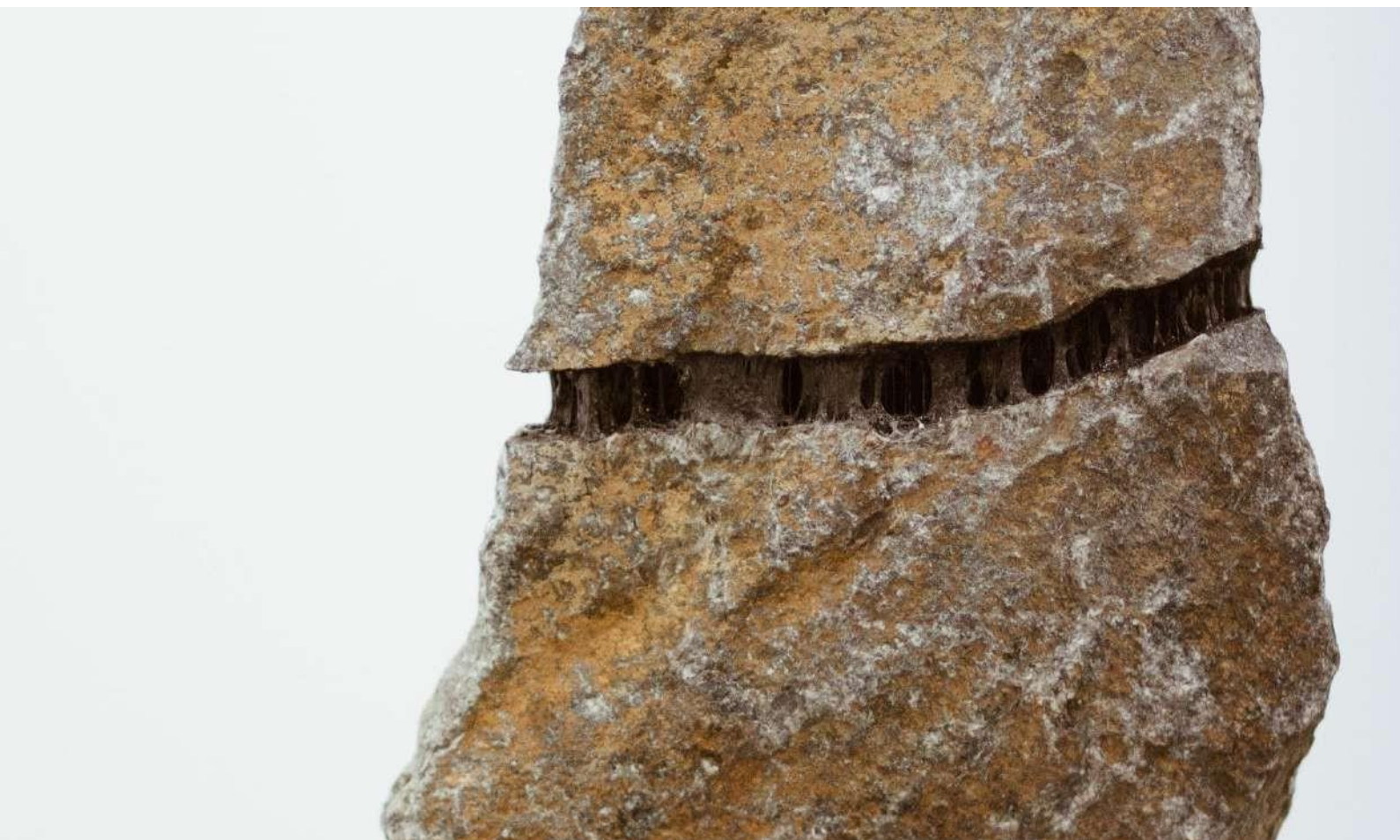
Waste paper, pigment, polyurethane, steel



A letter from a free man
2020

650 X 110 X 110 cm

Waste paper, pigment, polyurethane, steel



We do matter(with Nick Steur)
2019
Performance-installation
Porphyry, soft polyurethane

Click [here](#) to watch a compilation video of the performance





The gateway
2018
70 x 32 x 8cm
Beeswax, steel



The gateway (detail)
2018
70 x 32 x 8cm
Beeswax, steel



The Unlimited B Pole
2018
520 x 85 x 25 cm
Beeswax, steel





Wrestles with my spirit animals #01
2018
200 x 45 x 45cm
Foam, plaster, pigment, cord



Wrestles with my spirit animals #01 (detail)
2018

200 x 45 x 45cm

Foam, plaster, pigment, cord



You have two challenges remaining #01

2017

1000 x 45 x 45cm
Polyurethane



You have two challenges remaining #01 (detail)
2017
1000 x 45 x 45cm
Polyurethane



You have two challenges remaining #02
2017
302 x 45 x 45cm
Polyurethane

EDUCATION

2009 - 2013 HKU (University of the Arts, Utrechts (BFA), NL

EXHIBITIONS

SOLO

2024 Release, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, NL
2018 Buitenplaats Doornburgh, Maarssen, NL (cancelled due to the venue closing), NL
2017 Between grace and fury, Kunstvereniging Diepenheim, Diepenheim, NL
The chemistry between doctor Frank and me, Lumen Travo gallery, Amsterdam, NL
2014 Matea Bakula, GAVU, Cheb, CZ

DUO

2023 Between object and body - with Cecilia Rebergen -, Studio Seine, Rotterdam, NL
Family Jewels - with Robin Meyer -, Horizonverticaal, Haarlem, NL
A WHEEL A ROPE A STONE A WING - with Ruta Butkute -, Park, Tilburg, NL
2020 One eye and two takes on vulnerability - with Milena Naef -, Lumen Travo gallery, Amsterdam, NL

COMMISSIONS

2028 Commissioned artwork at Rijkswaterstaat, Utrecht, NL
2026 Commissioned artwork at Thijsssehuis, Texel, NL
2020 A letter from a free man, Het Utrechts Archief, Utrecht, NL

GROUP (selection of the past five years)

2025 Paper Art at Coda Apeldoorn, NL
Apprentice / master at Kunstpodium T, Tilburg, NL
Coexistence at Viervaat, Groede, NL
2024 Group exhibition curated by Hans den Hartog Jager, Buitenplaats Doornburgh, Maarssen, NL (cancelled due to the venue closing)
2023 Art Rotterdam, represented by Lumen Travo gallery, Rotterdam, NL
Lustwarande, Tilburg, NL
2022 Art Island, represented by Lumen Travo gallery, NL
2021 Utrecht Downunder, Utrecht, NL
Four Positions, De Apotheek, Amsterdam, NL
2022 Art Rotterdam, represented by Lumen Travo gallery, Rotterdam, NL
Collector's item, Centraal Museum, Utrecht, NL
2019 Koop dit of dit of dit, Kunskoop exhibition by Mondrian Fund, Capital-C, Amsterdam, NL
Scenarios of desire II, Emergent, Veurne, BE
Jonge beelden, Beelden in Leiden, Leiden, NL
The reflections on nature, Lumen Travo gallery, Amsterdam, NL
Art Rotterdam, represented by Lumen Travo gallery, Rotterdam, NL

PERFORMANCE

2020 We do matter - with Nick Steur -, Beyond the Black Box (de Brakke Grond), Amsterdam, NL
2019 We do matter - with Nick Steur -, Playground Festival (STUK and Museum M), Louvain, BE
2016 We do matter - with Nick Steur -, Work Title Situation #4, Les Brigittines, Brussels, BE

RESIDENCIES

2024 Residency @ Buitenplaats Doornburgh (cancelled due to the venue closing), NL
Residency @ EKW, Oisterwijk, NL
2019 Residency @ atelier KANS with Nick Steur, made possible by SoAP Maastricht, Brussels, BE
2019 KAMEN artist residency, Orah, BIH
2014 Startpoint Prize Emerging Artist Residency, Prague, CZ

PRIZES / NOMINATIONS / FUNDS

2024	Seed Grant for EKWC, Stokroos, NL Projectinvestment for EKCW, Prins Bernhard Culture Fund, NL
2023	Projectinvestment, Amarte Fund, NL Projectinvestment, Mondrian Fund, NL Projectinvestment for Lustwarande, Niemeijer Fund, NL Projectinvestment for Lustwarande, Prins Bernhard Culture Fund, NL
2022	Nomination Fenterer van Vlissingen prize, NL
2021	Artist Basic grant, Mondriaan Fund, NL
2020	Nomination, K.F.Hein stipend, NL
2019	Nomination NN group art award, Art Rotterdam, Rotterdam, NL Project investment, Mondrian fund, NL Project investment, Gerbrandy culture fund, NL
2016	Interest free loan awarded, Fonds Kwadraat, NL Werkbijdrage Jong Talent, Mondrian fund, NL
2013	Prize winner, Startpoint Prize: Best European Emerging Artist, CZ

PRESS (selection)

PUBLICATIONS

2018	Between grace and fury, made possible by Kunstvereniging Diepenheim
2014	Matea Bakula, made possible by GAVU Cheb & Start Point Prize

INTERVIEWS AND CATALOGS

2023	Zout Magazine Brabants Dagblad Ticket to Tilburg Metropolis M K.F.Hein
2021	Lage Landen
2020	Mister Motley Art Utrecht Young collectors circle
2019	Palet Magazine NN group Award catalog
2018	Mister Motley Prospects and Concepts Kunstvereniging Diepenheim
2016	Tijdschrift Ei #46
2014	GAVU Metropolis M
2013	Startpoint catalog

COLLECTIONS

2014 -	Centraal Museum, NL KPMG, NL Ministerie van Binnenlandse zaken, NL K.F.Hein, NL Strand Links, NL Various national and international private collections
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OTHER ACTIVITIES

2021 –	Member of Networked Collective: a collective consisting of thirty makers who create exhibitions together in which they collectively explore the social process of collaboration.
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