



THE OPENING SEMINAR OF GENTLE ACTIONS AT KUNSTNERNES HUS, OSLO, NORWAY

THE ART OF LOOKING SIDWAYS – REFLECTIONS ON THE ART OF ACTIONS

Saturday 23rd October: Seminar and film premiere
Sunday 24th October: Introduction/Tour and Workshops

The opening seminar will present many international individuals working within the field of art and ecology. The two days will be packed with engaging presentations, demonstrations and discussions from the political, poetic and the personal. Our aim is to give the participants new ideas for how to think and work with the environment in holistic, creative, critical and engaging ways.

DAY 1: SEMINAR AND FILM PREMIERE SATURDAY 23RD OF OCTOBER

- 09.30** **REGISTRATION**
- 10.00–10.10:** Welcome by Anne Karin Jortveit and Eva Bakkeslett, curators.
Introduction by facilitator Jan van Boeckel, research fellow, Aalto University,
School of Art and Design, Department of Art, Helsinki Finland.
- 10.15–11.00:** ***Gentle Action***
F. David Peat, Physicist and author, Pari Center for New Learning, Italy.
- 11.00–11.30:** ***Gentle Inter-Actions as Art***
Boel Christensen–Scheel, Ph.D in performance studies, University of Oslo.
- 11.30–11.45:** **BREAK**
- 11.45–12.15:** ***Climate Change Stories***
Alan Boldon, Director, Arts & Ecology Research Institute, England.
- 12.15–12.45:** ***Stirring the Compost: Eco-art Strategies for Resistance and Resilience***
Beverly Naidus, Artist and Professor at the Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences Program,
University of Washington, USA.
- 12.45–13.45:** **LUNCH**
- 13.45–14.30:** ***Make the secrets productive – Why sustainability needs an expanded concept of art***
Hildegard Kurt, Cultural researcher, author and interdisciplinary social sculpture
practitioner, Germany.
- 14.30–14.45:** Short film.
- 14.45–15.30:** ***The seed versus multinational monopolisation***
Marianne Leisner, Landscape architect and author, Gaia Architects, Norway.
Linda Jolly, Biology and gardening teacher, course leader for Living Learning at the
Norwegian University of Life Sciences.
- 15.30–15.50:** **BREAK** or join a guided tour of one of the habitats during Gentle Actions:
Food as counter culture, presented by the artists Jana Fröberg.
- 15.50–16.50:** Discussion/dialogue in groups.
- 16.50–17.00:** Summary with Jan van Boeckel.
- 17.00–17.45:** ***Seeds and Celebration*** and opening of the project ***Frøsentralen*** (*The Seed Bank*).
Artist Katja Høst, initiator of the project *The Artists' Garden*, will open the collective
seed-exchange project *Frøsentralen* (*The Seed Bank*).
Finale with food made of ingredients from the garden. Produce harvested by
Oslo og Omegn Økologiske Hagelag (Oslo and surroundings Organic Garden Society) in
collaboration with Katja Høst, prepared by Cecilie Steinkjer, from the catering company
Uten Oppskrift.

Booking of the seminar: pamelding@kunstnerneshus.no before the 22th of October.

FILM PREMIERES IN COLLABORATION WITH OSLO DOKUMENTARKINO (www.dokumentarkino.no)

18.00: *PLAY AGAIN*

Tonje Hessen Schei, (Norway/USA, 2010, 80 min). Norwegian premiere!

At a time when children spend more time in the virtual world than the natural world, *PLAY AGAIN* unplugs a group of media savvy teens and takes them on their first wilderness adventure, documenting the wonder that comes from time spent in nature and inspiring action for a sustainable future.

Reflections/discussions after the film led by Jan van Boeckel.

21.00 *THE COVE*

Louie Psihoyos (USA, 2009, 92 min).

The Cove follows an elite team of activists, filmmakers and freedivers as they embark on a covert mission to penetrate a remote and hidden cove in Taiji, Japan, shining a light on a dark and deadly secret. The result is a provocative mix of investigative journalism, eco-adventure and arresting imagery, adding up to an unforgettable story that has inspired audiences worldwide to action.

DAY 2: INTRODUCTIONS, TOUR AND WORKSHOPS SUNDAY 24TH OCTOBER

12.00-13.00: Introduction and guided tour of *Gentle Actions* by Anne Karin Jortveit and Eva Bakkeslett. Many of the participants will be present.

13.00 - WORKSHOPS

13.00-17.00 *Stirring the Compost: Eco-art Strategies for Resistance and Resilience*

Beverly Naidus, Artist and Professor, Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences Program, University of Washington, USA.

“The interweaving of activist art pedagogy with eco-art practices. Stirring the Compost will explore multiple strategies for practicing eco-art: from walking meditation, journaling, collaborative brainstorming, action/research and skill inventories, we will develop projects and share them with the group. Part of the work process that we will explore was first developed at the Institute for Social Ecology in Vermont, USA where Beverly Naidus was a visiting artist every summer for 10 years. Other aspects of the work were inspired by attending retreats with Thich Nhat Hanh and training with Jubilee Arts Collective from West Bromwich, England. Activities will include walking meditation where participants will use their senses to smell, hear, see, feel and taste their surroundings and notice what seems in balance (resilient) and what seems out of whack (where resistance would be called for). Working in small groups we will focus on gut issues that the participants have directly experienced, notice where our issues overlap, and brainstorm projects that weave together the seemingly disparate issues. After deciding on our intentions, contexts and audiences, we will present proposals to the rest of the group.”

Participants: max 20 (in English).

Booking: pamelding@kunstnerneshus.no

13.00 – 16.00 *Seeds for Change - Invitation into the magic world of seeds*

Linda Jolly, Biology and gardening teacher, course leader for Living Learning at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences.

Solveig Slåtтели, artist and teacher, Norway.

“Poetic, political and practical aspects of seeds. We want to look at and draw different seeds, and learn especially about the seeds in our kitchens and for our gardens.”

Participants: max 15 (in Norwegian).

Booking: pamelding@kunstnerneshus.no

13.00- 18.00 *From spirit to action – An introduction to Social Sculpture as a method*
Hildegard Kurt, Cultural researcher, author and interdisciplinary social sculpture practitioner, Germany.

“For artists or others who want to find new ways of thinking and working with their life and art to include the environment from an ecological perspective. The approach of this workshop is genuinely interdisciplinary. It engages participants in an introductory exploration of social sculpture and aesthetic questions relevant to the shaping of an ecological and socially just world.”

Participants: max 20 – 25 (in English).
Booking: pamelding@kunstnerneshus.no

13.00 – 18.00 *Dialogue on Beauty*
F. David Peat, Physicist and author, Pari Center for New Learning, Italy.
Godelieve Spaas, Independent consultant in organizational development, Netherlands.

Practical facilitator: Jan van Boeckel, research fellow, Aalto University,
School of Art and Design, Department of Art, Helsinki Finland.

“What happens if we use beauty as a criterion for sustainability in life and work? Or in the triangle of economy, ecology, and community? Beauty is not a word often used in art criticism today. Perhaps we could borrow from the sciences, where beauty or elegance is associated with great utility and a sense of the inevitable in the way in which ideas fit together and a new theory is created. What links could we pursue in this dialogue between science, the arts, the environment and the health of society as a whole? This is the theme that we would like to examine in a five hour long conversation in a quiet and comfortable room of Kunstnernes Hus in Oslo. The dialogue will be a unique experiment of bringing together and encouraging a gentle meeting of minds and views.”

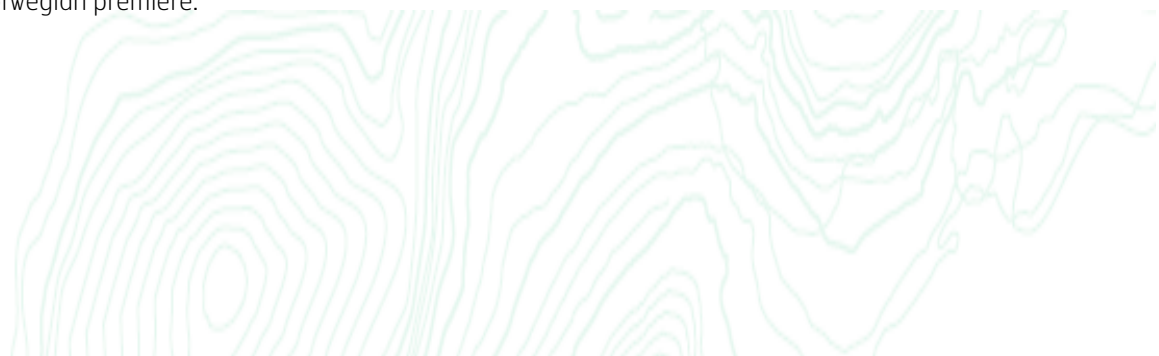
Participants: max 15 (in English).
Booking: pamelding@kunstnerneshus.no

FILM PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH *OSLO DOKUMENTARKINO* (www.dokumentarkino.no)

13.00 *OUR DAILY BREAD*
(Unser täglich brot)
Nikolaus Geyrhalter (Austria, 2005, 92 min).
A strong and visual insight into modern, industrialised food production – without commentary. (Devastating! A must-see!" - The New York Times.)

16.00 *PLAY AGAIN*
Tonje Hessen Schei, (Norway/USA, 2010, 80 min). Norwegian premiere!
At a time when children spend more time in the virtual world than the natural world, *PLAY AGAIN* unplugs a group of media savvy teens and takes them on their first wilderness adventure, documenting the wonder that comes from time spent in nature and inspiring action for a sustainable future.

18.00 *GASLAND*
Josh Fox (USA, 2010, 107 min).
A pricewinning, shocking, funny but sad film about gas-extraction in the US, Norwegian premiere.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION:

Booking for the seminar and workshops is essential.

Please send an email to pamelding@kunstnerneshus.no where you should leave the following information: your name, contact details and particulars of your booking: Seminar and/or as to which workshop you wish to attend.

Pay the booking fee to account number: 6034 09 50324 before the 22th of October!

Mark the payment: *Gentle Actions Opening Seminar*.

Bookings from outside Norway can be paid on arrival if you let us know in advance.

Prices:

Opening seminar two days: 400/300 NOK (students/artists/OAP).

Opening seminar one day: 250/180 NOK .

Light lunch included both days.

Gentle Actions´ pass 100 NOK (**access to all events during the project excluding opening seminar and workshop**).

Single tickets: 60 NOK. free admission for children under 16.

Film program: free admission.

For enquiries about the seminar or workshops please email: lk@kunstnerneshus.no
or ring Kunstnernes Hus: (+47) 22 85 34 10.

For more information about the rest of our program during Gentle Actions: gentleactions.wordpress.com

For more information about the film program: www.dokumentarkino.no

Gentle Actions are collaborating with: Kunstnernes Hus // PLAN prosjektet ved Universitetet i Oslo // Oslo Dokumentarkino // Senter for Økologisk Økonomi og Etikk ved Handelshøyskolen i Bodø // Cultura Bank // Oslo og Omegn Økologiske Hagebrukslag

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