

On Culture and Democracy

ARTS, EDUCATION AND YOUTH IN CHALLENGING TIMES

PROGRAM

08.30 - 09.00 **Registration in the entrance hall with Coffee and Tea**

09.00 - 09.30 **Welcome! Studio**

Museum of World Culture
Helen Arfvidsson

09.30 - 10.30 **Keynote Lecture**

"Father can't you see I am burning" – on ghosts, dreams and the future.
Catharina Thörn

The film Children of Men (2006) by Alfonso Cuarón is about the slow adaptation to a new reality - a world where no children are born. In this lecture this film is used as a point of departure to discuss hauntings, dreams and the loss of the future.

Language: English

Studio

10.45 - 11.45 **Parallel seminar 1a**

Concerning a Meadow 2019-2024 [film]
Kerstin Bergendahl

Concerning a Meadow / Apropos en eng, records a durational public art project by visual artist Kerstin Bergendahl (2019-2024). Commissioned to produce a public work in connection to an urban reorganization of a large green in a suburban area in Copenhagen, she responded by performing a series of playful yet strategically formatted public conversations. Participants were locals, residents and professionals, and their deliberations produced shared imagery of a possible new park. But gradually they grew also to address shared urgent matters of the local everyday. This is the third large-scale project where Bergendahl demonstrates how artists working with a hyper-local publicness, could reactivate the role of the citizen.

Language: English

11.45 - 12.00 **Break**

12.00 - 13.00 **Parallel seminar 2a**

Light lab in Bergsjön - Childrens' engagement in the urban space
Christina Vildinge

Thousand lanterns made by children, illuminate Rymdtorget in Bergsjön in northern Gothenburg. The 400 meter loop of light is the result of a series of artistically exploratory workshops focusing on children's participation in the urban space. Light lab shows how new approaches with design contribute to learning and moving towards a more sustainable city. With new forms of meeting and dialogue across borders, Light lab functions as a collaboration platform for citizen groups that need to be strengthened democratically. At the same time, it is also a manifestation of the power of joint creation, and the opportunity to influence one's local environment.

Playspaces at the Greek borders - when places of care become places of violence
Angeliki Dimaki Adolfsen

In an area between design and migration studies, spatial and temporal aspects of humanitarian areas are investigated with focus is on humanitarian playgrounds. The production of care places designed for and with migrants in Europe's borderlands in northern Greece and on the island of Lesbos is explored that have become a center for people in exile and living in refugee camps. Based on critical theory and theory of borders, the relationships between care, humanitarian aid and solidarity movements are examined in Dimaki Adolfsen's thesis project. Has design the capacity to transform this care into hiding border violence? Through critical voices, the concepts of humanitarian design and care places for children are reconsidered.

Language: Swedish & English

13.00 - 14.15 **Lunch**

14.15 - 15.15 **Parallel seminar 3a**

Soundart as Dialogical Space – Urban Sound Institute, USIT
Catharina Dyrssen/Anders Hultqvist

The SOUNDLAByrinth Project – Artistic concept, construction, and production by USIT, contained two large interactive, material-spatial sound installations at Murberget Museum 2008-2010 as artistic, pedagogic and explorative activity for children, youths, teachers and professional artists. Co-funded by The Swedish Research Council, the project rendered extensive international interest.

Prototyping and communal building with small communities
Luka Jelusic & Eva-Johanna Isestig

Eva-Johanna and Luka Jelusic will present several community-based projects in which they have develop public spaces in the countryside, and outline methods of collaborative work that have evolved through their projects. From remote Norwegian island of Traena, where with a group of students in a design and build format they created two very different outdoor living rooms, to taking part in the new life of Folkets Hus in Dals Långed: the expected, the unexpected, and what connects the two. Through various ways of making together, the projects enable participants to create collaborative stories and narratives embedded in the production of space to foster a sense of belonging.

Language: English

15.15 - 15.30 **Coffée break with fika**

15.30 - 16.30 **Panel discussion**
Onkar Kular, Lovis Öhrn, Linda Sternö, Karolina Westling, Catarina Dyrssen, Anders Hultqvist, Christina Vildinge

16.30 - 18.00 **Closing of the symposium and mingle**

Introduction
Introduction to the symposium
by ERA, PLACE and BIG.

Seminar room 3

Parallel seminar 1b

The Tidö agreement from a children's rights perspective
Sandra Hillén/Jeanette Sundhall

In the run-up to the 2022 parliamentary elections, issues related to crime, migration and people's perceived security came to the fore, shifting political positions and changing the political landscape. The political ideas that later formed the basis for the government were gathered in an agreement called "Tidöavtalet: Agreement for Sweden". Starting from a children's rights perspective, is presented how the Tidö agreement may affect children, young people and families in Sweden.

Children as producers of cultural heritage
Ylva Ågren/Yelizaveta Hrechanik

Children's perspectives are crucial to be able to understand what it means to be a young person at a particular time in history. It is important that children's stories and voices are accessible for future generations. We present examples of how children can be understood/positioned as producers of culture and cultural heritage and important social actors based on the research project Children's cultural heritage - the visual voices of the archive.

Language: Swedish

Parallel seminar 2b

DesignKlubben [Röhsska Museum]
Anna Hydén & Benjamin Hadzifezovic

Through a selection of cases/projects the presentation will focus on different levels of participation and youth influence within the Design Club. Using examples where we have worked in different scales and settings, we are aiming to reflect upon the importance (and the struggles) of open processes and collaborative work. Here we foreground the questions, can a triathlon be design? And how can a group of teenagers and children initiate their own projects within the framework of an adult oriented and bureaucratic system?

Lekkontoret - A public design office for/with children and youth
Catherine Paterson & Luke de Jager

Lekkontoret is a design studio that aims to increase child influence in the city through participatory design processes. The studio consists of both children and adult designers who work on design briefs together. Adult designers Catherine Paterson and Luke de Jager work on all projects, but the team of children and/or youth designers changes depending on the commission; the teams are always site-specific to the project. Lekkontoret designers use play as a tool for public dialogue and design, working with play throughout the design process to promote communication between different age groups and to create new entry points for public spaces discussions. Luke and Catherine will explain the methods they have developed for working with children and youth through projects with participants of varying ages and abilities.

Language: English

Parallel seminar 3b

The potential of the "ignorant museum": Facilitating alternative learning environments at the Museum of World Culture
Helen Arfvidsson

The presentation explores how alternative learning environments can be facilitated at the Museum of World Culture. There is no consensus on what such environments are, thus two varied but intertwined examples from school visits are presented with the aim to draw attention to multimodality and the significance of object-based learning. The examples will be explored with the help of three concepts: the potential of the ignorant museum; a design-oriented perspective on learning; and the democratic potential of the handling collection.

Working with film with children and young people
Linda Sternö

Sternö initiated the Children's Film School project together with colleagues and alumni from the film education at HDK-Valand in 2011. The project started with funding from the Artistic Faculty and was awarded at Guldbaggegalan 2016. She also has worked with film with young people in Hisings-Backa, that describes the every-day life of these youngsters, growing up close to Selma Lagerlöfs Torg and Backa Culture House. The projects included in the Children's Film School are often about renegotiating places and spaces, asking questions about who has access to which space? And what would it look like if the children were allowed to decide?

Language: Swedish

Meet in the entrance hall

Workshop 1c

Democracy does not exist - we make it!
Lovis Öhrn Världskulturmuseet

Democratic engagement can come in many forms and take many different forms. In the exhibition you will encounter people's personal democracy stories and objects as a series of impacts in time and space. Each person has been given the choice of an object that, for them, symbolizes democratic commitment. The aim of the exhibition is not to be "finished" - but to change over time. We will collect more items and stories as we go and there is an opportunity to contribute yourself. In this way, we want to continue adding more and more stories and perspectives to the exhibition.

Language: Swedish

Workshop 2c

Together we fight and get along - How do we use the exhibition "Together" with the middle school from a values-based perspective.

Världskulturmuseet
Margareta Persson

In part of the "Together" exhibition, children can explore, play and learn about conflict management. Among people who live together, there are sometimes disagreements and fights. In this part of the exhibit, children can explore a conflict management model linked to five animals (roar, pull away, bear it all, compromise or balance) When we meet middle school students, we try out different roles and ways of dealing with different situations and let the students discover other perspectives. There are several ways to handle conflict. When can it be good to pull away and when is it appropriate to bite? Getting tools for sustainable relationships is central to this school program. In the workshop you will get to try parts of the school program and together we will reflect on whether we should perhaps approve as an engine of change. But then how do we get along? And how do we have to be in order to live together? Welcome to this workshop in the exhibition "Together".

Language: Swedish

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