

Alternative Cartographies | Symposium

Åsa Stjerna

Date: April 26th

Time: 9.30-15.30

Location: Online symposium.

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ABSTRACTS AND BIOGRAPHIES

Åsa Stjerna | Sonic Visions of the Arctic

This presentation presents outcomes from the artistic research project Sonic Visions of the Arctic. Through this research, Åsa Stjerna has investigated how sound as an artistic practice can create alternative understandings of the Arctic as a geopolitical and environmental site of great global significance. The research project is an artistic critical exploration of how scientific underwater acoustic technologies contribute to the perception of the Arctic, as well as an investigation of how inaccuracies and shortcomings embedded within these technologies can constitute potential for artistic sonic renegotiation and action.

Åsa Stjerna is an installation artist and researcher, using sound and listening as her artistic modes of exploration, Stjerna has recently concluded her tenure as a Postdoctoral Researcher at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Ania Mauruschat | Re-turning to Sila in Times of Global Climate Emergency

Since millennia, Sila is a core concept of the worldview of Inuit. It has several meanings, which amongst others can be translated as “weather”, “mind”, “world order”, “outside” and “human”. The talk will discuss in what way Sila can challenge Western, scientific, and colonial mindsets.

Ania Mauruschat is a journalist, scholar and lecturer, focusing on sound and Environmental Humanities. She was a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Research Fellow at the University of Copenhagen. Her project Sounding Crisis investigates sound practices of indigenous and non-indigenous activists and artists addressing the human-nature-relationship in times of climate change in Denmark, Kalaallit Nunaat and Australia. Read more. (www.soundingcrisis.eu)

Michael Kjær | Surfacing Extreme Marine Environments in the Arctic Region

In the ongoing history of the colonization of the (ant)arctic regions, these are in some respects regarded as blank sheets of ice to be swiftly filled out with the imaginary matrices of the modern minds of the incoming explorers and exploiters. Today it is about time to reverse this very real imaginary violence. These regions are key to sensing and understanding the deep nonhuman forces of climate change that we are no longer able to suppress.

Michael Kjær is Art historian, Phd., teaching associate professor, University of Copenhagen, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, with a focus on developing an aesthetics anchored in the geobiological forces of the Earth. A deep aesthetics that is able to overcome western human conceptions of the sensible.

Stephanie von Spreter | Destroyed Environments, Gendered Spaces and Colonial Legacies. Contemporary Art Practices Sensing the Arctic and the Circumpolar North.

In this short presentation Stephanie von Spreter will give an overview of the topics discussed in her recently delivered thesis. It examines how contemporary camera-based artistic practices sense and critically investigate the Arctic in terms of environmental destruction, gender, and colonial legacies.

Stephanie von Spreter is PhD researcher in art history at UiT The Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø (2019-2024). She is member of the research group Worlding Northern Art (WONA) at UiT. Von Spreter previously served as the artistic director of Fotogalleriet, Oslo (2011–18) and has worked for international exhibitions including the 3rd, 4th and 5th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, the 50. Venice Biennale and Documenta11. She also works as a freelance curator and writer.

Tyrone Martinsson | Virtual Arctic Archive Svalbard

A short roadmap for the coming visualizations of Arctic Svalbard through XR-technologies. Through a database we connect researchers and through extended technologies and accessible communication tools we expand research options and field work practice. Virtual Remote Research might support transdisciplinary Arctic research in a new and affordable way.

Tyrone Martinsson is Professor of photography at Faculty of Arts University of Gothenburg. Through his latest research project 'Extended Rephotography: Immersive visualization of climate change he, in collaboration with Visual Arena Lindholmen Gothenburg, took previous research on glaciers in NW Svalbard into XR-technology exploring the possibilities with virtual reality and digital platforms in research.

Hanna Horsberg Hansen | "Home"

I will present a work in progress where I experiment with a mapping of the concept of "home" in Emilie Demant Hatts (1873-1958) photographs from her migration in 1908 with reindeer herders from Karesuando on the Swedish side to Tromsdalen and Tromsø on the Norwegian side.

Hanna Horsberg Hansen is a Norwegian professor of Art History. She holds a position at the Art department, at Academy of Arts at UiT The Arctic University of Norway, where she is teaching art history. Hansen is a pioneering scholar within the field of Sámi art. The last twenty years she has published stories about Sámi art from heterogeneous perspectives rather than as a linear, Eurocentric art history. Her publications comprise stories about contemporary as well as historic art, institution building and the connections between Sámi art and politics.

Elin Haugdahl | Indigenous Cartography

My presentation will focus on the Sámi artist Katarina Pirak Sikku's mapping of her family's home places in Sápmi, and how her artistic practice resonates with the discourse of Indigenous cartography.

Elin Haugdahl is a Professor in Art history at UiT The Arctic University of Norway. She is specialised in architectural history and theory, design, and the visual culture of the Arctic and the circumpolar north. She has published on art and architecture in Sápmi, vernacular and historical photography in Svalbard, landscapes and gardens in the Northern Norway, as well as new author museums and public buildings in Norway. Her broad empirical interests are informed by the perspectives of environmental humanities. Haugdahl is since 2017 the head of the research group WONA: (<https://uit.no/research/wona>)

Hanne Hammer Stien | The Urgency of Mapping and Mapmaking

This presentation will discuss Toril Johannessen's series of screen prints titled *Tilstedeværelse/Presence*. The screen prints take the form of maps representing different areas or spaces that geographically relate to *nordområdene* and that visualize data gathered by the Johannessen through various mapping methods, such as the analysis of policy documents, archival research, and the collection of information from oral sources.

Hanne Hammer Stien holds a Ph.D. in Art History and is Professor of Art History at Academy of Arts, UiT The Arctic University of Norway. Stien has a curatorial practice and holds several positions within academia and the art field.