

GUEST SPEAKERS

IRMELI KOKKO (FI)

EUROPEAN RURAL ARTISTS' COLONIES

nostalgias and utopias of working in nature, maps of European rural mobility, living and working alone and together, innovations through environment, possible futures of remote residencies.

ARTISTS TALKS, PLAYS & SHOWS

JOHN GRZINICH (USA/EE)  
BITA RAZAVI & JAAKKO KARHUNEN (IR/FIN)  
ANDREW TAGGART AND CHLOE LEWIS (NO)  
JUSTIN TYLER TATE (CAN/EE)  
ERNEST TRUELY (USA/EE)

RESIDENCE BOTKYRKA (SE)

161 nationalities, satellite city, parks and silvery water, functionalist architecture, city planning, collaborative practices, Tahrir Square, Istanbul, sharing food and thoughts on a shared future

JOANNA SANDELL

NES ARTIST RESIDENCY (IS)

muse, seaside, mountains, glowing skies, nature abounding, open, rural, communal, collaborative, rugged, experimental, boundary-less, robust, powerful, harvesting exchanges, subject to elements.

CENTER FOR VISUAL ART SKAFTFELL (IS)

enchanted spellbinding enclosure, Iceland as a subject matter, historical winds and strong characteristics, open arms and local collaboration, Mr. Roth and artistic legacy, raising the bar and growing pains, young attraction as a bridge from rural to urban, passing on enthusiasm.



SCOTTISH SCULPTURE WORKSHOP (UK)

ruralities, artists artisans, crafting, realism residencies, workshop vernacular commons, skill

NUNO SACRAMENTO

GRIZEDALE ARTS (UK)

useful, practical, valued, real, effective, everyday, creative, connected, farming, gardening, cooking, building, making.

ADAM SUTHERLAND



MUSTARINDA (FI)

collaboration between critical contemporary art and critical social science; enabling alternative futures; old-growth forest; cultural diversity and non-economic practices; artist/researcher residency

SANNA CULTURE MANOR (EE)

farming, wooden manor house, residency in the forest, cultural heritage, community art, workshops with rural communities, wood processing

MOKS (EE)

artist-run, NGO, rural, Estonia, Baltic, residency, community engagement, collaborative environments, village

WYSING ARTS CENTER (UK)

remoteness as a structured space, the metropolis as a reference point, conversing with the local, conversing with the virtual; design, functionality, and contingency as starting points; the importance of being useful.

DONNA LYNAS

KULTIVATOR (SE)

place and idea, the parallels between farming and art production, urban - rural cultures, clashes and mutual interests, family, village organisation structures as opposed to representative, modernist ones, autonomy, dependence, cows and milk, rain and finnish tango.

SERDE (LV)

work and rest in unusual circumstances, hosting and art, revival of local traditions & heritage; foraging, learning from local rural community, communication and beer brewing, making and exchanging moonshine, herbal tea, recipes from generation to generation



BALTIC NORDIC NETWORK OF REMOTE ART & RESIDENCY CENTERS

INTER-FORMAT SYMPOSIUM 17 - 20 MAY 2012

ON REMOTENESS AND CONTEMPORARY ART IN ART & RESIDENCY CENTRES, NERINGA, LITHUANIA

remoteness as an advantage, centres in the periphery, working remotely thinking globally, remoteness of contemporary art, communicating with global and local audiences

NIDA ART COLONY (LT)

fluxus sand, the Baltic sea as a medium, beaches and breeze, labyrinths of forest paths, smoked fish, solitude, unconditional time, mind massage, landscape meditation, conceptual walks and dinners, communication with students and professors, contemplating the ten-meter-high studio space, migrating from water to water, the company of moose, foxes and wild boar, media lab, reinventing tradition, creative sunbathing, socializing in an artists' community

## BALTIC-NORDIC NETWORK OF REMOTE ART & RESIDENCY CENTRES

Baltic-Nordic Network of Remote Art & Residency Centres brings together 8 centres located in remote areas in order to share experiences and ideas on how to operate and how to interact with local communities. The network was initiated by the Nida Art Colony and is financially supported by the Nordic-Baltic Mobility Programme for Culture. <http://remotenet.nidacolony.lt>

The network aims to find out what works, what doesn't and why, when an art centre settles in a province and wants to become a meaningful and useful part of the local life.

The main goals of the network are:

- to share network members' experience in communication with local communities and learn how to do it best;
- to develop cooperation schemes for local communities and art centres while producing and presenting contemporary art;
- to enable the art centres to become an integral part of the local life by involving local community members into the centres' activities.

This symposium brings together facilitators from different Nordic and Baltic art centers to exchange knowledge. Past and current activities have included a joint project development on mutually beneficial social interaction, a joined trip visiting all Baltic art and residency centers (completed in November), and digital idea exchange platform with a compilation of tips on how to root in the province.

## NES ARTIST RESIDENCY

Nes artist residency was founded in the beginning of March 2008 in the town of Skagaströnd, Iceland and the first artists arrived in June. The centre itself has been in operation since 2009. Sanna Culture Manor in cooperation with EstYES invited international volunteers to help with several works as well as to meet artists, experience various workshops and help preparing and running local activities. <http://www.kultuurimois.kultuuritehas.ee/kultuurimoiseng.html>

## SERDE

The interdisciplinary art group SERDE is a public organization founded in Aizpute (~180 km from capital city Riga, 30 km from Baltic sea-coast) in 2002 as a platform for international and cross disciplinary collaboration. It seeks to develop the regional and international collaboration between different culture fields, organizations and professionals. SERDE's main activities involve the exchange between culture, science and education fields, including the organisation of residencies, workshops, seminars, lectures, presentations etc. <http://www.serde.lv/>

## CENTER FOR VISUAL ART SKAFTFELL

Skaftfell was founded in the year 1998 by a group of art enthusiasts in the town of Seyðisfjörður in East-Iceland, and is dedicated to nurturing and exhibiting visual art. It is a meeting point for artists and locals and serves as a center for visual art in all East-Iceland. In addition to the main exhibition space with running exhibitions the whole year through, Skaftfell houses a beautiful artist's residency available for visual artists and scholars and a Bistro with a good library of book-art, art-books and related material. The main emphasis of the center is on contemporary art. Skaftfell has an important role in the area as a center of information and education on art and art related subjects. Every year Skaftfell organizes and/or hosts various seminars with art students in collaboration with the Icelandic Art Academy and other schools and institutions on all school levels. <http://www.skaftfell.is>

## NIDA ART COLONY

Nida Art Colony or NAC is a new branch of the Vilnius Academy of Arts. It is located on the Curonian Spit, which is a peninsula dividing the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea. The overall objective of the NAC project is to improve the quality of art and design education in Lithuania and to implement innovations in the field of art education by promoting international cooperation. The Colony was developed under the EEA and Norway Grants support starting in 2009. The main forms of NAC activities are international workshops, summer schools, exhibitions, conferences, video screenings and the artist-in-residence programme.

For more information please visit : <http://www.nidacolony.lt>

## ERNEST TRUELY & ERROR COLLECTIVE

Error collective is offering a talk about the nomadic practices of contemporary artists; when mobility is a way of life for artists; how do we create a sense of home in temporary environments and how do we reach out to family, friends and communities who are geographically remote?

An evening activity; Error will show documentation of site specific, functional installation in temporary environments including Error Sauna in Estonia and Lithuania in the context of international artist residency.

The talk will culminate in a five hour action about contemporary nomadic art practice for domestic installation in a temporary environment. Participants will practice using available materials and resources and work collectively to make a useful environment, which may include dinner or sauna, for their temporary community.

## JOHN GRZINICH

John Grzinich (USA/EE, artist-in-residency 2011 November-December) "Audible Geography, Sound and Image Surveys of Nida" Artist will reflect on his experience of being an artist in residence at Nida Art Colony (Nov-Dec 2011), and present his perspectives on sound and the environment in Nida illustrated with excerpts of sound/video recordings made during his residency (currently a work in progress).

## MOKS

MoKS - Center for Art and Social Practice, is a non-profit artist-run project space in Estonia situated in the rural community of Mooste. It holds a unique position within Estonian and the greater European cultural context. The Center is located 40km southeast of Tartu and 20km west of the Russian border. The "guest studio" was opened in 2001 as an organization dedicated to local and international cooperation in the fields of arts and environmental research in the rural context of post-soviet Estonia. The center's activities range from hosting an international arts symposium to educational workshops for artists and the local youth. With its broad scope and focused environment, MoKS is the only project of its kind in Estonia. <http://www.moks.ee>

## SANNA CULTURE MANOR

Sanna Culture Manor is located in a sparsely populated village in southern Estonia. The centre arranges art and culture events, workshops, seminars, courses and retreats. Essential emphasis is drawn upon sustainable living and environmental protection. The manor was built in 1586 and it is a unique and beautiful wooden building surrounded by an ancient park and the clear water Parlijogi (Pearl River) and the centre itself has been in operation since 2009. NGO Sanna Culture Manor has begun the renovation of the manor in cooperation with Rouge Local Authorities. In its second year, Sanna Culture Manor in cooperation with EstYES invited international volunteers to help with several works as well as to meet artists, experience various workshops and help preparing and running local activities. <http://www.kultuurimois.kultuuritehas.ee/kultuurimoiseng.html>

## BITA RAZAVI & JAAKKO KARHUNEN

(IR/FI artist-in-residency 2011 November-December)

Radio Ahlqvist

"Radio Ahlqvist" is a sound installation consists of a network of radios, installed in both sides of the Lithuania-Kaliningrad border in Curonian Spit and within the coverage area of local radio station Neringa FM radio transmitter. The radios will be set off during the daily program of the local radio and will turn on by transmission of certain frequencies by the radio tower of Nida which will broadcast our program among its daily program from 17th-21st of May 2012. The radios function the similar way as the radio controlled mines that were used during the Second World War and were set to explode by receiving certain frequencies through radio transmissions.

Within an organized event the audience would be able to follow the route of our radios and listen to Radio Ahlqvist, with the help of our maps showing the location of all radios installed in the area. The project is based on a research of radio propaganda and sonic warfare which started in our residency at Nida Art Colony.

## MUSTARINDA

Mustarinda is located in Hyrynsalmi (Kainuu province, Finland), surrounded by the partly untouched, old-growth forests of Paljakka Nature Reserve that cannot be observed in any other centre in Finland. It is non profit association founded in year 2009 by artists and researchers. The surrounding view is preserved and valued, and in some places there stand completely untouched old-growth forests. Mustarinda is the only inhabited house on the summit. It is 23km from the nearest town. The Mustarinda Association preserves natural and cultural diversity by bringing together people from art, science and NGOs through discussions, seminars, exhibitions, residency programming and happenings. <http://www.mustarinda.fi>

## KULTIVATOR

is an experimental cooperation of organic farming and visual art practice, situated in rural village Dyestad, on the island Öland on the southeast coast of Sweden. By installing certain functions in abandoned farm facilities, near to the active agriculture community, Kultivator provides a meeting and working space that points out the parallels between provision production and art practice, between concrete and abstract processes for survival. Kultivator initiates and executes meetings between idealism and realism, hoping that fruitful cooperation's should take form. <http://kultivator.org/about/>

## JUSTIN TYLER TATE

(CAN/EE, artist-in-residency 2011 March-May) Softwood Basketball Court – visiting and re-playing installation in the pinewoods.

What is the Softwood Basketball Court? Minimalism/installation/conceptual/performance/participatory-art, relational aesthetics, monumental sculpture, or something else, or all of the above? Also we could talk about how the structure of the installation acts as a bridge between two points in nature while also bridging countries and enthusiasts; Basketball was born in Canada but is the national sport of Lithuania, basketball's relationship to these countries is similar to my own geopolitical movement, and there is also the bridge created between art and team sport (two subjects who's participants aren't known to mingle). So, where do we start? Shoot to see who goes first?

# 17 - 20 MAY 2012 INTER-FORMAT SYMPOSIUM ON REMOTENESS AND CONTEMPORARY ART IN ART & RESIDENCY CENTRES, NERINGA, LITHUANIA

## THURSDAY, 17 MAY

17:00-19:00

Guided tour through art and sightseeing places in Nida (Thomas Mann House and Italian View, Justin Tyler Tate Softwood Basketball Court, etc. VYTAUTAS MICHELKEVIČIUS AND RASA ANTANAVIČIŪTĖ (Nida Art Colony)

20:00

Welcome by Nida Art Colony: Remote dinner with drinks and Pecha Kucha presentations of participating centers (20 slides, 20 seconds for each slide)

ALL PARTICIPANTS

CREDITS

Curated by Vytautas Michelkevičius and Rasa Antanavičiūtė

Design by Sophie Bellot

Team : Linas Ramanauskas, Yulia Startsev, Sophie Bellot and others

Partners  
National Park of Curonian Spit  
Neringa FM  
Beer 'Dundulis'  


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## FRIDAY, 18 MAY

9:00-10:00

BREAKFAST AT NAC

10:00-10:45

1st guest speaker: Irmeli Kokko (FIN)  
*European rural artists' colonies - past and present routes of artists mobility*

CURATOR, LECTURER

10:45-11:15

Case study: Skaftfell Centre for Visual Art (IS) by Litten Nystrom

'SAY-THIS! FJORDUR' – INSPIRING PLATFORM

11:15-11:45

Coffee & chats break

11:45-12:30

2nd guest speaker: Joanna Sandell (SE)  
*Residence Botkyrka – challenging the social in a context specific residency*

DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE BOTKYRKA/BOTKYRKA KONSTHALL

12:30-13:00

Case study: Sanna Culture Manor (EE)

A SMALL SPACEWALK AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT NEARBY NIDA ART COLONY BY HENDRIK NOOR

13:00-15:00

LUNCH (DON VITO)

15:00-15:30

Case study: Mustarinda (FIN)  
CRITICAL THINKING ON ART, ECOLOGY AND ECONOMY

15:30-17:00

Discussion moderated by John Grzinich from MoKS (EE)

- INTERNAL VS. EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES, DYNAMICS OF RESIDENCY LIFE AND LOCAL LIFE

- ARTISTS' AND EXPECTATIONS, WHY DOES IT SOMETIMES FEEL LIKE

INTERPLANETARY COMMUNICATION ?

17:00-18:00

Case study: Serde (LV) & Herbal teas with Signe Pucena

TASTING SERDE RESIDENCY CENTRE WITH A CUP OF LATVIAN HERBAL TEA

19:00

DINNER AT NAC

21:00

Artists' made Sauna in the yard (Error Collective & Ernest Truely)  
STARTS IN THE KITCHEN WITH PRESENTATION

## SATURDAY, 19 MAY

9:00-10:00

BREAKFAST AT NAC

10:00-10:45

3rd guest speaker: Donna Lynas (UK)  
*Structured Openness as a Response to Location*

Artistic director of Wysing Arts Centre (UK)

10:45-11:30

4th guest speaker: Adam Sutherland director of Grizedale Arts (UK)- *Making it work*

Grizedale arts is a residency and commissioning organisation based on a small-holding in the Lake District of England

11:30-11:45

TEA AND COOKIES BREAK

11:45-12:15

Case study: Kultivator (SE) by Malin Vrijman  
The Wedding between Art and Agriculture

12:15-13:00

5th guest speaker: Nuno Sacramento on Shadow  
*Curating and Outing – network of rural residencies in Scotland*

Director of Scottish Sculpture Workshop, Author of the book

"Artocracy: Art, Informal Space, and Social Consequence : a curatorial handbook in collaborative practice"

13:00-15:00

LUNCH AT NAC

14:00-17:00

Nida Art Colony residents Open Studios

16:00

Collective guided tour with artists in the studios

17:00-19:00

Art in public spaces: Bitá Razavi & Jaakko Karhunen (FIN)

Visiting site-specific installation  
Radio Ahlqvist

19:30

DINNER AT NAC

21:00

SWIMMING IN THE SEA

## SUNDAY, 20 MAY

10:00-11:00

BREAKFAST AT NAC

11:00-11:30

Artist Talk from Nida AIR: John Grzinich (EE/USA)  
AUDIBLE GEOGRAPHY, SOUND AND IMAGE SURVEYS OF NIDA

11:30-12:00

Videoprogramme ant talks of Nida Art Colony residents  
YULIA STARTSEV (CAN)

TALKS ABOUT BEING 5 MONTHS AT THE COLONY

12:00-12:15

COFFEE, TEA AND SUNBATHING BREAK

12:15-13:15

Discussion "Finding site-specifics in Remote Residencies" moderated by Melody Woodnutt from NES Residency (IS)

Discussions on the position or "place" that progressive remote and rural artist residencies work within.

13:15-14:00

Open space for input by everybody and Wrap-up of the symposium

ALL PARTICIPANTS AND AUDIENCE

14:00-16:00

LUNCH AT NAC

16:00-18:00

Discussion : Nordic-Baltic Remote Network – to be/continue or not to be/continue FOR NORDIC-BALTIC PARTNERS

19:00

DINNER (JONAS SMOKED FISH)

21:00

GOODBYE CHATS IN THE SAUNA

## MONDAY, 21 MAY

BREAKFAST AND DEPARTURE



VILNIUS ACADEMY OF ARTS

Vilnius Academy of Arts

NIDA ART COLONY

<http://remotenet.nidacolony.lt>