



Treska - Utopian Recreation | Recreating Utopia

Project Description

Treska - Utopian Recreation | Recreating Utopia is a collaboration between Anette Lundebye and Mathilda Tham in partnership with Press to Exit Project Space, Macedonia. This project was invited as part of Press to Exit's programme: Lectures, Presentations and Exhibitions (LPE) and should have taken place over a period of c. 2 weeks in the timeframe 01.09.2008 – 01.11.2008.

This interdisciplinary project aims to explore and manifest the emergent synergies between the Arts and 'Sustainability'. Treska – a recreational centre in Skopje, Macedonia, built in the 70's (now long in disuse) serves as a context for both a practical and critical enquiry. The purpose is to inform new social art-practice by working from a systemic perspective. Using this outdoor centre as a case, the project consists of an on-site investigation into the ecology and the ideology of Treska in view of exploring its possible futures. How might this space meet future needs of Skopje?

From imagination to regeneration, artists, designers and architects have often played important roles in examining and reinserting values in places that may have become neglected. Phenomenological research will be carried through interactive seminars, workshops, and on-site factual and experiential mapping sessions led by Anette Lundebye, Mathilda Tham and representatives from Press to Exit. Participants will

well as students from the Faculty of Architecture, Industrial Design at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at University St. Cyril and Methodius and from the Department of Art and Design, European University, Skopje.

Manifestations of the research will be interpreted by Lundebye & Tham and presented in an exhibition held in the Press to Exit Space alongside a public presentation. We anticipate the media to be a series of contextualized texts, drawings, maps, photography, film and simple models. This documentation will also be collated in a printed catalogue.

Alongside examining and addressing social and environmental concerns in an interdisciplinary and international arena this project contributes to building capacity locally and to sharing knowledge across territorial frontiers. Macedonia's restricted access to cultural exchange, mainly due to the country's economical and political situation emphasizes the importance of the location of the project.

Lundebye & Tham share cross-disciplinary approaches to art, design and fashion with common interests in futures and sustainability. Their particular interest is in catalysing and facilitating change processes through creating methods and tools that can manifest new forms of cultural production alongside a sustainable perspective. Their work is process-driven and is often initiated by workshops.