

Body/Landscape 20-26 June 2008

Landmannalaugar - Thorsmörk Iceland



Interdisciplinary Open-Air Workshop exploring the relationship between Body, Art and Landscape led by

Frank van de Ven (Body Weather Amsterdam) and Milos Sejn (Academy of Fine Arts Prague)

Supported by

Iceland Academy of the Arts, the Bohemiae Rosa Project

Consulate General of the Republic of Iceland in Prague and the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague

Since 1995 Milos Sejn and Frank van de Ven have co-operated in their bi-annual interdisciplinary open air Body-Site-Exploration projects in various National Reserves in the Czech Republic and in Ireland, known as the Bohemiae Rosa Project. (for detailed information see www.bohemiaerosa.org)

During this **intensive** 7-day workshop in the South West of Iceland, we will hike from Landmannalaugar to Thorsmörk (Thor's woods) Natural Reserve. An area with bright rhyolite mountains and black lava fields, birch forests, glaciers and hot springs - a meeting of fire and ice! **Body/Landscape:** The workshop aims to bring our bodies in contact with the multiplicity, unpredictability, directness and autonomy of the natural environment. The body is a landscape in itself moving within the larger frame of the given surrounding environment. The vertical and horizontal layering of the landscape invites us to reflect upon our own layers and connections of **self** and **imagination**.

Programme will include *dance training *practice of and reflection on physical and mental training *walking and wandering, silent walk, pilgrimage and nocturnal journeys *various modes of experiencing body, movement and landscape *investigating divergent senses of space and time *peripatetic records, drawing, writing, immediate contact with surroundings *mental topography of a location, myth, archaic mind and genius loci *Local geology, archaeology and history

An integral part of the workshop will be the individual artistic projects that participants are encouraged to formulate and work on for about 2 hours a day. (in the fields architecture, landscape art, dance, performance, photography, sculpture, theatre, visual arts, biology and natural history). The workshop leaders are available to guide and support these processes. On the last day there will be a presentation of all projects.

Selection of participants will be based on c.v. and motivation. No previous (dance) training is necessary but the workshop will be physically demanding, therefore a good overall condition is required. Trekking and staying in the open will in itself provide an entrance into the Body/landscape theme.

Participants profile: For artists and mature students working in the fields of performance, dance,

landscape art, photography, architecture, sculpture, theatre, visual arts, biology and natural history.

Frank van de Ven is a dancer and choreographer who worked from 1983 until 1992 in Japan with Min Tanaka and the Maijuku Performance Company. In 1993 he founded with Katerina Bakatsaki 'Body Weather Amsterdam', a platform for training and performance. Together with Peter Snow (Monash University) he performs the Thought/Action Improvisations. An ongoing collaboration exists with musician Daniel Schorno, artistic director of Steim in the 'Noughts' project Films (video and 16mm): Dancing Plasy Times 8, CI-VIT, LOM and NOUGHTS <http://bodyweatheramsterdam.blogspot.com>

Milos Sejn works in the fields of visual art, performance and study of visual perception. From the beginning of the 1960s he took pictures, drew, collected and described his observations of nature during his wanderings through the Czech landscape. Currently he teaches mixed media and the relationship of nature and art as intrinsic needs of the mind at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. CD ROMs: Colorvm Natvrae Varietas (Centrum for Culture and Communication in Budapest c3, 2000); Make Your Own Island/Make Your Own Forest (Utrecht School of the Arts, postgraduate education 2001). <http://www.sejn.cz>



photo taken in Killarney National Park South West Ireland

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- Dates** 20-26 June 2008 arrival day Thursday June 19.
- Meeting Place** Thorsmörk Bus Stop. We will provide a mobile phone contact number.
- Access** Thorsmörk is a 3 hr bus drive from Reykjavik. 2 buses daily. Several low cost air carriers fly to Reykjavik from different cities in Europe.
- Lodging** In tents and yurt and occasional hut - bring tent, mat and a good sleeping bag.
- Equipment** Average temperature in June 12°C - weather changes several times a day - you need hiking boots - light sandals - thermic underwear - notebook - backpack - foldable walking stick - goretex raingear - insect repellent - lightweight warm clothes - torchlight - waterbottle - detailed list will follow.

Organization in Iceland Solla Bergsteinsdottir info@solla.org + 31 - 6 - 2111 1 517

Food Communal cooking in rotation

Workshop fee € 250
ISK 32.000 for participants based in Iceland

Insurance Each participant should have a personal insurance. You will need to send us proof of insurance before start of the workshop.

Additional Cost Iceland is expensive. Transport Reykjavik - Thorsmörk by bus is € 40 single fare (not included) Our estimation for simple food for 8 days, camping fees, local transport, back-up and equipment is € 200 pp. but might get slightly higher. Total cost in Iceland will be 250 + 80 + 200 approx.

Booking To apply send name, address, a short c.v. and a motivation letter to Frank van de Ven, Body Weather Amsterdam, frank.bwa@xs4all.nl Within 1 week we will process your application and upon acceptance you will need to send an enrolment deposit of 100 euro to confirm your reservation. The whole course fee and additional costs needs to be transferred before May 15 2008. For payment in Iceland contact local organization.

Information and registration : tel :+ 31 (0)20 68 42 568 / frank.bwa@xs4all.nl

Information in icelandic: Solla Bergsteinsdottir info@solla.org www.solla.org

