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# ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.KLUB MARCH – JUNE 2011

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The **ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub** brought together actors from the realms of art, culture and sustainability.

Curator: Paula Marie Hildebrandt



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## THURSDAY, 10 MARCH 2011

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### PROGRAMME OF THE FIRST KLUB

#### “DO YOU REALLY WANT TO HURT ME?”

#### WORKSHOP, DISCUSSION, MUSIC

The topic of the first **ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub** was “Do you really want to hurt me? On the relationship between human beings and other living creatures” and addressed the questions of: Does the relationship between all living creatures - animals, plants, human beings - have to be re-explored? Do human beings need a new contract with “nature”? Has the time come for a comprehensive understanding of life that also gives, for instance, plants their own rights?

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### WORKSHOPS WITH CREATURE CLUB AND PETA

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#### OPEN KLUB SESSION

with contributions from: **Thomas Macho** (Cultural Scientist, HU Berlin), **Falko Schmieder** (Editor “Überleben. Historische und aktuelle Konstellationen”, Center for Literature and Cultural Research Berlin), **Hilal Sezgin** (Author: “Landleben. Von einer, die raus zog”), **Laurie Young** (Dancer, “Natural Habitat” Project), video message by **John Thackara** (The Doors of Perception), **Derk Ehlert** (Wildlife Expert, Senate Department for Urban Development, Berlin) and the

artists’ group myvillages.org on “Wildlife in Berlin, hunting and processing”

Facilitation: **Britta Steffenhagen** (radio journalist)

As in all club sessions, there was also a common task, created and organised by the Process Institute

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### OPEN-STAGE KLUB SESSION



Foto: Joachim Loch

Following the first Klub session, a reading & discussion in the WortWelten series (curated by **Susanne Stemmler**) took place, dedicated to the relationship between human beings/nature from an artistic point of view, with a performance by **Laurie Young**. Discussion with: **Laurie Young** (dancer, “Natural Habitat” project), **Hilal Sezgin** (author: Landleben. Von einer, die raus zog (Life in the Country. By someone who moved there), published in 2011), **Thomas Macho** (Humboldt University Berlin) and **Falko Schmieder** (Center for Literature and Cultural Research Berlin), **Benjamin Bühler** (Center for Literature and Cultural Research Berlin) and **John Thackara** (The Doors of Perception, are linked in live by video), moderated by **Cord Riechelmann** (biologist and journalist)



Laurie Young / Copyright: Isabel Robson

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WEDNESDAY, 6 APRIL 2011

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## FILM PREVIEW

UNTER KONTROLLE (Under Control)

Following its premiere at the Berlin film festival, and ahead of its launch in German cinemas, **ÜBER LEBENSKUNST** showed this film that makes its own topical contribution to the latest debate about nuclear power: the documentary begins with the promise of a shining, Utopian source of energy for the future. What follows is a panoramic portrayal of nuclear power generation in Germany.

After the screening there was a discussion with **Volker Sattel** (director "UNTER KONTROLLE"), **Prof. Stefan Stefanescu** (Coauthor "UNTER KONTROLLE"), **Adrienne Goehler** (publicist and curator), **Bert Rebhandl** (film critic) and **Prof. Dr. Armin Grunwald** (Institute for Technology Karlsruhe), moderated by **Dorothee Wenner** (journalist and filmmaker).

Arsenal - Institut für Film und Videokunst in cooperation with the Haus der Kulturen der Welt



Copyright: Stefanescu / Sattel / Credofilm

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THURSDAY, 7 APRIL 2011

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## PROGRAMME OF THE SECOND KLUB

"Feel the heat – What can art do to combat global warming?"

The whole world is talking about climate change – even the world of contemporary art. The second **ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub** session asked what role art and culture can play in the current discussion about climate change: to what extent can art be productive and effective in other areas of society? The works of various German and international artists were discussed in this context. Experi-

ments, architecture, design, performance, media art and activism – which particular methods, capabilities and strategies does art have at its disposal? What forms of interdisciplinary research, cross-cultural cooperation and collaboration will meet the challenges of the future?

"How to influence change and engage in **ÜBER LEBENSKUNST**". In this workshop **Julia Harris** presented contemporary innovative projects and initiatives that are exploring the pivotal environmental issues of the 21st century: **Sam Bower**, director of greenmuseum.org (USA), **Jane Trowell** and **Mel Evans** of the activist group Platform (UK), **Alison Tickell**, director of the global green organisation **Julie's Bicycle** (UK).

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Artist **Klaus Fritze** created in vitro plants together with participants at an experimental research station with the help of a Bunsen burner, a disposable cup and several seeds of grass.



"Pasture To Go" / Copyright: Klaus Fritze

As in all club sessions, there was also a common task created and organised by the Process Institute

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THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2011

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## PROGRAMME OF THE THIRD KLUB:

"The revolution will not be televised – Who will take the first step?"

The third Klub session dealt with the power of the individual to take action in a collective issue. We wanted to pose the question: who actually makes decisions and takes action given the conditions of climate change? Polluting, downscaling, donating to charity, consuming, protesting, reforming – we are all part of this cyc-

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le and take part whether we know it or not. The correlations between individual actions and collective concerns are often not clearly visible. The question is thus: where do we start? Isn't the global community too large to deal with its complex problems in small groups? How can we use and protect global public goods (land, water, atmosphere, open-source) together in the here and now? What can we learn from the many do-it-yourself initiatives, the concepts for the free exchange of knowledge and the models for alternative economies?

WORKSHOPS WITH FRANK BÖLTER (ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.INITIATIVE PEACEMAKER – LEORIGAMPARD III) AND OPEN DESIGN CITY

## OPEN KLUB SESSION

with contributions by **Moritz Grund** (SUSTAINABLE DESIGN CENTER e.V.), **Silke Helfrich** (author "Wem gehört die Welt? Zur Wiederentdeckung der Gemeingüter"), **Franz John** and **Michael Rodemer** (ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Initiative RAUS AUS DER BIOTONNE), **Julia Ver-nersson** (Free Public Transport), **Ronni Schendar** and **Till Rohmann** (Audible Approaches for a Better Place)

Facilitation: **Britta Steffenhagen** (radio journalist)

As in all club sessions, there was also a common task created and organised by the Process Institute

## PROGRAMME OF THE THIRD KLUB:



Workshop "Origami-Lab" with Frank Bölter/Copyright: Joachim Loch



Common task with the Process Institute /Copyright: Joachim Loch

## TUESDAY, 31 MAY 2011

### PROGRAMME OF THE FOURTH KLUB:

#### "BORN TO BE WILD – WHEN DOES UTOPIA BECOME REALITY?"

The world was not lost in the fourth Klub session. The current intensification in the global climate discourse that, on the one hand, paints apocalyptic panic scenarios and, on the other, describes technocratic utopias is not very helpful. Attempts are made to capture the options that we have open to us in the future with statistics, projections, forecasts and scenarios. But isn't what we need instead a fundamental change in perception to bring about a basic shift in society and spark new ways of thinking? Teaching raised awareness, slowing down our lives, making the future the present – all of this requires us to unleash our senses and spend a little time.

### WORKSHOPS WITH SHELLEY SACKS (UNIVERSITY OF THE TREES) AND SUSANNA HERTRICH / MICHIKO NITTA (ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.INITIATIVE BERLIN WILD LIFE)

Open Klub Session with contributions by Matthew Herbert, Heike Langsdorf and **Christiane Huber** (performance group radical\_hope from Brussels) as well as **Shelley Sacks**

Facilitation: **Britta Steffenhagen** (radio journalist)

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The well-known British DJ and successful producer, **Matthew Herbert**, was a guest at the last **ÜBERLEBENSKUNST.Klub**. **Matthew Herbert** has dedicated himself to experimenting with politically controversial issues such as commercial food production in his music. In the Klub, he talked about his political activities and fini-

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shed off the evening with sounds for a better future.

Further DJ-Act: KIKI (BPitch Control)



Matthew Herbert/ Copyright: Matthew Herbert

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## CITY WALKS WITH ARTISTS TUE GREENFORT AND LISA RAVE

APRIL 5 AND MAY 10, 2011

As part of the **ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub** **Tue Greenfort** and **Lisa Rave** invited everyone to join them on two city walks through Berlin and its surrounding area. These walks reflected essential issues of **ÜBER LEBENSKUNST** and transferred them into an urban setting. By walking participants were able to experience urban space in a different way. On each walk they were accompanied by guests who shared their particular knowledge and experience with the group.