



'Sensed Futures' from 11:00-13:00 21 September.

TWO SENSED FUTURES. The 'Sensed Futures' was a performance installation in the yard at the seminar venue. House of Futures is working with art and performance strategies as well as more traditional know-ledge and future study methods in order to outline preferred future scenarios for sustainable societies.

Participants visit in the performance installation is part of the co-creation knowledge process at the In100Y-seminars. The two performed futures were not literal mirrors of the two scenarios. Instead they are poetic dimensions of the futures, and Future Mind Tours are performing them as metaphors speaking to other levels of the reisende's consciousness.

Read the words of Future Mind Tours that introduced the participants to what they were to experience in the performance installation 'Sensed Futures':

*Dear Reisende,
Allow us to introduce our selves again. You know this voice. You have heard it from the Future. We are Future Mind Tours, a büro reisende, created in the inner space of the House of Futures to help bring poetic imagery, paradoxes and intuitive visions into the process of visualizing the different future scenarios of In 100 Years. On seminar one we initiated a journey into In 100 Years where the first Reisende were shown how sites of the presents could be transformed into sites of the future through the power of performing gestures upholding the future imaginary landscapes. Your fellow Reisende were then taken into space of new future creation, and we have now processed their words into two Sensed Futures exploring the dichotomy between culture and nature.*



PHOTOS PAGE 13: SILLIE ARENDT



REFLECTIONS ABOUT SENSED FUTURE #2:

THE ANIMALISTIC CREATURE

The woman get closer and closer to the animalistic human. A female creature in office white, nude stockings and high heels is approaching slowly and with more and more won trust. She looks at the woman with longing eyes. Her 'home' is a 'cottage' built in the remains of industry and archives overgrown by nature. Nature has taken over the culture that were once build by man. And man has become something else – this creature over nature.

Others are passively looking, and many are frightened. The whispers are heard in the room. Will this be our world if man allows the power of nature to take over? Does this room represent another perspective to the debate on sustainability or the romantic longing for a 'natural state' of being? Sounds of wind in the trees, howling owls, swampy water, scratching nails and then ... music – remains of man as he used to be, laughter, a baby crying. Instinct is present, and the creature reacts instinctively to the gazes she receives from the surrounding and engaging participants. When she is looked upon with disgust, she becomes aggressive, when she is met with love she becomes loving.

Through the soundsystem the participants can hear the voice of Future Mind Tours saying: "Is this your second Sensed Future? Take a moment. Breath. Listen to the sounds of the Power of Nature. Notice it's features, how

it moves. Now start wondering ... and then get in contact with an agent and ask a question directed at something or someone in this future."

The creature is clinging to the leg of an astonished man, another woman looks at the creature – straight into her eyes. Later it is revealed that this woman was coping with her reactions in the room by confronting her fear. "I couldn't breath in there" – she says ...

Is this the dystopian state when nature takes over?

When finished, the questions were asked and answers that had been written by other participants given. These were written on stone and wrapped in brown paper.

EXAMPLES OF ANSWERS:

// Green living // Scary // Shared responsibility // Love is the answer // Create new business models now // Respect



PHOTOS PAGE 11: SILKE ARENDT



REFLECTIONS ABOUT SENSED FUTURE #1:

INSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRATIC DESIGN

The groups of individuals that visited the Sensed Future "Man-Made World", sit behind two wires, which are part of a bigger visual web of linear lines. These divide the room into parts of a greater visual geometric structure of a social performance design. Three specimens of one of nature's perfect outcomes, the orchid, are hanging from the wires, signaling how elements of nature have been implemented and studied as part of a defined system that is controlled by man – the designer.

The participating individuals have been instructed to follow the behavioral guidelines already encoded in the room. They will hear the clicking sounds of new codes of actions, being typed into the continuously improved systems of social design. Every move is pre-planned and new developments monitored by two designers from IDD (Institutional Democratic Design). Also moderating their own actions and bodies, the two designers are using the advanced tools of bio-mimicry to design and develop themselves and their expression in the process according to the specific situation. They wear transparent clothes, which makes their bodies clear for inspection. They are all scaled and mapped by the anatomic gaze of the other designer.

A bell of three clear tones ring. A voice says: "If this is your first Sensed Future, take a moment. Breath. Listen to the sounds of a Man-Made World. [...] Register what

it makes you feel. What it makes you think [...] When you feel present in this future, you will donate and answer coming from this future [...] We repeat: You will donate an answer coming from a Man-Made World."

The designers are currently testing, whether the participants let themselves become inspired by the distant sounds of a space shuttle pulling into port. This is one of the great acts of man, in which he uses the means of technology to defy gravity, moving into space to get a grand overview of planet Earth. The hollow yet soft sound of a machine is filled with mumbling voices coming from another invention, greatly valued in this Man-Made World; "Democratic?" – "Yes" – "Thank you for voting".

The participants take a pen hanging right in front of him, functionally marking each individual's responsibility to practice their citizenship and contribute with sensible solutions to a Man-Made World.

When finished, the answers are put into transparent plastic cups, placed in systems ready to be used in the process of institutionalized and rational democratic designs.

EXAMPLES OF ANSWERS:

// Totally shared responsibility // Line and Symmetry // Consensus and re-design // Be systematic // Take action, hurry up, work together // Researching what makes people behave in a sustainable and democratic way // Synergetic whole



PHOTOS PAGE 14: SILLE ARENDT

FUTURE CONSTRUCTION SITE:

THE ELEXIR

In the hall outside an almost secret room, a woman stood guard. Her face and limbs were pale white painted, her ripped clothes white like chalk, clear, transparent and untouched. The door she guarded accessed the Future Construction Site. The site was almost empty, only broken by a huge jug of chalk-water in the middle of the site, which pierced the room with a dusty sweet scent. Behind the jug sat a human creature in a dark heavy wooden chair, not male, not female, but an androgynous creature, a representative of the future, dressed in white on white skin, a vacuum, a gateway to the blank slate that the future is. When the participants/reisende had left the Dialogue Room, they were guided into groups of four and led onto the Future Construction Site by the white female guard. When the door closed behind them, this last station of their journey was activated. The guard proposed that the reisende share their elixir of the future – a few words, which they believed, summed up the reflections from the scenario journey they had just travelled. After instructions, their hands were cleansed in chalk-water, preparing them to openness. Standing in a line, they were instructed by the white guard to approach the creature in the heavy

chair, one after the other, the silence only broken by the monotonous bipping sound from the detached telephone on the floor, a direct link into the future void, futures not yet shaped. When each reisende stood before the creature, they would be facing the future void, and all their words and reflections – their elixir – would penetrate this void, resonating empty spaces, collected by Future Mind Tours for the creation of future scenarios. At the same time, this situation was also a ritual for each reisende, an activation of their oath and an articulation of their vision.

A woman stood shivering, her elixir was: 'Loving Leadership'. A mature man stood in front of the creature, his warm eyes met the creatures and he shared his elixir, it was 'Love'. A young man stood in front of the white little creature, he spread out his arms, palms facing the ceiling, looking into the open eyes of the creature in the heavy chair, exchanging energy, the atmosphere in the room turned very intense. They kept eye contact for a while, and then the creature wrote 'Brave' on the young mans hand. A young woman gave the creature her elixir: 'We shall be the Guardians of the World'.