



## PERFORM THE CHANGE

REPORTING FROM FUTURE MIND TOUR'S HEADQUARTERS, COPENHAGEN, 18 JANUARY 2012.

*By Inga Gerner Nielsen, Fiction Pimps / House of Futures*

The 80 participants, all visionaries in different sustainability fields, had already listened to a lecture on the performance theories and motivations behind the rites of the fictional travel agency 'Future Mind Tours' (read the article 'The impact of Future Mind Tours' in ISSUES 2), and therefore they knew that moving down the halls and into the different rooms would involve participating in an interactive performance installation that would show the choreography and archetypes of potential new mind sets. In this setting, the participants were not locked into the traditional audience seats looking into a spectacle created before them.

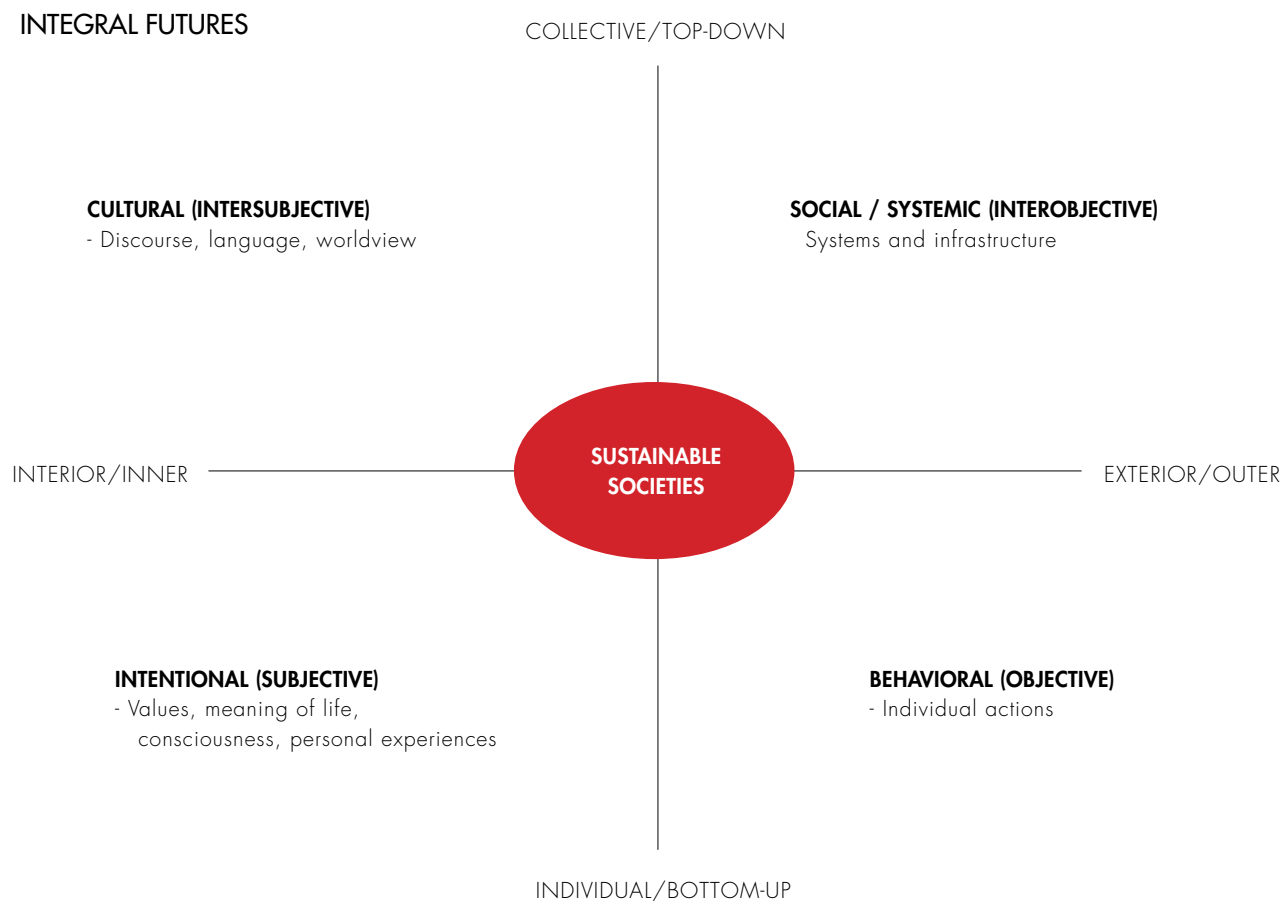
On the first journeys of 'In100Years' the participants had taken part in different ways of working with how we imagine and embody the future. On the first seminar we had created encapsulated images in simple gestures presented on different institutional milestones along the canals of Copenhagen. On the second seminar they had entered into the installation 'The Two Sensed Futures', where they had been immersed and surrounded in the atmosphere of two sketches – or two possible outcomes –

of the scenarios for sustainable societies 2112. At the third seminar they became part of the mystery of 'Acorn Falls', exploring the aesthetic, poetic and transformative moments in life. Now, on the final seminar, the participants themselves would start creating these kinds of art futures.

Walking down the hall the participants would feel the deep bass of the future tickling in the chessboard patterned marble floors. The sound came from DJ Hvad's Indian drone machines and other sound devices on a set placed in the room labelled the 'Conscious Construction Site'. In here, among ancient statues and movable pillars of black, white and red boxes, stood performers and participants experimenting together to transform the idea of a new mindset into sound, collages and movements.

This was just one of the artistic rooms and poetic settings to visit and explore mindsets and mindshifts at the fourth seminar. In another room, 'The Delivery', the Oracle of Delphi was placed in the middle together with a performance artist who guided the participants to ask any question regarding sustainability in a 100 year perspective (see next pages). All the rooms at this seminar and the different performance installations of the other three seminars have invited the participants to engage in artful creation by activating more personal, imaginary and intuitive dimensions than usual on our professional and industrial work scene. Also, we wanted to let the inner images of the participants become visible during the knowledge production at the seminars, making the invisible visible.





## WE NEED A HOLISTIC APPROACH

REPORTING FROM FUTURE MIND TOUR'S HEAD QUARTERS, "THE DELIVERY", COPENHAGEN, 18 JANUARY 2012.

Interdisciplinary creation of futures is the heartbeat of Futures Studies, and in recent years the Integral Futures approach, which draws on the integral theory and systems thinking, are becoming more central to futures work. By explicitly respecting and valuing plural perspectives, Integral Futures meets the need for a holistic yet structured outlook. Integral Futures thinking identifies four primary dimensions of reality, emerging from two key distinctions.

- outer/exterior/objective vs. inner/interior/subjective
- individual/bottom-up vs. collective/top-down

In the project 'In100Years', together with the Core Group, we have added 'top-down', 'bottom-up', 'outer' and 'inner' to the original model used in Integral Futures Studies. In the figure above the four perspectives are illustrated as dimensions that have an equal impact on the long term future. These must all be taken into account exploring and planning for a preferred future. Applying this model to sustainability

in the long run, we asked the participants at the seminar these two questions:

1. Which of the four quadrants do you think will be most important in the transformation towards a sustainable society? (please place red dot)
2. In which of the four quadrants is your present work primarily concentrated? (please place black dot)

On the first day of the seminar participants placed their dots on the poster and on the second day a smaller group went back to discuss the results as they (shown to the right). Many were experiencing that much of the work done in the area of sustainability lies in the top right quadrant, and many agreed that we need to pay a lot more attention to the left quadrants as main drivers of sustainable development – and not least that we need to combine all the drivers of perspectives shown in the figure, and one of the next step must be individual action.

## INTEGRAL FUTURES

In recent years the Integral Futures approach which draws on the integral theory and the ideas of Ken Wilber are becoming more central to Futures Studies.

Integral Futures thinking identifies four primary dimensions of reality, emerging from two key distinctions: between interior and exterior perspectives (or inner and outer perspectives), and between individual and collective perspectives (or bottom-up and top-down). These twin distinctions give rise to a four quadrant model.

The quadrants provide us with four important perspectives on sustainability. Applying this model to sustainability in the long run, we would like to ask you two questions:

1. Which of the four quadrants do you think will be most important in the transformation towards a sustainable society? ●
2. In which of the four quadrants is your present work primarily concentrated? ●

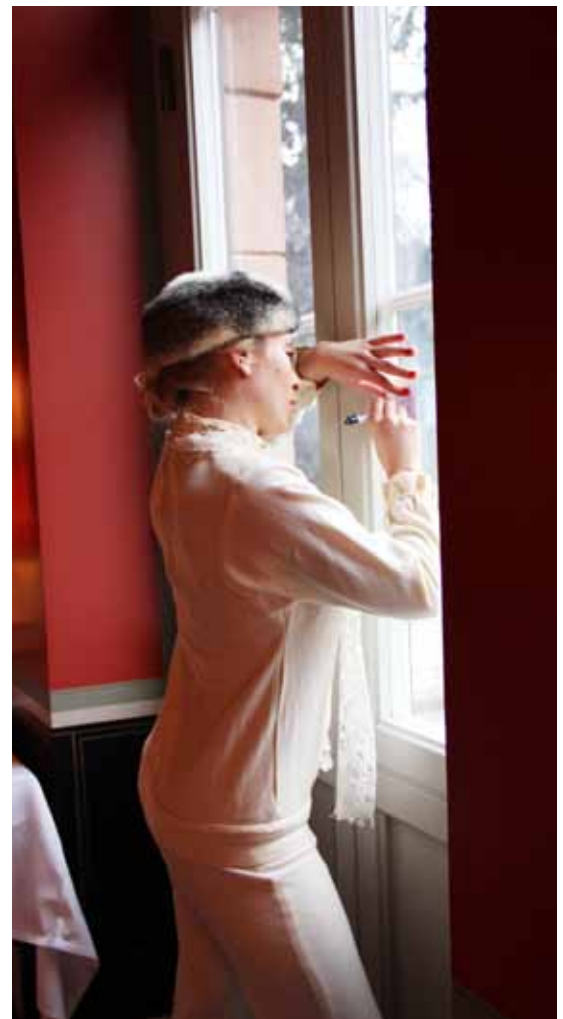
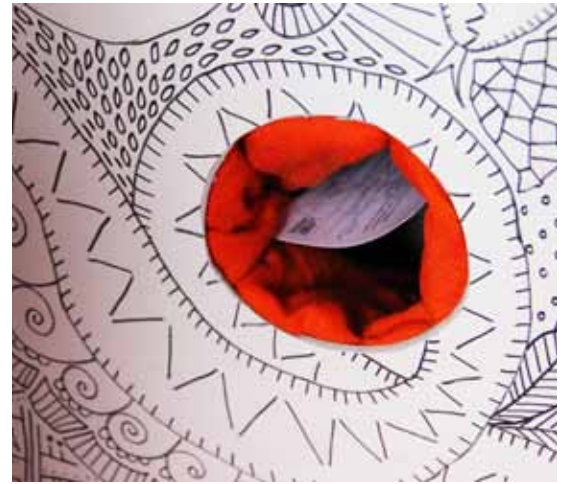




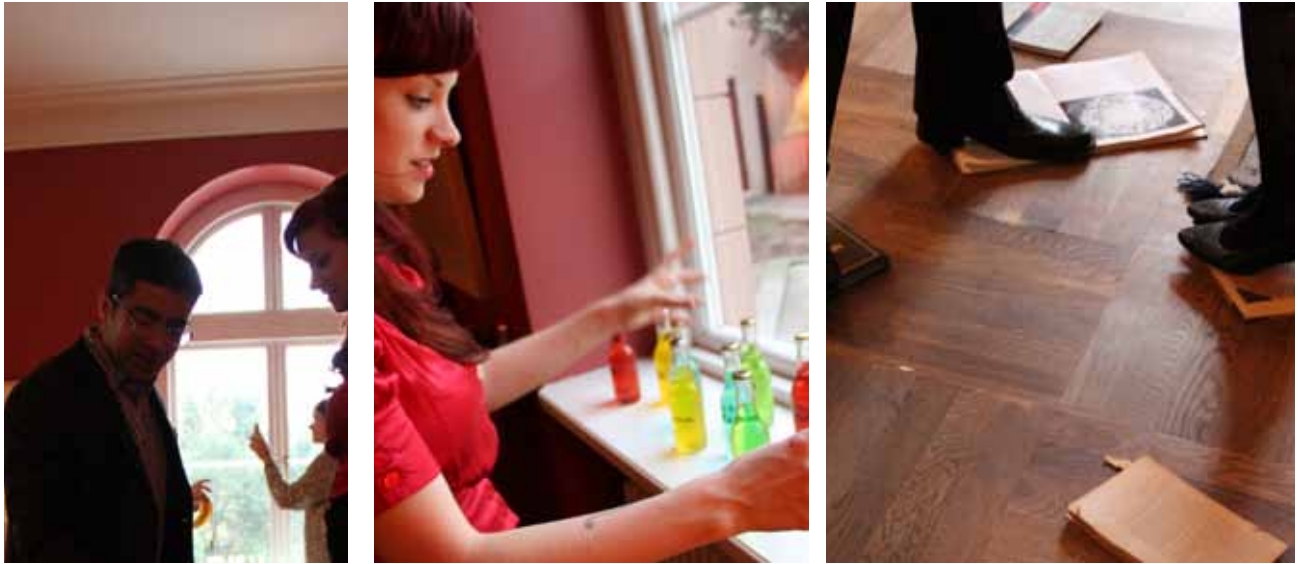
## THE ORACLE OF DELPHI

IN THE 'DELIVERY ROOM' THE PARTICIPANTS HAD A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK THE ORACLE OF DELPHI ANY QUESTION REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY IN A 100 YEAR PERSPECTIVE. BELOW ARE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS:

- Where are humanities in a 100 Years?
- Where should we start?
- What important message is Mother Nature giving us right now?
- Where did we find the power to make the transition in 2012?
- Are we still here?
- What do we need to burn to get to a sustainable world?
- How to move from "shareholder value" consciousness to global sustainable accountability?
- Man or machine in 2112?
- Who should we ask about what the future should be?
- How can we live without greed?
- What is the one most significant action I could take to make the planet sustainable?
- How is art and culture related to the climate in 100 years?
- Will it be possible for humans to moderate needs?
- How can we release the inner source at people?
- What future do we prefer – and how can we be sure that everyone agrees on this?
- What was the key driver to a shift towards sustainability? (assuming the work is now sustainable)
- What future is it that we prefer?
- What does sustainable cities; countries, world etc. consist of? And how can we be sure that everyone agrees on this and is included in this?







## POETIC STEPS

REPORTING FROM FUTURE MIND TOUR'S HEAD QUARTERS, "THE OFFICE", COPENHAGEN, 18 JANUARY 2012.

*By Madeleine Kate McGowan, Fiction Pimps / House of Futures*

The Reisende found the grand dusty rose villa, after passing several hidden doors. Outside the front doors open flames initiated the theme of fire and when entering, two Future Mind Tours agents greeted the Reisende with a rule set of how to act in the headquarters of Future Mind Tours (see rules besides).

When moving through the hall, a door opened up to the main office room, sounds of busy phones and other electrical devices met the ears of the Reisende. In this room everybody was challenged to move in new ways. As an experiment, Future Mind Tours invited everybody to move through the room only stepping on old books. While walking on the books the Reisende were instructed to imagine these books as floating, drifting and humming in the air. The exercise was ment to open up the performativity of the situation, mirroring and questioning the way we normally move, the patterns of everyday life we take for granted. Asking the question – can we move in other ways? Is there not an infinite amount of possibilities in every situation? Every gesture? At the same time, the exercise was ment to open the imaginative force inherent in all of us, forcing the Reisende to experience themselves as floating bodies, surrounded by a vacuum of poetic air. Letting them play, so they were ready to play a serious game.

A part from the imaginative games of this room, the secretary also invited the Reisende to have a seat and discuss their reflections of the day. Simultaneously two agents were communicating with the outside world through blog posts and images.

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- **The Significant Event:** This might be a significant event – keep yourself open to the potential vibrations.
  - **Critic:** Stay alert to temptations to criticize without an image to replace it with.
  - **Symbols:** Stay alert to your reactions on symbols and prepare yourself to have conversations with people in suits.
  - **Resistance:** Be aware of resistance in your system, as this might be symptoms of a new potential you breaking through.
  - **Universe:** A whole deep parallel universe is surrounding you - take the chance to engage in it.
  - **Movement:** What is the cause that you wish to move?
  - **Senses:** While moving in the corridors of Future Mind Tours headquarters direct your attention to one of your senses:
    - *Touch* - Stroking objects is encourage
    - *Smell* - Smell the smoke
    - *Taste* - What is the distinguished taste in your mouth at this particular point in time?
    - *Listen* – Do you hear the sound of 2112?





## THE TIME IS NOW

REPORTING FROM FUTURE MIND TOUR'S HEAD QUARTERS, "THE ROUNDTABLE OF FIRE AND COMMITMENT" COPENHAGEN, 18 JANUARY 2012.

*By Gry Worre Hallberg, Fiction Pimpa / House of Futures*

The 'Reisende' approached the door. The sign said 'occupied'. Thus, a line was forming. They looked through the windows. Twelve people assembled around a round table wearing butterfly masks, the symbol of transformation. We are at the Copenhagen headquarters of Future Mind Tours. And the time is now. The time for alchemy and creation of the new mindset suitable for the new paradigm.

We talk of mindshifts, but before we can shift our minds we must know what mindset to shift into. The new paradigm is yet undefined. We know that one world is dying while another is being born. The new world. Created by people, turning into systems, turning into the mode of everyday life. The paradigm that we are leaving behind has been dominant since the industrialization, the economic paradigm, with its premises of efficiency, duty, rationality and discipline. The new one? This is our chance. The chance of the people assembled around The Roundtable of Fire and Commitment. The time is now.

The sheet of transformation was passed around amongst the participants and they all entered, wrote, the qualities that they considered to be the most important for the new paradigm in the human shapes. Slowly filling them out. Slowly creating the new mindset and by doing so exter-

nalizing their inner landscapes. Bringing it forth, Taking responsibility. And thus, the time for co-creation.

The co-creation of archetypes for the new mindset. The essence of the sum of words, qualities in each human shape. And the discussion went high. Ideas were shared. Leading to new archetypal qualities such as: The farmer, The parent, The child and Pleroma, the perfect unity between human and surroundings. The difficulties of describing the new with the language of the old, also led to the creation of the new word 'Ator' – someone who moves and shakes the world (motivator, innovator, aspirator) but not bound to the connotations of the old.

These archetypal qualities were then written on the back of one of the butterfly masks of transformation. The next person that will be wearing this mask will then be inhabited by and embody this quality, and thus start living it. This is the mystical power of the mask. Remember to consider: What are the first signs of the mindset? How is it facilitated? How is it upheld?

