

ELEMENT AND PERSPECTIVE FLOWS

proposal by Efrosyni Tsiritaki

— How can an embodied engagement with seascapes (and beyond) enhance new modes of perception?



Short description

There is a need to change from within in order to arrive to change around us. Embodied experience, emotional stimuli and creating deeper relationships with our natural environment are necessary.

The route to connectedness begins on the ocean floor, where life came from. Eventhough there is a foundation of a caring relationship through memory there is always a feeling of conquering, of man versus, of the enquiry to submission. In this fight against ourselves, there is a disconnection that needs to be addressed. If all biological beings are 70-90% water, 'there is no body that is not beholden to water' as Astrida Neimanis notes.

Practicing Sailing, an original form of slow travel and the historically first way to exchange, learn and transfer cultures and materials up to then completely foreign, we connect to the human scaled history. Floating at sea or anchored in a bay, not in your natural human habitat; you feel the intrusion, or the hospitality of this ecosystem. Perhaps it will be the first time the perspective is flipped in a very direct way. Exposed to the elements, this internal processing is facilitated. An initial feeling of being outside looking in, replaced by the erasure of otherness, of binary thinking, a relational approach slowly growing. Feeling vulnerable and exposed, possibly the way more than human entities experience interactions with us.

This workshop is an embodied, sensory encounter with the deep knowledge of the sea and a reflection of the ways in which we coexist and live with and from the sea, while we develop a new sense of care for the ecosystem and explore reciprocal interventions in natural spaces.

— Can water be our common language? Or as Donna Harraway calls it, our wild infidel heteroglossia?

Specifications

- *main target group(s):* artists, craft(wo-)men, sea (wo)men, researchers and designers, change makers, students (design, architecture, urbanism, landscape)
- *other target group(s):* environmental scientists, local habitants, associations, boat owners, policy makers, kids,, environmentalists, cooks
- *duration:* 1 to 7 days
- *number of participants:* up to 7
- *location:* at sea, on a sailing boat, on an island
- *language(s):* English, Italian, French, Greek

Preparation

- bring a water bottle and deck shoes, comfortable swimsuit. There will be a more detailed list upon program-fixing
- try to map water cycles and routes, from where you are to where we will be.

Workshop aims and outline

To collectively and creatively explore and research wild coastlines, documenting and learning though being directly exposed to these unique landscapes. To develop regenerative, biobased practices through multispecies cocreating with the natural environment.

Outline of the workshop

- Multi elemental being (meditative and free diving methods)
- Sensory explorations using multimedia documentation
- Gathering and Seeping Collective water memories
- Multiple perspectives of time scales (rock, plant, human)
- Returning to our initial perspective, changed

About the facilitator

Efrosyni is a cultural professional, an artist and sailor. With her academic background in architecture she has worked since 2015 on several cultural and architectural projects in Greece and abroad, in multiple capacities, i.e.project/ construction manager, designer and curator, designing and implementing participatory design workshops and events among others. She has collaborated with taat since 2019. She continuously explores her passion for the sea, sailing and the conservation of the cultures and ecosystems they hold. Efrosyni lives and works in Athens, Greece.

Keywords

#sea#water #seaart #encounterarchitecture #radicalcare #posthuman #holistic #inclusivity #flow #regenerativedesign #multispeciesdesign #systemsthinking

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