



la Biennale di Venezia

Arte
Architettura
Cinema
Danza
Musica
Teatro
Archivio Storico



Biennale di Venezia : Collateral Event : Joseph Beuys "Difesa della Natura – The Living Sculpture : Kassel 1977-Venezia 2007"

Thetis New Arsenal (Castello 2737/f 041 - Venezia - Open: from 11am to 6pm)
Director Lucrezia De Domizio Durini - Codirector Antonio d'Avossa
September 6th 2007 : guest event by **Cultura21** (www.cultura21.net)

The Cultural Dimension of Sustainability; Towards an Ecology of Culture

September 6, the 52nd Venice Biennale, at the **Thetis New Arsenal**, will be the site of a full day of events organized by the international network **Cultura21**. Lectures, debates, performances, videos and a workshop, entitled "the Cultural Dimension of Sustainability – Towards an Ecology of Culture," will commemorate Beuys' "Free International University" at Documenta 6, 30 years ago. The "100 Days of Conference" re-opens, with the theme of "The Defense of Nature".

September 5, the South-African artist **James Reed** (Social Sculpture Research Unit at Oxford Brookes University) and a team of volunteers will perform the **social sculpture** intervention "Agents of Change" outdoors, around the canals in the center of Venice. This will be a **Prequel** event to the main program.

The **Cultura21** network gathers scientists, artists, activists, intellectuals and other cultural actors promoting cultures of sustainability. Its activities range from local initiatives to international events and exchanges.

The **September 6th** program at the **Thetis New Arsenal** will include contributions by the renowned artists **Isabella Bordini** (Progetto per le Arti, Rimini); **Aviva Rahmani** (Ghost Nets, USA); **Shelley Sacks** (Social Sculpture Research Unit at Oxford Brookes University, UK); **Insa Winkler** (Social Land Art Project, Germany); the activists and researchers **Davide Brocchi** (Institut Cultura21, Germany); **Francesca Cozzolino** (EHESS, France); **Hans Dieleman** (Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana, Mexico); **Sacha Kagan** (Leuphana Universitaet Lueneburg, Germany); **Steffen Keulig** (Freunde der Naturvoelker, Germany); **Oleg Koefoed** (Gravitations Centre for Action Philosophy, Denmark); **Michele Marziani** (journalist and writer, Milano) and **Iliara Riccioni** (Free University of Bolzano).

James Reed's intervention (**Sept. 5th**) directly engages the public with the issues of future **sea level rise** and climate change. At Thetis (**Sept 6th**), the first part of the **morning** will start with an introduction to the 'Cultural Dimension of Sustainability' and will be dedicated to a cultural perspective on the world, with a video and debate about **West Papua** – the forgotten war in Asia (Keulig) and a video and debate about Unsustainability in European **university reforms** (Kagan). The second part of the morning will deal with **movements and migrations**, with Bordini's poetic/sound environment "Digital Migration/Fraternité: a fragment" and Marziani's "Journey on the Po River". In the **afternoon**, we will explore **Culture as Change Factor**, with lectures on **Social Engagement and Creativity** (Riccioni) and on **the Field of Social Sculpture** (Sacks). The day will include videos and debates about **The Acorn Pig Project** (Winkler); **Virtuality as Trigger Point at a Global Tipping Point** (Rahmani) and the workshop/performance "Flowers of Sustainability" (Dieleman/Koefoed/Winkler).

The Prequel event on September 5th will take place outdoors in the center of Venice. Access will be free. Events will also be **FREE** at the Thetis New Arsenal!

More information including individual artists websites and the latest updated **program** are available at : <http://www.cultura21.net/venezia.htm>

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