

SUPER STRUCTURES

a little blah blah

a little blah blah presents:
SUPER STRUCTURES
 curated by Sue Hajdu & Pontus Kyander

Collaborative projects hit the streets of Ho Chi Minh City, with artists & designers from Finland, Norway, Sweden & Denmark. Arriving into Vietnam's largest, most intense hub of social and urban change, they have two short weeks to respond to the immediacy of being here.

SUPER STRUCTURES takes the physical grid, the social and economic systems of the city as the starting point. Art is live and responsive, even spontaneous, as localities are scouted, surveyed, negotiated. What are the potentialities of this site & system? What could be infiltrated, grafted or discreetly super-imposed? Will art function as an alien body, an imposition, an irrelevance or a contribution?

Artists

- OLO
- Sten Are Sandbeck
- Peter Johansson & Barbro Westling
- Minna Heikinaho
- Com-pa-ny
- Bank & Rau
- AVPD

Collaboration is an important feature of this laboratory. Participating artists are either collaborative units or will create temporary collaborative structures locally.

The artists projects will be presented at Himiko Visual Cafe. Stay tuned for further details.

OLO



OLO is a collaborative between Helsinki-based artists Pasi Karjula and Marko Vuokola. Despite (or maybe because of) seemingly disparate artistic practices, they have on and off worked together since 1990 with public art projects of both temporary and permanent character. Every project is different in technique and approach, but all named as the same in the OLO series, one of the latest being the buried diamond for Villa de Bank in Enchede, Holland, OLO nr 43.

www.kaapeli.fi/olo
www.vuokola.com
www.kaapeli.fi/karjula

Sten Are Sandbeck



Norwegian artist, Sten Are Sandbeck utilises his solid background in painting for spatial, political and social interventions. His works combine a strong feel for nature and the environment with an expressive and existential, sometimes seemingly aggressive style. On closer inspection, however, there is always a hidden, quirky layer of poetry in his works.

www.stenaresandbeck.no

Peter Johansson & Barbro Westling



Peter Johansson is on his own one of Sweden's most well known artists, with a keen interest for vernacular taste and the crossing between folklore and contemporary culture. Working with Barbro Westling, a well known writer and critic, the duo have ventured into domains of model-theatre, art and economical transactions, and interactions where the roles of performers and audience are merged.

Minna Heikinaho



Minna Heikinaho has an art practice based on direct social interaction with her environment. She opened her studio during a year-long period as a café in an old working class district in Helsinki, where activities of many sorts took shape. She creates situations, where rigid social structures at least temporarily break down.

<http://www.artists.fi/sculptors/kuvanveistajat/heikinaho/index.htm>

Com-pa-ny



Com-pa-ny are Aamu Song and Johan Olin, designers and artists with a very poetic approach to the kinds of objects people actually need to live better and happier lives. Their designs encourage closer relations between people, and between humans and our environment. Based in Helsinki, they are receiving rising international attention in design circles as well as from the art world.

<http://com-pa-ny.com>

Bank & Rau



Lone Bank and Tania Rau (formerly of Bank, Malbæk & Rau) have criss-crossed between painting, spatial design and fashion. Often working in spatial installations, the objects they develop have a strongly painterly and ornamental appearance. At the same time they twist depiction and expectations, deliberately reducing objects to two-dimensional flatness. Their projects have an open interface to the audience, often by creating environments that invite the visitors with a leisurely relaxed mood.

www.kunst.dk/kunstner/bank_rau

AVPD



Aslak Vidbæk and Peter Døssing have with quickly rising success developed their artist' formation AVPD into one of Denmark's most acclaimed artistic ventures in recent years. They work in a field between art design and architecture, combining design methods of early computer graphics, mobile and mechanized spatial constructions, and a strong interest in the relations between space, light and mobility. Their projects are often characterized by a cool, almost sci-fi appearance, based on surprisingly low-tech solutions. Many of their works are based on their PSS, Poly Spatial System.

<http://www.avpd.net>

Curators:

Sue Hajdu

Artist, curator, writer. Artistic director, a little blah blah (albb). Based, HCM City, Vietnam, 2001 >>. Art projects focus on public space, taking on the monumental scale of the city as a whole vs. ephemerality & immateriality, hit-and-run performances, narratives of social relations. Selected projects: [curatorial] The Bao Loc Project (Bao Loc, Vietnam 2007) [personal] HAKOtte? (Sendai, Japan, 2008 & <http://www.s-a-p.jp/suehajdu>), Colorguard Series, (HCMC public space, 2007), MAGMA I we're not counting sheep (HCMC, 2006). www.suehajdu.com

Pontus Kyander

Art critic and curator. Guest professor at Ewha University, Seoul Korea. Public Art Manager at Auckland City Council, New Zealand, Aug. 2008 >>. Selected exhibitions: Domestic Affairs. Five artists from Hong Kong (Malmö 2008), Gustav Metzger, work 2006-7, Lund Konsthall and Zacheta National Gallery of Contemporary Art Warsaw, Seoul: Until Now! (Charlottenborg, Copenhagen 2005), From Dust to Dusk (2003), Ernesto Neto (2002), Sur Face (2001), Waterfront (2000), Nature of Man (1998)

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