

Screening at Ibrida*Pluri Festival

3rd edition

I'm talking to your spirit

Curated selection by Kristín Scheving

Curatorial statement:

“Life is a series of natural and spontaneous changes. Don't resist them - that only creates sorrow. Let reality be reality. Let things flow naturally forward in whatever way they like.” —Lao-tzu

There is something in the air, in the water, in our minds. We feel the shift coming slowly closer to us and it becomes us. When we listen to each other the messages are clear, there is something else. Different languages are not boundaries between us as we know that if we listen we will understand it, we will understand each other.

Scheving has brought together a group of North European and Nordic artists who all have weaved into her own lifestory as an organiser, curator and fellow artist. She has asked them to respond to few words that were on her mind when she was asked to make a selection for Ibrida*Pluri festival.

message
connection
communication
parallel lives
language

Artists:

Katerina Mistal (SE) 11.00
Nina Lassila (FI/BE) 8.43
Ina Otzko (NO) 1.47
Ásdís Sif Gunnarsdóttir (IS) 1.39
Haraldur Karlsson (NO/IS) 5.30
Kristín Scheving (IS) 2.12
Ivolo Frank (GR/DE) 5.09
Sigrún Harðardóttir (IS) 6.00
Margarida Paive (NO/PT) 6.47

“THEN WHAT” by Nina Lassila

The protagonist (the artist) is in Paris exploring and researching different phenomena. She is also very much aware of herself during the process.

She believes she finds links between different things, a connection, a message of some sort. What she finds is difficult to explain - she herself is unsure about her discoveries. The question remains - then what?

I'm fascinated, almost as a child, by the unexplainable. I combine my childlike curiosity and my "mature" skepticism and explore different issues with this method.

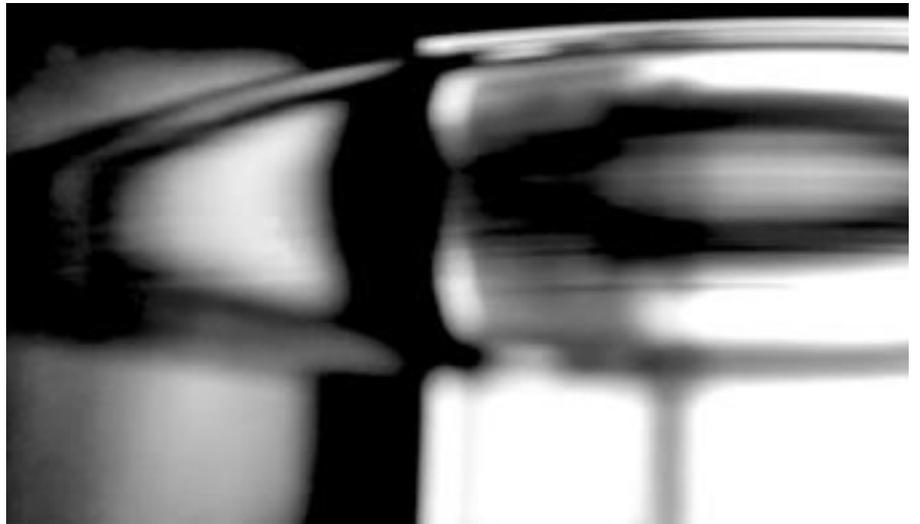
I write a script about my process and create a video. This time the result is somewhat similar to a documentary.



'THEN WHAT' by Nina Lassila
2009, 8.43 min.

"Make me tender again" by Ina Otzko
1.47 min., 2017

A deep feeling of rythme takes over and makes you want to move and dance in a shamanic transformation.





"Sveitagong" by Kristín Scheving
(Countrygong), 2015, 2.12min

Sveitagong is a reflection on inner peace through and with nature and sound. Passing sounds of gong with sounds of digital glitches make you think of repeating memory from the past. What is a real memory and what is a made memory.

The person is coming out of a transformation; she is changed after a life altering experience.

A man interviews a woman.

It is a bit of a puzzle, as to what actually happened.

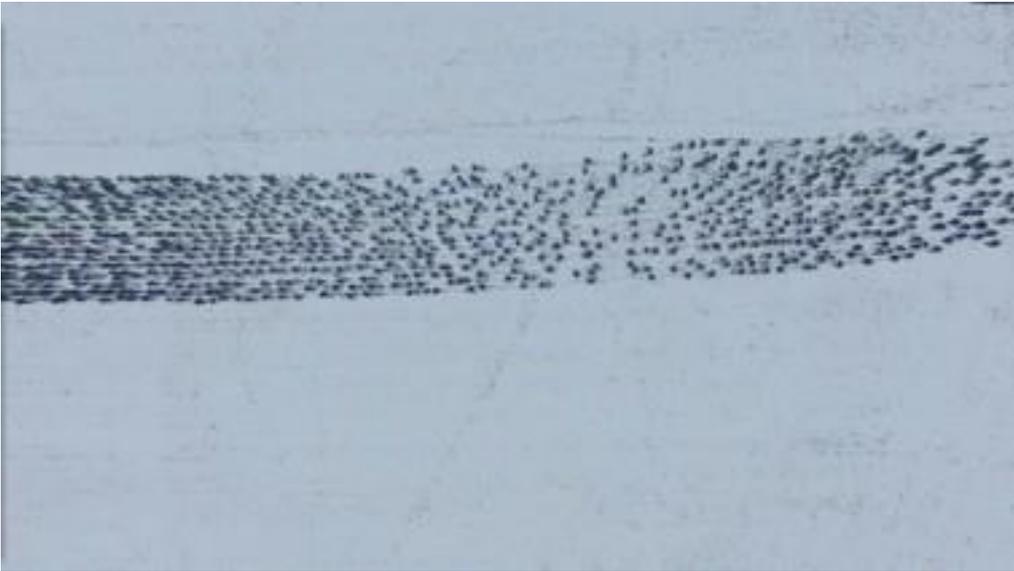
She is coming out of a pile of clothes and books. He is asking her all the right questions, the psychological ones: Is she a better or a wiser person afterwards?

Does life make you wiser?

Has she learned anything?



"Misty Blue Rain" by Ásdís Sif Gunnarsdóttir 1.39 min. 2015
filmed by Saga Sigurðardóttir
Voices: Ásdís Sif Gunnarsdóttir & Daniel Björnsson



"Forward" by Katerina Mistal
11 min., 2016

This is a story of a man walking through a snow covered landscape. From a bird's eye view, we can only see some individuals carving a track in the snow and then some more, and finally a group that follows in their footsteps. The group expands sometimes to a crowd and later consists of only single individuals. They are passing together through an anonymous landscape, trying to find the right direction on his journey.

"Gaia Breathing"
"Gaia in Action"
by Sigrún Harðardóttir
3 min and 3 min, 2011



The theme of Gaia, refers to Mother earth who, according to Greek Mythology, is the "Mother of all" and who was never separated from the earth nor personalized. This theme allows me to reflect on the resemblance between human expression and the forces of nature as well as the sonic and visual diversity of water and earth. I began this body of work in 1991 first in painting and now lately in video as well.

Frank and Kleemann are both part of the Danish/Greenland communities – and both work internationally. It is this dualistic landscape, that FACES – take I takes on, through poetry, art transgression and extreme close-up. In the end, we are dealing with humans. How do we go about this brand new world? How is our identity changing and coping accordingly? These are some of the questions, that the artists aim to raise - and answer, by setting an example.



*"Faces" by Ivalo Frank in collaboration with Kleemann
2016, 5.09*

In Terralations is the second video of the series Nature in Dark, a performance concept by Fernanda Branco, where she walks blindfolded in the nature. This video uses the Nordic nature as a stage for a poetic performance in which a body finds its way in the forest without seeing. We follow this woman through her lost venture in the dark. She does not see, she does not notice the observer, she is in a close relation with nature through her instincts and fears.



*"In Terralation" by Margarida Paiva
Performance and concept by Fernanda Branco.
2013, 6.47min*



"Internal Brain" by Haraldur Karlsson
2015, 5.30 min.

Short bio:

Ivalo Frank (GL/DE) is born Greenland to Danish parents. Frank has lived in several countries and now resides in Berlin and Copenhagen. Holding a MA in Philosophy and Social Science from Lund University, she works as an artist and visual anthropologist.

Frank has made films in various countries such as Bosnia, China and Greenland and the content range from post-war portraits and post-colonial perspectives to in-depth interviews with citizens from the former DDR. Her films are shown in academic, art and film contexts world-wide, e.g. at the Humboldt University of Berlin, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art and IMC gallery, New York. Selected for numerous international film festivals, Frank's work has been included in CPH:DOX and the International Film Festival of Cinematic Art a.o. She has won a number of awards a.o. the Honorable Mention Award, Los Angeles International Film Festival and Best Documentary Award, London Underground Film Festival.

Having contributed to numerous publications, including Kritik (Gyldendal) and Asian Art Newspaper, Frank is the director of Greenland Eyes International Film Festival, the largest festival on contemporary Greenland, celebrated last at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C

Nina Lassila (FI/BE) is a visual artist born in Helsinki, Finland currently living and working in Berlin and Belgium. Nina Lassila works mainly with video and performance. In many of her works she deals with questions of identity – specifically identity affected by social barriers, conventions based on gender and upbringing and cultural differences. Her other bodies of work explore issues of i.e supernatural phenomena, art and economic structures.

She has taken part in several group shows and video festivals internationally.

i.e The Istanbul Biennial, Rencontres Internationals Paris / Berlin / Madrid, SHE DEVIL V Macro Museum Rome, XV Art Fair Mänttä , Reykjavik Arts Festival, Kassel Documentary & Video art festival, Reality Check TSSK Trondheim , LOOP Barcelona, Une Chambre á soi at Gallery Christophe Gaillard in Paris, The Bristol Biennial.

Education: Swedish Polytechnics FIN 1994-1997, School of Photography & film Gothenburg SE 2000-2002, Valand School of Fine Arts (MFA) 2004-2006, Guest at ENSAD Paris 2009.

Haraldur Karlsson (NO/IS) holds a diploma in Mixed-Media from the Icelandic art school in Reykjavik and BA diploma in Media-Art from AKI Enchede, Holland. Further to this he studied Sonology over 3 years in the Royal Conservatorium Den Haag under the guidance of professor Clarence Barlow. For many years Karlsson worked at the Icelandic Academy of Arts as the head of Media-Lab, which he had designed. Karlsson has had exhibitions, performances and lectures in Iceland, Holland, Belgium, England, Czech Republic,

Finland and Norway. He is currently based in Oslo and works on several national and international video-art commissions.

Sigrún Harðardóttir (IS) studied at the Icelandic School of Art and Crafts and at the State Academie of Fine Arts, in Amsterdam. Sigrún also holds a Master's Degree of Arts in multimedia from Université du Québec à Montréal. Sigrún has shown her works for over two decades in Iceland as well as in Canada, USA, The Netherlands, Germany and in Denmark. Her works can be found in the National Gallery of Iceland, Reykjavík Art Museum, Kópavogur Art Museum, the National Bank of Iceland, at the Reykjavík Energy Corporation and at the Sudurnes Energy Corporation.

Ina Otzko (NO) born in Northern Norway has a dual Master's from the Image and Communication and Fine Art programs at Goldsmith College in London and an additional Master's degree in sound studies from the Berlin University of Arts. She actively participates in the work of many cultural institutions in Norway and abroad as an artist and curator. In her performance and photo/video projects, Otzko works with the theme of corporeality in a personal and societal context. Many of her works explore how new spaces transpire or are created between the meeting and the confrontation between the inner and outer, longing and belonging, intimacy and vulnerability. She lives and works in Norway and Italy.

Ásdís Sif Gunnarsdóttir (IS) studied in School of Visual Arts and UCLA for Video Art, Installations and performances. She received a master's degree in 2004 and has since then been actively exhibiting. She has found unusual ways in exhibiting as well, for example doing performances through Skype, or doing performances in the cinema before the movie starts. Recently she did a big performance show at the Berlinale HAU 1 theater where she used edited videos in the background and made live video on stage as well as calling in people through Skype, as part of the script. In this performance every art medium came together, the performance, the poetry, the video installation and video art.

Kristín Scheving (IS) is a visual artist, curator and the founder and director of 700IS Reindeerland, Experimental Film and Video Festival in Iceland from 2005 - 2015. She is the founder and is currently the head of Vasulka Chamber, center of Electronic and digital Art, at the National Gallery of Iceland. A collaborative project with pioneers of video Art, Steina and Woody Vasulka. Scheving has curated, directed and produced many art events and exhibitions, like Independent people for Reykjavík Arts Festival in 2012 and other visual art projects for the Nordic house in Reykjavík. She studied fine arts in the École Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs de Strasbourg in France, and went on to study at the Manchester Metropolitan University, UK and completed a BA(Hons) in Visual Art followed by an MA in Media Arts in 2003. Kristin has worked internationally as a curator and a visual artist for over a decade and is also involved with artist run studio and gallery space in Iceland.

Katerina Mistal (SE) is a visual artist based in Stockholm. Her work revolves between video and photo in connection with the installation. In recent years she has worked with site-specific video installations. She is interested in the representation of landscape, and how landscape shapes national identities. She has exhibited Fear Of Landscape at the Gallery Hippolyte in Helsinki 2004, Margins at the 7th Biennale of Photography in Poznan, Poland, in 2011, and at the Örebro County Museum Fotosommar, Den andra blicken, in 2012. She has explored the theme of unknown sites in photo-based installations, Avspärrat/Cordoned-off at the Eskilstuna Art Museum 2008-09; Riots at the 2010 Thessaloniki PhotoBiennale in Greece, and at the Reykjavik Arts Festival at the Nordic house, in 2009. As part of the Informal Cities Project by RUCA in Stockholm, she worked on Limits, with children from primary schools in Soweto, South Africa. In 2011 she exhibited the first part of her ongoing project Mapping Europe at the Åland Art Museum. The second part of Mapping Europe was shown at the Photolreland Festival in Dublin –exploring the theme Migrations: Diaspora & Cultural

Identity, portraying children living on the southern border of Europe by the Mediterranean sea.

Margarida Paiva (NO/PT) is a visual artist, originally from Portugal, living and working in Oslo. In 2007, she completed her Master degree at the Oslo National Academy of the Arts, and has earlier studied at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Porto and Art Academy in Trondheim. Her work has been shown widely in exhibitions and international festivals since 2000, and she has received several art grants. Her short film *Every Story Is Imperfect* (2012) has recently been awarded at FOKUS 2014, Nikolaj Kunsthal (DK). Recent exhibitions include *Stories and Desires From Who Sleeps* at Camara Oscura Contemporary Art Gallery in Madrid (ES), *Stereo. Not Mono* at F15 Contemporary Art Gallery in Moss (NO), *3rd Space* at II Baltic Biennial in St. Petersburg (RU), and solo exhibitions at Muratcentoventidue Contemporary Art Gallery in Bari (IT) and Oslo Intercultural Museum (NO).