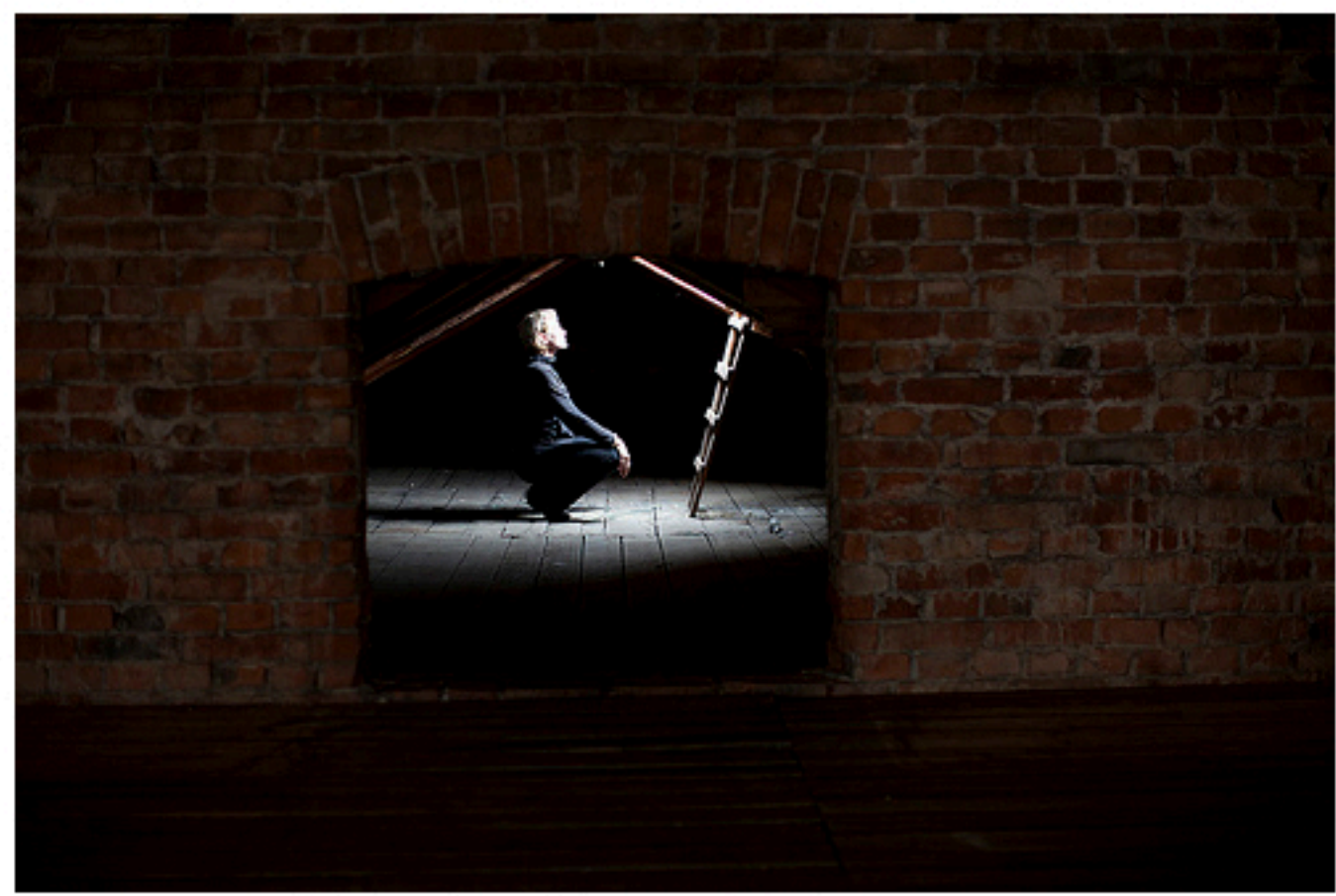


Species Rejmyre LAB 2011

Written by admin on July 21, 2011



Robyn Backen during her performance *Exposure*

Experimental art in an unexpected environment

It has happened to exciting things in Rejmyre service area. Artists from around the world gathered for about two weeks to participate in Rejmyre Art Lab. The project is artist run and was originally sprung out Rejmyre Matters, but has been independent since 2007. In the forefront stands Sissi Westerberg with, among others Daniel Peltz, and in total have you been a little over ten participating artists.

Rejmyre Art Lab is an artist run project, and has had several purposes. On the one hand, you have different artists come together and take time to discuss and explore their own and others' art, but also wants to create a more public platform fits the contemporary experimental art. Sissi Westerberg notes that much of contemporary art in many cases do not go out on a solo artist in a single studio, but that it depends on entirely different premises. By offering a place with a rich and inspiring history, and the opportunity to show and exhibit at this location, it is hoped to create a stimulating agreements on environmental

The schedule for the artists have been quite strict. Much time has been on her own projects, but has also worked a lot together. During the evenings, there have been presentations where one artist at a time, got to show up and discuss their particular work, which many agree has been both unusual and rewarding. Often the end of art studies, also the end of this kind of detailed discussion on the works, and the idea is to give artists the opportunity to really go into its creation by letting others be part of the process.

The participating artists are all at different places in the career and artistry, and has come to Rejmyre from around the world. Among the Swedish representatives are Sissi Westerberg, artist collective raketa, Emanuel Almborg, Hanna Lundborg and Maria Johansson. Along with them are Alex Auriema (USA / Germany), Robyn Backen (Australia), Daniel Peltz (USA), Benjamin Slotterøy (Norway / Sweden), Tracy Steepy (USA), Carolyn Strauss (USA / Netherlands) and Shirin Adhami (U.S.).

All artists have different experience Rejmyre Art Lab, some have been several times before, while some are completely new. Robyn Backen among those who joined the project this year, and she tells us with both amazement and fascination on his first visit to Rejmyre . The feeling of coming to a new and strange place, along with the fantastic facilities available on the old glass factory, inspired her to make the performance work *Exposure*. In this she let herself and the present, discovering a completely darkened warehouse space by gradually adding light and sound.

Even Daniel Peltz has worked with performance art form, and his works *Tourist: A pilgrim in Rejmyre there is documented and displayed on a television screen in the tourist office.* Work consists in prostrations, walking from the English magazine to the Coop-op, where he measures the distance between the sites with his own body. For Peltz, it was interesting the ritualization of a place, and how the importance of a behavior can vary quite the place it was taken on.

Outside the entrance to the glass factory is a park bench perfectly is overgrown with green, heavy moss. This is Benjamin Slotterøys *Moss Plant*, a work that tells of the human's transience. What would happen if one day we lost? What would remain and what would come to?

Inside the glass museum, Maria Johansson exhibited his dreamy and stylized glass art *History Storage and Conversation Containers*, and which creates an interesting contrast to the traditional glass objects are lined up in the stands. Just outside the doors of the museum you stumble then over Alex Auriemas and Emanuel Almorgs *Untitled*, which consists of a hand blown Coca Cola bottle, the first industrially manufactured glassware, and a film consisting of film clips that show traditional glass blowing with automated industrial production. It tells the story of the contrast between the industrial and the handmade.

As you can display artists' work in several locations around the crafts, and some things have also moved into the society's antique shop. Among the traditional antiques are Sissi Westerberg's Becoming & Return, which is two furniture that turned into something new, something more organic and alive. They are interesting and surprising contrast to the other objects, and really enhances the visit to the store - whether you're there for the artworks or other objects.

Slightly less space bound, or perhaps the most space-bound of all, is Shirin Adhamis *Call Rejmyre*: This artwork is at number 085592284 and is based on the different ways that the city name Rejmyre can be said on. For a long time, the pronunciation and spelling varied, and ShirinAdhami want to capture this by allowing people to share their own version as part of her work. For those who want to participate, simply dial the number, listen to the contributions and then make their own.

At first it seems somewhat strange to find these artists in a small östgötsk industrial town, but after a while it feels more natural and obvious. It is a place which, with its history offers plenty of inspiration. Since Rejmyre is so small and so incredibly tied to the mill as a cultural and historical phenomenon, it would be a very interesting thing that as an artist to come there and work on their creations. The short, about two weeks of their stay has resulted in an intense interaction between the participants, which most people seem to be very happy with.

For those who want to look at it very interesting physical result of this project are several works on site in the works area until July 31. Manner in which the new plants will be incorporated with other phenomena, such as glass museum and antique shop, makes the visitor will experience a variety of things at once. Many thoughts arise, not only about contemporary art in itself, but also what can be achieved when combined with something that has a heavy historical rucksack. In this hour meets still art, in my opinion, one of its main objectives-to create new and different worlds in the world that we believe we are accustomed.

Lyrics: Karolina Nilsson
Photo: Shirin Adhami, Rejmyre Art Lab and Karolina Nilsson

Rejmyre handicrafts, Rejmyre
The exhibition runs from July 16 to 31

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