



ÜBER LEBENSKUNST

INITIATIVE FOR CULTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Haus der Kulturen der Welt

Ein Initiativprojekt der Kulturstiftung des
Bundes in Kooperation mit dem Haus der
Kulturen der Welt





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About the project

How do we define "good living" given the global ecological crisis? This question, which is relevant for everyone no matter what social group they belong to, is the central thematic focus of ÜBER LEBENSKUNST (the art of living), an initiative project of the Federal Cultural Foundation in cooperation with the Haus der Kulturen der Welt. In a multi-part programme, the project explores the profound changes our planet is undergoing through art – in performance, visual art, music, discourse and literature. ÜBER LEBENSKUNST brings together actors from widely varying disciplines to identify existing strategies and to develop and test out models of sustainable living fit for day-to-day life. In 2011, ÜBER LEBENSKUNST will turn the city of Berlin into a showcase for artistic projects that bring together culture and sustainability with an event series, campaigns and urban installations and the festival itself from 17 to 21 August.

ALL FOR ONE AND ONE FOR ALL

The ÜBER LEBENSKUNST initiative project aims to take the reality of climate change, which is still abstract for many people, and relate it to the decisions individuals make in their day-to-day lives and make it more tangible as part of our social responsibility. How will I get to the office today? What will I eat? What will I wear and where do my clothes come from? Each and every individual can change the world and still meet his or her own needs by doing away with routines and reshaping everyday life. This goal requires an alliance to be forged between the realms of art, science, politics and civil society so that new habits can be developed and learned as part of a cultural shift that everyone participates in. They are the key to the art of sustainable living at the beginning of the 21st century that has both a local and global dimension.

FOR A SUSTAINABLE QUALITY OF LIFE

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST seeks out contemporary models of sustainable living in artistic and cultural initiatives – with imagination and sensuality. The project looks at the concrete worlds the city's inhabitants live in. Working together with artists, scientists and activists, projects are being developed in the areas of food production, mobility, resource consumption and education. These projects show that sustainable living doesn't mean having to make do with less, it means having more: a quality of life that doesn't harm the natural environment and heightened awareness and prudence in how we deal with resources in our day-to-day lives. Challenging familiar standards and needs will no longer be seen as a call to downscale but as an opportunity to find new ways of looking at the world.

GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABLE CULTURAL PRODUCTION

The ÜBER LEBENSKUNST project pursues a strategy of climate neutrality. In addition to a scientific-technical analysis that captures the project's "carbon footprint", an environmental life cycle assessment will be conducted that proposes projects to offset the unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions generated throughout the course of the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST project. Consultants are accompanying the overall project, providing scientific and technical advice on sustainable management and project implementation. Based on the experiences with the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST project, a guide will be created for the sustainable management of art and cultural projects and events which relates to the Berlin-Brandenburg region.

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PROGRAMME

In keeping with the principles of sustainability, ÜBER LEBENSKUNST focuses on Berlin and its inhabitants. This metropolis with residents from 190 countries is a symbol of a model city for the art of sustainable living at the beginning of the 21st century.

The project, which will run over two years, was launched in April 2010 with a CALL FOR FUTURE that received submissions for more than 850 project ideas. In 2011, ÜBER LEBENSKUNST will turn the city of Berlin into a showcase for artistic projects that bring together culture and sustainability: An international jury has selected 14 ÜBER LEBENSKUNST. Initiatives which are receiving support for one year at various locations throughout Berlin. Other projects are coming up with strategies for sustainable living using food, mobility and fashion as examples: a larder (VORRATSKAMMER) with food from the region around Berlin, new models for urban mobility and stories about pieces of clothing and the people who wear them.

The ÜBER LEBENSKUNST. School educational programme, which was jointly developed with the Future Institute of the Free University of Berlin, will bring the issues of culture and sustainability to classrooms throughout Germany and the national committee of the UN Decade "Education for Sustainable Development" added this project to the official measures in the national action plan.

With a festival to be held in August 2011 that will present all of the individual projects that have come into being by then, ÜBER LEBENSKUNST also reflects on the practice of creating contemporary culture and thus about itself. The festival seeks new ways and formats of conveying culture between art and day-to-day life at both the local and global levels.

In the run-up to the festival, the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST. Club will bring together actors from the realms of art, culture and sustainability starting in March. In addition, there will be many readings, discussions and concerts in the Haus der Kulturen der Welt under the auspices of the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST project.

Direction:

Hortensia Völckers, Director of Arts, Kulturstiftung des Bundes
Bernd M. Scherer, Director, Haus der Kulturen der Welt

Curators:

Detlef Diederichsen, Paula Marie Hildebrandt, Valerie Smith, Susanne Stemmler, Matthias von Hartz, Janek Müller

Coordination:

Andrea Peschel

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Festival Über Lebenskunst

**17 - 21 August 2011 in the Haus der Kulturen der Welt and the city of Berlin
Installations, performances, concerts, films, workshops, readings and discussions**

During the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST festival, the Haus der Kulturen der Welt will be turned into a hub for artistic installations and practically-oriented model experiments over four days and nights in August 2011. It will create new perspectives on the art of sustainable living in light of the global challenge posed by the environmental crisis. Visitors will be included as active participants. If they want, they can arrive at the festival in a solar boat, spend the night in temporary festival structures and talk with artists and international experts. The supported ÜBER LEBENSKUNST Initiatives will not just be presented in the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, their impact will unfold in various locations of the city, thus inviting every Berliner to participate.

Local and international artists, designers, architects, theatre producers, musicians, activists, authors and researchers will transform the Haus der Kulturen der Welt into a temporary utopia for living and working. The architecture of the Haus der Kulturen der Welt and its functionality will be reconceptualised and experimented with from a variety of different perspectives.

The interdisciplinary ÜBER LEBENSKUNST festival invites everyone to participate and change their perceptions. Visitors can try out different aspects of a new art of sustainable living that combines the joy of living with active involvement. Even just getting to the festival will give visitors the chance to experience different types of mobility. The VORRATSKAMMER (larder), which contains different kinds of food added throughout the year, won't just yield tasty delights, it will also provide interesting information on the origin and production of regional food. The project MEIN LIEBLINGSTEIL links the history of different articles of clothing to the people wearing them.

The ÜBER LEBENSKUNST festival will establish a link between local activities for sustainable culture and the global discourse level. To this end, a platform is being developed that makes use of new transmission technologies to bring together experts from around the world in a discussion. The discussion will be enhanced by artistic projects that provide insight into sustainable social and artistic practices in various cities and regions of the world. It will be possible to view all of these discussions live on screens set up in the auditorium of the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, at partner institutions on other continents as well as via Internet streaming.

Festival participants: Nnimmo Bassey (NG), Folke Köbberling & Martin Kaltwasser (D), Lisa D (D), John Jordan (GB), Adrian Lohmüller (D), Rikke Luther (DK), myvillages.org (D/NL), Marjetica Potrc (SLO) & Ooze Architects (NL), Vandana Shiva (IN), Kris Verdonck (BE), Benjamin Verdonck (BE), Zeitkratzer (D) and many others.

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AN OVERVIEW OF ALL PROJECTS

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.School – since September 2010

The educational programme for 18 artists and creative individuals was developed in cooperation with the Future Institute of the Free University of Berlin.

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Initiatives – since September 2010

Following a global call for project submissions, 14 initiatives were chosen to receive support for one year with up to €20,000. Their work will be on display at various locations throughout the city in 2011.

VORRATSKAMMER – since July 2010

The one-year-long project of the artistic initiative, myvillages.org, explores the issues of food cultivation and food in and around Berlin and is responsible for catering at the festival.

MEIN LIEBLINGSTEIL – starting in February 2011

The cycle of clothing production, sales and consumption is told using the stories of individual articles of clothing, the people who wear them and the people who make them.

URBAN MOBILITY – starting in February 2011

New strategies for urban mobility will be developed and prototypes created for the festival on the basis of "innovative uses".

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST ANTHOLOGY – Suhrkamp Publishing August 2011

The anthology collects new literary and philosophical essays that reflect on future lifestyles in light of the environmental crisis.

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST Festival – 17. to 21. August 2011-04-13

Four days and nights with installations, performances, concerts, films and discussions. The festival seeks new ways and platforms for conveying culture between art and day-to-day life at both the local and global levels. It will also present all of the individual projects that have come into being by then.

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OTHER EVENTS THROUGH SUMMER 2011

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Club – 10 March | 7 April | 12 May | 31 May 2011

The club is dedicated to experimental formats that deal with sustainability issues.

Lectures - WordWorlds – discussions and readings – 10 March | 31 May 2011

Experts and authors from around the world discuss the environmental crisis and sustainability.

HKW Local – concerts – 7 April | 28 April | 5 May | 12 May 2011

Berlin's international music scene composes and performs ÜBER LEBENSKUNST live

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ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.SCHOOL

**Educational program for artists and creative individuals
September 2010 - August 2011**

Young people are the leaders of the future. ÜBER LEBENSKUNST wants to enhance their skills and creativity for shaping a future worth living. Education is the way to achieve sustainability which is why it is one focus of the initiative project of the German Federal Cultural Foundation and the Haus der Kulturen der Welt. The educational program jointly developed by the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Schule and the Future Institute Berlin's Free University brings together artistic strategies with the concept of "Education for Sustainable Development" (ESD).

18 selected artists and creative individuals from throughout Germany will receive practically oriented training in ten different modules to prepare them to work with students. Together with partner schools, they will develop their own cultural and sustainable projects to be presented at the festival ÜBER LEBENSKUNST in the summer of 2011.

Starting in the 2011/12 school year, the artists will bring their expertise and creativity to schools, schoolyards and neighborhoods where they will test out models for sustainable living together with children and young people. Their mission is to change young people's perceptions, to heighten their awareness, to tap into their creativity and to encourage them to solve problems with confidence and commitment.

The ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Schule educational program is being jointly developed with the Future Institute of Berlin's Free University and will be certified by the European Credit Transfer System.

The educational program is being developed and implemented in collaboration with the Future Institute. The director of the institute, **Prof. Dr. Gerhard de Haan**, has been chairman of the National Committee of the UN Decade of "Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014" since 2004. The two largest nationwide school model projects were established at the Future Institute: the "Transfer-21 project" (previously 21 – Education for sustainable development) and the "Learning and living democracy" program ("Demokratie lernen und leben"). The institute has also developed and coordinated several nationwide projects for "Education for Sustainable Development" at schools to stimulate involvement.

Coordination: Saskia Hoffmann and Wanda Wieczorek



The national committee of the UN Decade "Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014" added the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.School program to the official measures in the national action plan at its 14th meeting on 9 November 2010 in Hamburg.

From statements of the jury of the national committee of the UN Decade "Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014": "The nationwide educational program ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.School is breaking new ground in the area of education for sustainable development: instead of calls for downscaling and warnings, artists and students work together to come up with exciting ideas for new models of living by tapping into the potential of aesthetic-cultural education. By thinking creatively about the issues of sustainable development, which is also always linked to the question of one's own identity and development, cognitive, social and affective approaches can be brought together in the best possible combination."

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ÜBER LEBENSKUNST. INITIATIVES

THE 14 SUPPORTED ÜBER LEBENSKUNST. Initiatives

September 2010 – August 2011

At the end of August, an international jury chose 14 ÜBER LEBENSKUNST. Initiatives. These initiatives will receive up to EUR 20,000 in funding for a one-year period. It is important to ÜBER LEBENSKUNST to firmly anchor these projects in the city itself and give all Berliners the opportunity to see and experience them.

AUSTERTRAUM - Field study at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt

Project initiators: Stefan Saffer, Dr. Birgit Schneider

AUSTERTRAUM aims to establish the Haus der Kulturen der Welt – also known in Berlin as the "pregnant oyster" – as a model case study that shows under what conditions sustainable art is possible. This communication and research project spans utopian artistic concepts and ideas to scientifically founded observations all the way to practical implementation in the Haus and its environment. Dialogue and idea development with the staff of the HKW will play a central role in identifying concrete approaches to art and sustainable living.

BUZZING BERLIN! - Bees in the city

Project initiators: Andreas Karmanski, Corinna Hölzer and Cornelis Hemmer
Umweltforum für Aktion und Zusammenarbeit e.V.

Beekeeping is a cultural technique with a long tradition that brings together modern science and practical knowledge that has been handed down for generations. Following the model of other cities – the most well-known is the Paris Opéra Garnier – bee hives will be set up and permanently maintained on many prominent buildings in Berlin. The goal is to raise awareness of the role nature plays in the city and the loss of biodiversity using the example of urban beekeeping. To achieve this goal, beekeepers and associations, building owners and interested citizens will be motivated to work together and form a network.

BERLIN WILD LIFE

Project initiators: Susanna Hertrich, Michiko Nitta

The urban habitat represents the artistic system, the designed environment. A construct that is tailored solely to human needs. But nature returns – more and more wild animals are finding their way into the urban habitat. However, city dwellers often consider them a nuisance or even a threat. The project aims to come up with visionary ideas for sustainable coexistence with wild animals in the city for the future. Artistic interventions invite Berliners to reflect on this issue.

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DEPOSIT BOTTLE COLLECTING POINT

Functional sculptures of new logistics for redistribution of values in Berlin

Project initiator: Steffi Stangl

The project, with its collection station for returnable bottles, aims to broach the grey area of existing poverty. For many people, collecting returnable bottles has become an important source of income. However, to get these bottles, they have to reach into rubbish bins, which is not only humiliating, it can also be dangerous. The planned collection stations that are either attached directly to rubbish bins or are free-standing act as sculptures and serve a functional purpose: They invite passers-by to participate in redistributing the value of the deposit and are, at the same time, a moment to think about the social divide that exists in the city.

ENERGY STREETFIGHT - A playful approach to energy reduction

Project initiators: Benedikt Foit, Vijak Haddadi, Habib Lesevic
Vic Ventures

The residents of Stargarder Straße in Prenzlauer Berg will be asked to participate in a 6-month-long contest to reduce energy consumption. The contest will make use of a widely varied and interactive game: on a virtual battlefield, the participants can show how much progress they've made, enter into secret treaties with other buildings, guess the energy consumption of their competitors or document the most innovative energy-saving measures with photos. The winners will be premiered at the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Festival in August 2011.

DAS NUMEN H2O - Floating H2O Bio-Clarification Pontoon

Project initiators: Julian Charrière, Andreas Greiner, Markus Hoffmann, Felix Kiessling
The Numen Collective

Water is not only part of our environment, it is our most important resource. The Numen Collective wants to raise awareness about the problems of our time with its project: water pollution and treatment as well as access to drinking water, which is becoming more difficult in an increasing number of countries, and its privatization. A FLOATING H2O BIO-CLARIFICATION PONTOON will be built that is simultaneously used to treat water and as a platform for social interaction and knowledge. The mobile installation will float and dock in various locations so that a broad audience is invited to exchange knowledge.

FROM ORGANIC WASTE TO ENERGY! - A project for creative energy production in schools

Project initiator: Franz John, Prof. Michael Rodemer

The goal of this project is to explain processes of natural electricity generation with organic waste and apply them in artistic-cultural school projects in Berlin. Everyday models for creative energy production are to be identified and deployed in the school environment. Following the instruction of experts, students construct Grätzel cells, an application from bionics, that they then have fun creatively implementing in installations and objects. Unlike the classic solar cell, the Grätzel cells hardly produce any emissions because they use organic pigments like chlorophyll to absorb light.

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HELIOFLEX - Sun reflectors for Berlin

Project initiator: Christoph Keller

A social division is created for light by the dense concentration of buildings in city centers. The upper floors of buildings enjoy the sun's rays while the lower floors have none. An automatically adjusting reflector that brings light into previously dark rooms will be created in the helioflex project. Under the scope of the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST project, prototypes of helioflex sun reflectors will be installed at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt and around the city to sensitize visitors to the interplay between natural daylight and architecture. One of the project goals is to contribute to the further development of the prototypes so that they can be affordably produced.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SATELLITES ENERGY HARVESTS - Turning energy leaks into resources

Project initiators: Myriel Milicevic, Hanspeter Kadel
Neighbourhood satellites

The project deals with the problem of wasted energy by turning "energy leaks" into energy sources. So-called "energy harvesters" that convert light, heat or movement into energy will be installed in various locations in Berlin. The aim is to test out a new energy infrastructure in Berlin with practical-utopian objects, workshops and discussions.

PEACEMAKER - leORIGAMIpard III

Project initiator: Frank Bölter

The project raises the question of the necessity of military intervention and brings it into the realm of art. Working with recruits from the German army, a life-size version of a Leopard tank will be created out of origami in a workshop. The paper installation will be supplemented by film documentation. PEACEMAKER – leORIGAMIpard III aims to involve the recruits in participatory artistic strategies and hands-on processes and create the opportunity for surprising alliances between art and the military.

POWER THE CITY! THE ELECTRICITY ACTIVISTS - Generate your own electricity!

Project initiator: Martin Keil, Henrik Mayer / Reinigungsgesellschaft

In a Berlin fitness studio, young people have the opportunity to generate electricity on modified fitness equipment through their own sweat and tears and feed it into the Berlin city grid. The participative model project aims to trigger a public discourse on equal opportunity, social participation and career opportunities for disadvantaged young people and, at the same time, make a contribution to alternative energy production.

SOCIAL SEEDS - The diversity of life in Berlin community gardens

Project initiators: Alexandra Becker, Britta Pichler
in cooperation with Gunilla Lissek-Wolff (VERN e. V.)

The SOCIAL SEEDS project aims to create new agro-socio biotopes by planting old, rare and cultural

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plant species from the region in Berlin community gardens to allow social and biological diversity to develop over the long run. Particularly in the community gardens in the city, the idea is to pinpoint a diverse range of people with different geographic, cultural and artistic backgrounds who are passionate about gardening. Together with the community gardeners, individual "favourites" from among the different types of plants and seeds are to be cultivated and a network created to encourage people to share their experiences.

SUSTAINABLE SUSHI

A restaurant as an art piece – with and about the politically correct interpretation of a Japanese delicacy

Project initiator: Max Schumacher / post theater (new york / berlin / tokyo)

The preparation of the popular delicacy sushi is anything but sustainable: Tuna is overfished, most fish farms are environmental catastrophes and resource consumption for frozen fish is extremely high. The project aims to develop a contemporary concept for the idea of sushi: sushi made from regional and sustainable ingredients will be served in a temporary restaurant. Visitors will have a sensory experience of the relationship between food and ecology. The boundaries between the art installation and the restaurant situation will be in constant flux.

FAST-GROWING PRODUCTIVE GREEN - Urban Gardens and the Resilient City

Project initiators: Marco Clausen, Robert Shaw

Nomadisch Grün gGmbH

"Fast-growing productive green" aims to bring gardens to the places people live. A prototype of a mobile, 1 m² garden module will expand the scope of urban agriculture both geographically and socially in Berlin. The idea is for everyone to have the opportunity to produce local food themselves using simple means. The users of these microgardens learn about "green" as something productive and learn to participate actively.

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Vorratskammer

**We are playing host and want to wine and dine our guests
July 2010 – August 2011**

When the Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW) opens its doors for the festival ÜBER LEBENSKUNST in August 2011, visitors will be served food that comes from the city of Berlin itself or the surrounding area. In July 2010, the artist initiative, myvillages.org, began creating a "VORRATSKAMMER" (larder) together with organizations, initiatives and individual producers who are passionate about farming and food production.

The concept of the "VORRATSKAMMER" goes far beyond the simple act of eating: it has to do with how food is collected, its origins, the way it is traded and exchanged and its history. All of these elements are part of this project. Producing and eating food is considered a cultural and social activity that is closely intermingled with farming and processing traditions as well as land use.

All sorts of things will be put into the larder including fruits and vegetables that have already been picked and those that have yet to be grown. We will also come up with new ideas together for what we else can include through barter, planting new fruits and vegetables, joint harvests, new product developments and gifts that we receive. The one-year project is oriented around small gardens and milk production, land and free goods, older types of fruits and vegetables and advanced technology, canning and preserves, product development and storage.

All of the stored provisions will be brought together at the festival ÜBER LEBENSKUNST in August 2011 in the HKW. And then the eating can begin! Different dishes will be prepared every day for various events at different HKW locations. Festival visitors will be wined and dined with food from the abundant larder.

A large display that changes in real-time just like the ones in train stations and airports will show updates of what has arrived in the store room, where it is from and who supplied it. The producers are present when visitors partake of their goods. As each product is sampled, a discussion is initiated about where the food is from, how it is produced and why certain processes were used.

The concept of the VORRATSKAMMER establishes a link between localities, producers, cultural production and festival visitors and shows just how multifaceted the themes of farming, nutrition and eating are.

Kathrin Böhm, Wapke Feenstra und Antje Schiffers are documenting their work on a blog.

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MEIN LIEBLINGSTEIL

February to August 2011

Clothes make the man. They are an expression of individual identity. In this country, fashion is a short-lived business: jumpers, coats, shoes or scarves are forgotten at the back of the closet or end up in a second-hand shop after just one short season. The project MEIN LIEBLINGSTEIL takes a closer look at the cycle of clothing production, distribution, consumption and disposal by telling the stories of individual articles of clothing, the people who wear them and the people who make them.

What is your favourite piece of clothing? Tell your story! Does it evoke memories of a certain person? Is the story of how it ended up in your wardrobe funny? Does it make you feel safe? The project invites all Berliners to participate. Because everybody has a story to tell about their favourite piece of clothing. Interesting stories with photos will first be published on the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST website. The best stories will be awarded a professional fashion photo shoot – of course wearing the piece of clothing! The stories and photos selected will be published.

When people send in their stories and photos, they will also be asked to answer questions about the country the piece of clothing came from, what it's made of, how old it is and what condition it's in. Additional research will enhance the personal stories with background on the clothing's production, thus making it possible to follow the individual biographies of each individual article of clothing. The project will be presented in an artistic installation during the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST festival.

The project was developed with experts working in fashion, business, climate impact research, literature and philosophy.

Artistic direction: Elisabeth Prantner, Wolfgang Zumdick

Concept: Antonella Battaglini (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research), Anna Griefahn (EPEA International, Hamburg), Jenny Pfau (EPEA International, Hamburg), Elisabeth Prantner (Lisa D, Berlin), Susanne Stemmler (Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin), Wolfgang Zumdick (Social Sculpture Research Unit, Brookes University, Oxford, UK)

Curator: Susanne Stemmler

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URBAN MOBILITY

February to August 2011

Intelligent mobility is a central aspect of the art of sustainable living and, seen in terms of ongoing global warming, is also a focal point of ÜBER LEBENSKUNST. Intelligent mobility spans staying at home through to emission-neutral or low-emission use of various types of mobility. It brings together the greatest possible comfort with the lowest possible consumption of resources. The project develops new strategies for urban mobility on the basis of "innovative use" and reflects on the limits of mobility in a publication by way of concrete examples.

The URBAN MOBILITY working group is developing a mobility concept on the basis of "innovative use" for the festival in August 2011. It aims to create models that show how these types of innovations can be implemented in a short period of time by relying on creativity and getting the most out of what is discovered. As a medium-term strategy, "innovative use" makes it possible to start right away and tap into existing potential – beyond expensive and controversial technological product innovations or long-term and conflict-laden system and infrastructure alterations.

From the very outset, visitors are incorporated into the model measures as active participants and can act either as providers or consumers of mobility options during the festival. With its participative concept of innovative use, URBAN MOBILITY aims to demonstrate that emissions can be quickly and efficiently reduced while having fun at the same time. This will be demonstrated during the festival by an integrative transportation concept – with solar boats, festival bicycles, car sharing vehicles and special pedestrian routes between different festival stations.

The urgency of developing new perspectives and values about the well-established mobility paradigms in our society will be shown in the Mobility Atlas created by the working group scheduled for publication in August 2011 by Merve Publishing. This Atlas reflects on the limits of mobility using concrete analyses conducted in Berlin. Concrete practices and places with marginalised or paradoxical mobility are examined here and documented in texts, maps and photographs.

The URBAN MOBILITY working group: Dr. Friedrich von Borries (University of Fine Arts Hamburg, HFBK), Dr. Stephan Rammler (Institute for Transportation Design), Dr. Harald Welzer (Institute for Advanced Study in The Humanities Essen) and Gereon Uerz

A cooperation with Hochschule für Bildende Künste Hamburg (HFBK) and Institut für Transportation Design

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ANTHOLOGY

Suhrkamp Verlag - August 2011

The ÜBER LEBENSKUNST anthology is a collection of new literary texts and philosophical essays that examine the content and shape of possibilities for future living in various local contexts in view of the environmental crisis.

Although there is nothing less at stake than the sustainability of our civilisation for the first time in world history, we are not able to make the leap from the knowledge that we need an environmental-cultural revolution to actually doing something about it. The editors have asked 15 authors from Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia, Oceania as well as North and South America to create a model for the future from a cosmopolitan perspective and thus update the art of living according to Plato and Aristotle for the 21st century.

The literary philosophical anthology starts where scientific evidence and political action end: with imagination, sensuality and subjectivity, the collection of new texts aims to reflect on the future art of living and survival and put them to the test in a political and radical way. Because how we envisage the future in the context of climate change, species extinction and sustainable standards may only currently be able to be explored in literature and philosophical essays. Common to both is creative thinking which is necessary for developing a model of sustainable living that we don't know what it can look like.

Including the following authors: María Sonia Christoff (Argentina), **Louis-Philippe Dalembert** (Haiti), **Dževad Karahasan** (Bosnia-Herzegovina), **Sema Kaygusuz** (Turkey), **Michel Serres** (France), **Sjón** (Iceland), **Vladimir Sorokin** (Russia), **Abdourahman Waberi** (Djibouti), **Alexis Wright** (Australia) and **Liao Yiwu** (China).

Published by: Susanne Stemmler, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, **and Katharina Narbutovič**, DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program

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OTHER EVENTS THROUGH SUMMER 2011

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.CLUB

March to August 2011

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST is forming its own Klub. It is of great importance for the initiative project to create a platform that brings together numerous actors who actively work for a sustainable world. The latest positions and strategies for the art of sustainable living (ÜBER LEBENSKUNST) are brought together here at the interface between art and cultural production, fashion, day-to-day research, civic involvement, architecture and sustainable design, urban gardening, environmental sciences, political activism and urban planning.

The Klub gives all members of the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Community (participants in the various projects and applicants to the CALL FOR FUTURE) the opportunity to participate in discussions along with guests from the realms of art, culture and sustainability and anyone who is interested. Every ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub is dedicated to a specific topic addressed in experimental formats – in workshops, library discussions, Klub sessions, excursions and in a restaurant – in the run-up to the festival in August 2011. Readings or concerts are held after the Klub sessions starting at 8 p.m.

Are you interested and would you like to participate in the discussions? Do you have concrete suggestions for how to shape the "art of survival" (ÜBER LEBENSKUNST) and would you like to present your ideas? Then join us in the Klub! Entrance to the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub is free of charge but you need to register ahead of time at klub@ueber-lebenskunst.org.

Curator: Paula Marie Hildebrandt

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday, April 5, 4 p.m. - City Walks with artists Tue Greenfort and Lisa Rave

As part of the ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub Tue Greenfort and Lisa Rave invite you to join them on four city walks through Berlin and its surrounding area. These walks will reflect essential issues of ÜBER LEBENSKUNST and transfer them into an urban setting. By walking participants will be able to experience urban space in a different way. On each walk we will be accompanied by guests who will share their particular knowledge and experience with the group.

The **first city walk** will lead us to the geographical center of Berlin, at Alexandrinenstraße 12-14. In 1997 the center of Berlin was marked here by a granite slab with the exact coordinates on it. The guest on our first walk will be **Ilya Lipkin**. The author and artist lives in Berlin. He is currently conducting an ongoing research project on the history of the Scandinavian Situationists, with a focus on their experimental brand of urbanism. For the most part, this research consists of walking.

Thursday, 7 April: Feel the heat – What can art do in the fight against global warming?

The whole world is talking about climate change – even the world of contemporary art. The second ÜBER LEBENSKUNST.Klub session asks what role art and culture can play in the current discussion about

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climate change: to what extent can art be productive and effective in other areas of society? The works of various German and international artists will be discussed in this context. Experiments, architecture, design, performance, media art and activism – which particular methods, capabilities and strategies does art have at its disposal? What forms of interdisciplinary research, cross-cultural cooperation and collaboration will meet the challenges of the future?

Workshop I "How to influence change and engage in ÜBER LEBENSKUNST"

In this workshop **Julia Harris** presents contemporary innovative projects and initiatives that are exploring the pivotal environmental issues of the 21st century: **Sam Bower**, director of greenmuseum.org (USA), will present his work for the first green online museum. **Jane Trowell** and **Mel Evans** of the activist group Platform (UK) will give us an insight into social projects, such as "C-Words" at Bristol's Arnolfini Gallery or "Liberate Tate Action". Furthermore, **Alison Tickell**, director of the global, green organisation Julie's Bicycle (UK), will describe the influence of this environmental initiative on important music and cultural organisations, such as Universal Music UK or the National Theatre, in reducing their carbon footprint. We will have the opportunity to skype with these artists / activists about what art can do (and what we ourselves can do) to actively influence changes to the environment and the climate. Feel the heat!

Workshop II "Field To Go"

The artist, **Klaus Fritze**, will create in vitro plants together with participants. A "Field To Go" will be created at an experimental research station with the help of a Bunsen burner, a disposable cup and several seeds of grass. Participants will then be able to watch the grass grow over the next few weeks.

Thursday, 12 May: The revolution will not be televised – Who will take the first step?

The third Klub session deals with the power of the individual to take action in a collective issue. We want to pose the question: who actually makes decisions and takes action given the conditions of climate change? Polluting, downscaling, donating to charity, consuming, protesting, reforming – we are all part of this cycle and take part whether we know it or not. The correlations between individual actions and collective concerns are often not clearly visible. The question is thus: where do we start? Isn't the global community too large to deal with its complex problems in small groups? How can we use and protect global public goods (land, water, atmosphere, open-source) together in the here and now? What can we learn from the many do-it-yourself initiatives, the concepts for the free exchange of knowledge and the models for alternative economies?

Workshop I: ORIGAMI Lab

(Frank Bölter), Location: Haus am Waldsee

Workshop II: OPEN DESIGN CITY

(Jay Cousins), Location: betahaus

Tuesday, 31 May: Born to be wild – When does utopia become reality?

The world is also not lost in the fourth Klub session. The current intensification in the global climate discourse that, on the one hand, paints apocalyptic panic scenarios and, on the other, describes technocratic utopias is not very helpful. Attempts are made to capture the options that we have open to us in the future with statistics, projections, forecasts and scenarios. But isn't what we need instead a fundamental change in perception to bring about a basic shift in society and spark new ways of thinking? Teaching raised awareness, slowing down our lives, making the future the present – all of this requires us to unleash our senses and spend a little time.

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Workshop I: University of the Trees

(Shelley Sacks)

Workshop II: Berlin Wild Life

(Michiko Nitta, Susanna Hertrich and David Haley)

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Welt), Charlotte Sieben (Kaufmännische Geschäftsführerin), Dieter Kosslick, Prof. Dr. Joachim Sartorius | Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats: Bernd Neumann



Ein Initiativprojekt der Kulturstiftung des Bundes in Kooperation mit dem Haus der Kulturen der Welt



Unter Kontrolle (Under Control) **Documentary by Volker Sattel**

Film preview and discussion in presence of the director

Wed 06.04.2011 | 19:00 h

Discussion with: Volker Sattel (director "UNTER KONTROLLE"), Prof. Stefan Stefanescu (Coauthor "UNTER KONTROLLE"), Adrienne Goehler (publicist and curator), Bert Rebhandl (filmreviewer) and Prof. Dr. Armin Grunwald (Institute for Technology Karlsruhe).
 Moderation: Dorothee Wenner (journalist and filmmaker).

Following its première at the Berlin film festival, and ahead of its launch in German cinemas, this film makes its own topical contribution to the latest debate about nuclear power: the documentary begins with the promise of a shining, Utopian source of energy for the future. What follows is a panoramic portrayal of nuclear power generation in Germany.

The film introduces the nuclear world in small doses, through brief glimpses into the secret day-to-day goings-on behind the walls of the nuclear plants. Director Volker Sattel managed to get access to these heavily protected complexes. "We encountered an industrial-scale technology that was both fascinating and creepy at the same time". He goes on to say that "looking at the long term, you can sense the enormous challenges and ludicrous efforts that this form of energy generation demands of human beings." The film creates a prism of nuclear sites that reflect on the epoch of German nuclear power – a piece of the history of civilization.

Documentary | Director: Volker Sattel | Color | 35 mm | 98 mins | German with English Subtitles

Arsenal - Institut für Film und Videokunst in Cooperation with the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in the framework of ÜBER LEBENSKUNST

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LECTURÆS

10 March 2011, 8 p.m.

"On the relationship between human beings and other living creatures"

The WortWelten series creates a platform for experts and authors from around the world to have their say and participate in discussions. This year, the events are dedicated to the environmental crisis and sustainability.

The evening focuses on the relationship between human beings and nature from an artistic perspective and asks about the significance of "food": How do we deal with food? Why is it so unfairly distributed throughout the world?

With: **Laurie Young** (dancer, "Natural Habitat" project), **Hilal Sezgin** (author: *Landleben. Von einer, die raus zog* (*Life in the Country. By someone who moved there*), published in 2011), **Thomas Macho** (Humboldt University Berlin) and **Falko Schmieder** (Center for Literature and Cultural Research Berlin), **Benjamin Bühler** (Center for Literature and Cultural Research Berlin) and **John Thackara** (The Doors of Perception, are linked in live by video)

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CONCERTS

April & Mai 2011

Berlin's international music scene is setting the climate change to music - from "Apocalypse Culture" to "Audible Approaches for a Better Place", from Trucker Songs in the age of electric engines to "climate change" between human voice and computer-generated sounds. In the series "HKW lokal" ÜBER LEBENSKUNST presents established bands and newcomers - always in an environment-friendly double act.

7 April, 8 p.m.

DM Bob & Speedy Jake, Jimmy Trash & The Gunpowder Temple of Heaven

Songs about cars, trains, trucks and being on the road have always played an important role in pop music. Does this mean the end or how will trucker songs sound in the era of electric vehicles? The one-man big band **DM Bob**, who has played with Jem Finer from the Pogues, will perform with steel guitarist and tuba player **Speedy Jake**. Since releasing their megahit "Who Put The Cunt In Cuntrey", they have become a permanent fixture of the New Orleans swamp-pop music scene. **Jimmy Trash**, the Australian DJ, organist and harbinger of psychedelic culture, makes the blood of tycoons and world leaders run cold with his **Gunpowder Temple of Heaven** under the motto "Apocalypse Culture": chaos rock'n'roll and a Motown brass section. Before, during and after the sets: mobility disco with **DJ D-Mobile**: "Train songs, hot rod hits and truckers' favourites".

28 April, 8 p.m.

9 September Collective

Between nature and technology, "climate change" between the human voice in its purest form and computer-generated sounds. **9** aka Marco Brosolo – as a theatre experimenter also on tour with La Fura dels Baus – brings together severity of German electronica with the warmth of Italian songwriting in his digital "campfire songs". MTV says: "Between pop and avant-garde – fall in love with this music." Special guests: Four members of the choir of the Haus der Kulturen der Welt. The **September Collective** (Barbara Morgenstern, Paul Wirkus und Stefan Schneider) – always on a quest to find its own path between pure stage improvisation, arranged pieces and digital sound worlds – will work together with the **choir of the Haus der Kulturen der Welt** for HKW Local: A capella choir compositions by the Estonian composer, Veljo Tormis, will find new variations in a live sampling performance.

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5 May 2011, 8 p.m.

Animal Cops

Lord Mouse and The Kalypso Katz

The Kalypso Katz have called the animal police: Things could get really tight now for mankind! Besides its gleefulness and party qualities calypso has always been a genre, in which social and political issues have been expressed very clearly. Lord Mouse sees himself in this tradition as well. The Animal Cops write their dramatic lyrics from an animal perspective – in Russian that is. Before, between, and after the sets: "Calypsos with and without social significance".

12 May 8 p.m.

Audible Approaches for a Better Place

How can artists contribute to creating a better, fairer and more just world? International artists from, e.g. the US, Denmark, Israel, Finland, Turkey and Canada who all live in Berlin compose and perform a piece on this topic that they have created especially for the event. The intention is not for music and art to become messengers for political content but to act as a generator for utopia, hope and beauty. Ronni Shendar and Till Rohmann, who are the curators of the c.sides festivals for media art and electronic music, will also be the curators of this event. With: Enas Massalha, John Kameel Farah, Casper Clausen and Mads Brauer (of Efterklang) feat. Karim Ghahwagi (visuals), Khan Oral, Christian Löffler, Frivolous, etc.

Curator: Detlef Diederichsen

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THE INITIATIVE

ÜBER LEBENSKUNST is a project initiated by the German Federal Cultural Foundation in cooperation with the Haus der Kulturen der Welt.

The **German Federal Cultural Foundation** funds and initiates cultural projects of national interest and international magnitude within the scope of federal competence. It also develops its own programmes which explore current issues concerning our society and its cultural dimension. The impact of climate change and the global environmental crisis are among the most urgent, long-term issues facing us today. For this reason, the Federal Cultural Foundation established the programme ÜBER LEBENSKUNST in 2009 which examines perspectives of economic and social restructuring that could lead to a sustainable way of life and investigates what kind of role culture can play in such a process. The Federal Cultural Foundation has allocated a total of 3.5 million euros to fund the project until 2012.

The **Haus der Kulturen der Welt** is an experimental center for international contemporary art. It also takes up central social themes such as migration and cultural diversity. During the past twenty years, it has developed and initiated international co-operation projects in the fields of art, film, music, performance, literature and the production of knowledge. Its name is programmatic, suggesting that the questions of culture and justice triggered by ecological crises can be grasped and solved only in global contexts. The Haus der Kulturen der Welt is located in the centre of Berlin, not far from the city's lakes and forests, the River Spree and the Tiergarten. For the theme festival it will be transformed into an exhibition, learning and play center designed to provide sensual access to the theme.

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