



# PUBLIC ENQUIRIES COPENHAGEN

## 2016.01.28

KUNSTHAL CHARLOTTENBORG

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**MODERATOR** Mick Wilson, Researcher and Head of Department, Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts, Valand Academy, University of Gothenburg

### PROGRAMME

## Part 1

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12.30 COFFEE AND CHECK-IN

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13.00 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION** to Public Enquiries (symposia and book) by **Stenka Hellfach** and **Ulrikke Neergaard**, Artistic Directors, Somewhere, **Mick Wilson**, Valand Academy, University of Gothenburg and **Helena Selder**, Artistic Director, Marabouparken konsthall

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13.20 **INTRODUCTION** to PARK LEK by **Kerstin Bergendal**, Swedish visual artist, curator and educator

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13.50 **CONVERSATION** between **Kerstin Bergendal** and Danish artist **Kenneth Balfelt**

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## Part 2

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14.05 **ANGELIKA FITZ**, Austrian cultural theorist, curator and author

### CURATING THE COLLABORATIVE CITY

Stagnation in climate policy, the financial crisis, the crisis of democratic institutions, the discrepancy between rich and poor, the plight of refugees: in view of the magnitude of these problems, it's easy enough to fall into a state of paralyzed shock. Yet, increasing numbers of citizens no longer intend to wait and are taking their future into their own hands. They occupy public spaces, try out resource-saving ways of life, provide homes for refugees – they demand their right to the city and they do it collaboratively. In their initiatives they question the relation between value, private profit and public good while intertwining the social, urbanism, art, and activism. How will these initiatives change both the discipline of urban planning and public art? The lecture elaborates a methodology of “*curating the collaborative city*” by reflecting on two recent transnational platforms: “*We-Traders – Swapping Crisis for City*” ([www.wetraders.org](http://www.wetraders.org)) and “*Actopolis – The Art of Acting*” ([www.actopolis.net](http://www.actopolis.net)).

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## Part 2 continued

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14.30 **JAMES HOLSTON**, Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley.  
Co-Director, Social Apps Lab at CITRIS

### ART PRACTICE AND CITIZENSHIP AT PARK LEK, SUNDBYBERG

Kerstin Bergendal's PARK LEK project in Sundbyberg confronts directly one of the foremost difficulties of democracy today, namely, that of discovering the means by which to transform disarticulated aggregates of people into groups of citizens capable of bearing the weight of democratic decision-making. My presentation considers problems of democratic citizenship that this project engages and discusses the methods of art practice that it deploys to do so. Central to this practice is a "counterplan" that, through techniques of play-making, redimensionings of time, and reconfigurations of space, redefines urban planning and revitalizes the assembling of residents as citizens.

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14.55 **CONVERSATION**

Participants, speakers and respondents: Dutch artist duo **Bik Van der Pol** (Liesbeth Bik and Jos Van der Pol), Danish artist **Kenneth Balfelt** and PhD Fellow, Visual Culture and Performance Design, Roskilde University, **Judith Schwarzbart**

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15.40 **COFFEE BREAK**

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## Part 3

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16.00 **ANDREA PHILLIPS**, PARSE Professor of Art and Head of Research, Valand Academy, University of Gothenburg

### MAKING A MEETING:

#### HOW ARTISTS MIGHT OPERATE IN A POST-PUBLIC WORLD IN THE CONTEXT OF PARK LEK

In this talk I will summarise my theoretical assumption that in order to constitute sustainable and egalitarian communities of the future we need to forget the idea of the public. I will then ask, what might the role of artists be in a post-public world in which the spaces normally ascribed to them are transformed into new forms and densities of being together that are inchoate to the traditions of European – and Swedish – public democracy? Using PARK LEK as a model, I will propose a reformulated role for art workers who are interested in developing alternative forms of community decision-making, organisation and production.

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16.25 **FINAL CONVERSATION**

Participants, speakers and respondents: Dutch artist duo **Bik Van der Pol** (Liesbeth Bik and Jos Van der Pol), Danish artist **Kenneth Balfelt** and PhD Fellow, Visual Culture and Performance Design, Roskilde University, **Judith Schwarzbart**

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16.50 **MICK WILSON**

Final remarks and introduction to the Public Enquiries Gothenburg

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