

NAME:

23.6.2014 • 10:00–18:00
TRANSDISCIPLINARY PLAY IN 3 ACTS

BIOSPHERE n+1

MODELS AND REALITIES:
VERSIONS OF SUSTAINABILITY

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)



EXHIBITION:
24–27.6.2014 • 07:00–21:00

BIOSPHERE n+1

Models and Realities: Versions of Sustainability

Transdisciplinary Play in 3 Acts:
Monday 23 June 2014, 10:00-18:00

Exhibition:
24-27 June 2014, 07:00-21:00

University of Natural Resources and Life
Sciences, Vienna (BOKU),
Foyer of Franz Schwackhöfer Haus,
Peter-Jordan-Straße 82, 1190 Vienna

Envisioning a sustainable future of our planet leads to many attempts to integrate scientific disciplines and respective research methods. *Biosphere 2* was a living model world with the aim to study the interactions between humans, farming and technology. The ecological experiment was implemented in the 1990s in the Arizona desert and tried to build a closed, independent system that resembled the most important factors of Earth's ecosystem. Compared to today's fine-tuned computational models, which are used to understand, simulate and control real-world systems and tackle transformation towards sustainability, the project of *Biosphere 2* can serve as a model for an experimental and performative mode of living that dreams of new ways of doing the natural and the social. The cooperation between students of the Art & Science master's programme and the Doctoral School of Sustainable Development uses *Biosphere 2* as a starting point to develop a transdisciplinary play that enacts "biospherian" versions of sustainability.

SCHEDULE [23 JUNE]

09:00-10:00 / Check-in

Please check-in to confirm your attendance, or register if you have not done so already

10:00-10:45 / Introduction

Welcome and introduction to BIOSPHERE n+1: Virgil Widrich (Art & Science, Angewandte), Andreas Muhar (dokNE, BOKU)

11:00-12:30 / Act 1

Metaphysics of
Opportunity Costs
Foyer



The Green Storm
Seminar room Landtechnik

Taste the Abstract
Foyer



12:45-13:30 / Intermission

Buffet will be provided for lunch

13:45-15:15 / Act 2

Meat the Action!
Arena
Seminar room 6



Publication Quota
Seminar room 10



15:30-17:00 / Act 3

Lecture by
Ralo Mayer
Wilhelm Exner Haus,
Lecture room 2



The Green Storm
Seminar room Landtechnik

Taste the Abstract
Foyer



17:15-18:00 / Discussion

Wrap-up of the day's activities

Foyer

Models and the Real: Martin Schönhart
interviewed by Christian Münchner

Wilhelm Exner Haus,
Lecture room 2

On show
through the day

Taste the Abstract

Foyer

maNature:
The missing gap

Seminar room 6 / 7

What is Growing I

Staircase

The Green Storm

Seminar room
Landtechnik



What is Growing II

Staircase

Foyer

Metaphysics of
Opportunity Costs

Foyer



EXPERT PROJECTION

Lift

Staging HNR*

Staircase

Mea Culpa

Staircase

Foyer

[24-27 JUNE] Exhibition of module artifacts and installations

1. Metaphysics of Opportunity Costs Foyer • Act 1/2

2. Taste the Abstract Foyer • Act 1/3

3. The Green Storm Seminar room Landtechnik • Act 1/3

4. maNature Seminar room 6/7 • Act 1

5. Meat the Action! Arena Seminar room 6 • Act 2

6. Publication Quota Seminar room 10 • Act 2

7. Lecture by Ralo Mayer Wilhelm Exner Haus, Lecture room 2 • Act 3

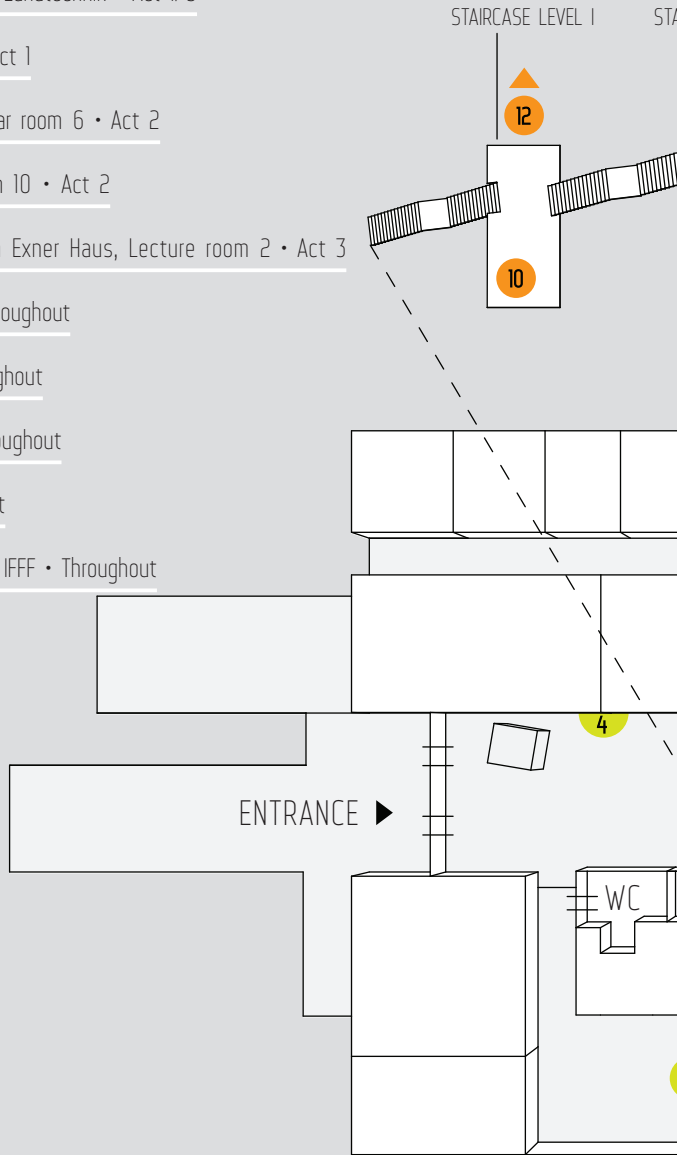
8. What is Growing Staircase • Throughout

9. Staging HNR* Staircase • Throughout

10. Expert PROJECTION Lift • Throughout

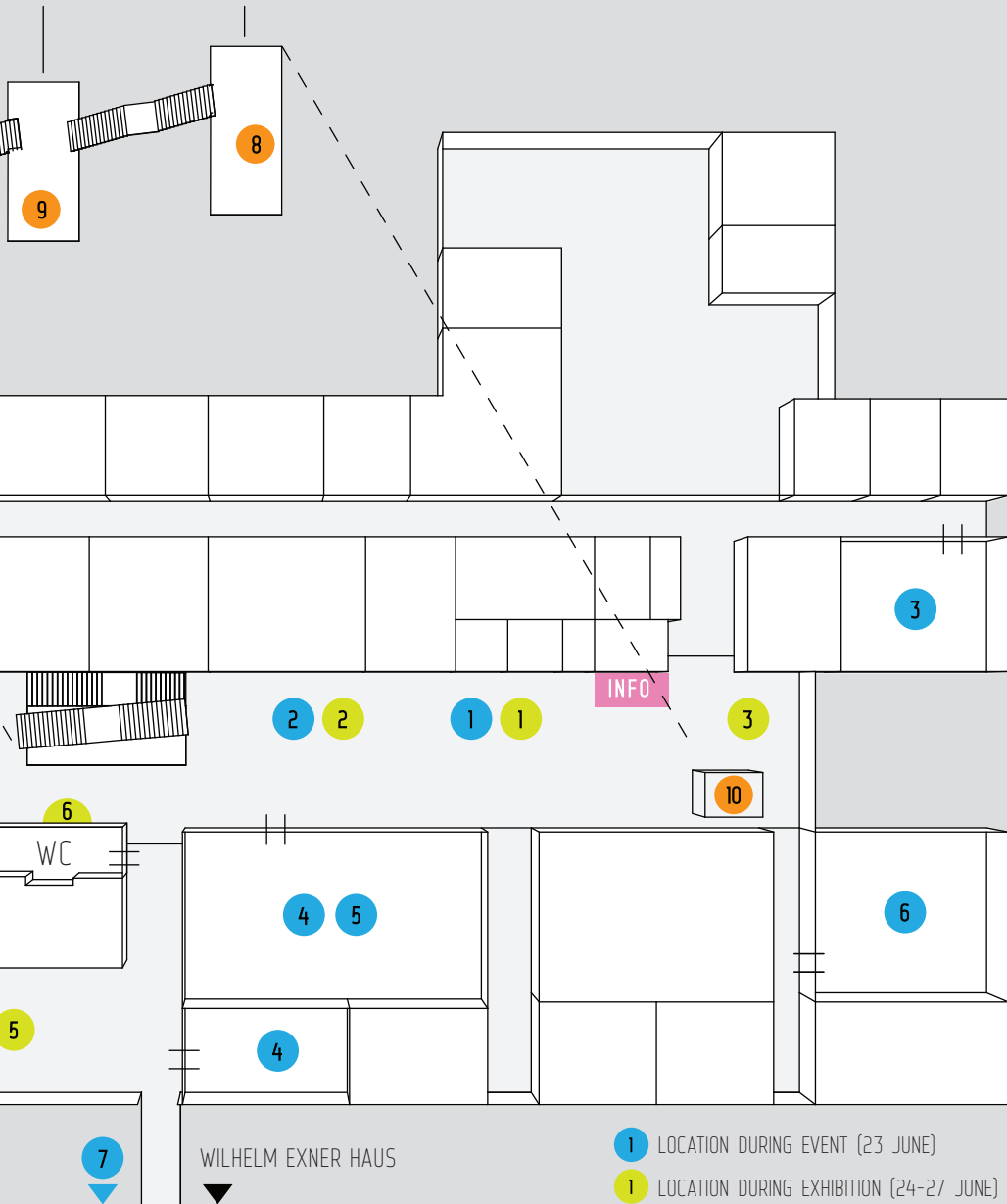
11. Mea Culpa Staircase • Throughout

12. dokNE Posters Practicing room IFFF • Throughout



STAIRCASE LEVEL II

STAIRCASE LEVEL III



1 LOCATION DURING EVENT (23 JUNE)

1 LOCATION DURING EXHIBITION (24-27 JUNE)

1 LOCATION THROUGHOUT

MODULES

Metaphysics of Opportunity Costs: Shaping spaces of sustainability

Making decisions is a complex process. Not only does it require the individual to take into account various factors like opportunity costs, estimated consequences of a decision and the workload involved, it almost always involves communication and collaboration with others as well. The importance of a factor has to be considered and discussed. More often than not it turns out, that what seems sustainable to one actor is considered beside the point and not taken as seriously by another.

By asking you to cooperate in small groups to construct a sustainable landscape and attach specific properties to the materials involved, you are confronted with a (playful) decision making process. The outcome will be transferred to a model and assessed. The collaborative creative action reflects the qualities of apparently mainly rational scientific and less rational artistic decision making and gives an idea how those different approaches can cross-fertilize. The resulting patchwork landscape-sculptures will be displayed in the foyer.

Foyer • Act 1/2

By: Margit Busch, Mathias Kirchner, Bernd Kräftner, Hermine Mitter, Christian Müncher

Meat the Action! Arena

Walk a mile in someone else's shoes: Play the role of a stakeholder discussing and deciding on the replacement of a certain percentage of meat with meat substitutes and alternatives. Dive into the "meat-matter" and unroll this issue together with your opponents and proponents – revealing various puzzle pieces that might shape your vote in the end. Be aware, big brother/sister is watching you: scientific and artistic methods will be used to analyse the discussion. The results will be presented to you in the end.

Seminar room 6 • Act 2

By: Kerstin Böck, Andrea Tony Hermann, Martina Lang, Tamara Mitrofanenko, Kiengkay Ounmany, Anna-Sophie Santner

Involving: Christian Baumgartner (Naturfreunde International), Konrad Domig (Institute of Food Science, BOKU), Christian Pohl (Transdisciplinarity, ETH Zurich)

Taste the Abstract

The transformation of scientific theses into edible taste experiences.

Foyer • Act 1/3

By: Martina Lang

Publication Quota

An experimental implementation of market-based approaches to limit the flood of publications and artistic works.

Emissions trading is a well-established market-based approach to achieve reductions in CO₂ emissions. In this module you will apply this principle to two sectors where exponential growth is taking place: scientific publishing and artwork production. To limit the ever-growing output each scientist/artist will be allocated a certain quota that he/she is allowed to produce per year. You will explore the consequences of such a system for various stakeholder groups.

Seminar room 10 • Act 2

By: Ana Daldon, Adrijan Karavdic, Andreas Muhar, Resty Naiga, Virgil Widrich, Christoph Winckler

Involving: Josef Glössl (Vice Rector for Research, BOKU), Katharina Gugerell (University of Groningen) Rodrigo Lozano (Corporate Sustainability, University Utrecht), Kumela Nedessa (BOKU), Martin Reinhart (Artist), Werner Schneider (BOKU), Patricia Stokowski (University of Vermont)

The Green Storm

A storm is coming. A terrorist group is threatening the balance of modern day life. What are you willing to give up? In the course of the module you are put in the positions of world leaders dealing with an extreme crisis. The simulation intends to question the rationality of global decision making processes and the role of models in it. In the cross media performance the borders between faith and knowledge start to blur.

Seminar room Landtechnik • Act 1/3

By: Ana Daldon, Benedict Endler, Matilde Igual Capdevila, Adrijan Karavdic, Gerardo Montes de Oca Valadez

maNature: The missing gap

IPCC- reports that agriculture contributes to a large extent to the greenhouse gas emissions from human activities. As a consequence, the public has asked the authorities in a referendum to enhance climate protection in agriculture.

Now, you, as part of the citizen conference get a certain budget to develop strategies and to support and fund solutions and present them in a press conference.

Seminar Room 6/7 • Act 1

By: Michael Braitto, Marianne Penker, Katharina Schodl, Peter Walder, Christoph Winckler

Involving: Christian Baumgartner (Naturfreunde International), Rodrigo Lozano (Corporate Sustainability, University Utrecht), Christian Pohl (Transdisciplinarity, ETH Zurich), Michael Proschek-Hauptman (Umweltdachverband)

Biosphere 2 and Performative Research: Lecture by Ralo Mayer

From 1991–93 eight people lived inside a closed ecological system in the Arizona desert. The miniature world under glass included its own ocean, rainforest and farm, its crew explored both future life in space and our planetary biosphere. Ralo Mayer's artistic research investigates *Biosphere 2* in the context of socio-political and technological global changes of the past decades.

Wilhelm Exner Haus, Lecture room 2 • Act 3

Chair: Bernd Kräftner

Staging HNR*: A visual and haptic experience

Reflect on your relationship to nature by staging different ceramic sculptures in this human-nature-theatre. Document it as you prefer.

*Human-Nature-Relationship

[Staircase • Throughout](#)

By: Anna-Sophie Santner

Mea Culpa

In modern day life it is virtually impossible to live completely sustainably. Nevertheless pop culture is full of examples in which people are punished for their 'eco-sin'. Does this make us more conscious about our actions in the world or are we rather just forced into a position in which we feel obligated to find excuses for our actions without substantially changing them?

[Staircase • Throughout](#)

By: Benedict Endler

EXPERT•PROJECTION

An intervention in private-public spaces. The project explores the role of experts in society. It questions how the controversial nature of expertise in society influences decision-making processes and shapes our identities.

[Staircase • Throughout](#)

By: Ana Daldon, Anna-Sophie Santner

What is Growing I

Viennese indoor vegetation - a slide show

Without visiting a botanical garden many different tropical and subtropical plants can be encountered on a shopping quest or other activities in the city of Vienna. They grow almost everywhere. In shopping malls, banks, hairdressers, travel agencies, bars, restaurants, spas, furniture shops, car dealers, and even in some fashion shops and drugstores. The slide show takes the audience on a trip through the diversity of Viennese indoor plant environments.

[Staircase • Throughout](#)

By: Margit Busch

What is Growing II

The plants in Schwackhöfer Haus

With the help of a Viennese indoor plants pocket guide, you are invited to explore the vegetation of the Schwackhöfer building

[Staircase • Throughout](#)

By: Margit Busch

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Works by:

Michael Braito, Kerstin Böck, Margit Busch, Ana Daldon, Benedict Endler, Andrea Hermann, Matilde Igual Capdevila, Adrijan Karavdic, Mathias Kirchner, Bernd Kräftner (Art & Science, Angewandte), Martina Lang, Tamara Mitrofanenko, Hermine Mitter, Gerardo Montes de Oca Valadez, Andreas Muhar (Landscape Development, Recreation and Conservation Planning, BOKU), Christian Münchner (ReThink), Resty Naiga, Kiengkay Dunmany, Marianne Penker (Sustainable Economic Development, BOKU), Anna-Sophie Santner, Katharina Schodl, Peter Walder, Virgil Widrich (Art & Science, Angewandte), Christoph Winckler (Sustainable Agricultural Systems, BOKU)

Artistic and scientific direction:

Bernd Kräftner, Andreas Muhar, Virgil Widrich

Realisation:

Brishty Alam, Michael Braito, Christina Czachs, Valerie Deifel, Tamara Mitrofanenko, Peter Walder

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