

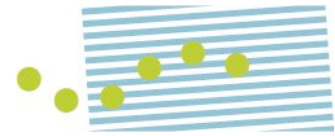


raumsichten / spacespectives

Art and planning in the public sphere of the landscape and the city

Grafschaft Bentheim: Nordhorn, Bad Bentheim, Schuettorf, 2009 – 2011

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»raumsichten« continuing »kunstwegen«

The open museum “kunstwegen” started in the summer of 2000 in the German-Dutch Vechte Valley between Nordhorn (D) and Zwolle (NL). The result was a cross-border art route. A total of 68 works by international artists reflecting multifaceted dealings with the public space over the past thirty years can now be found along a 140 kilometer path.

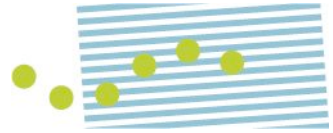
A second step will follow: The goal of the upcoming innovative project is the development of a new way dealing with the landscape and the cultural region by joining the perspectives of art as well as town and country planning. In a probably unique opening of administrative planning processes for artistic points of view, ecological, sociological, economic and aesthetic aspects are combined with participatory working methods. International artists thus work directly in a socio-political space and link ways previously regarded as incompatible of dealing with mutual life spaces together with experts from administration and practice.

The art project “raumsichten” will extend by “kunstwegen”, the largest European “museum without walls”, in a southerly direction towards the border of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia in the upper county of Bad Bentheim, thus substantially increasing its significance as regards cultural tourism. At the same time, this extension marks a lively enhancement of the sculpture route that combines leisure activities and international artistic developments in a unique fashion.

Opening festivities in summer 2011.

Project management:
Landkreis Grafschaft Bentheim
Bernhard Jansen
Fachdienst Kultur

Artistic management:
Städtische Galerie Nordhorn
Veronika Olbrich
Dirck Möllmann
Roland Nachtigäller



Proposals

Tamara Grcic (Frankfurt/Main)

Eva Grubinger (Berlin and Linz)

Henrik Håkansson (Berlin)

Folke Koebberling/Martin Kaltwasser (Berlin)

Paul Etienne Lincoln (New York)

Marko Lulic (Vienna)

Willem de Rooij (Berlin)

Hans Schabus (Vienna)

Christoph Schaefer (Hamburg)

Antje Schiffers (Berlin)



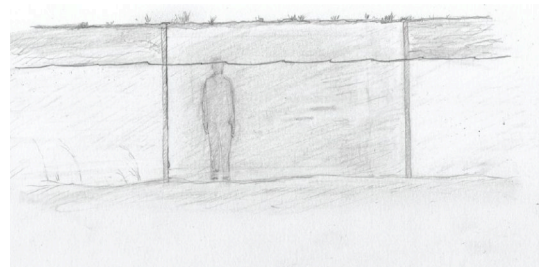
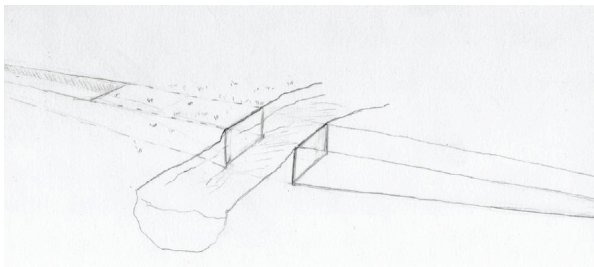
© Eva Grubinger

Eva Grubinger

Born 1970 in Salzburg/Austria, lives in Berlin and Linz

Smoking Shelter

Public space is increasingly controlled, under surveillance, and in addition it is also highly regulated. One of the most recent developments is the German non-smokers-law distinctively restricting the permission to smoke in the public. Grubinger designs a smoking shelter to be situated in the beautiful landscape of the Graftschaft, and to encourage its active use by cyclists or wanderers. It contains a grid metal floor including a case for ashes and fags. At face value is provided a black bar keeping anonymity and saving its users from the outlook.



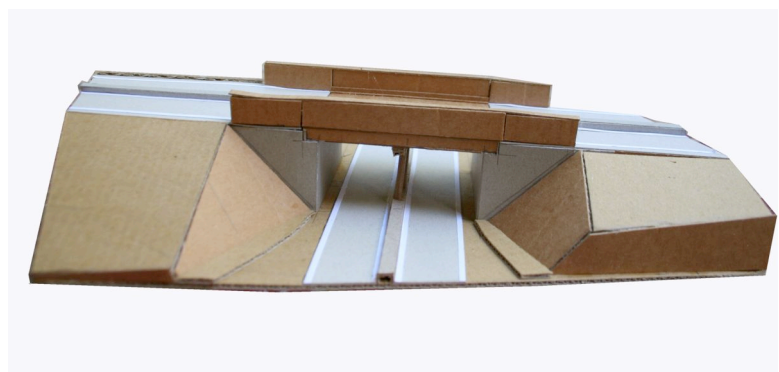
© Henrik Håkansson

Henrik Håkansson

Born 1968 in Helsingborg/Sweden, lives in Berlin

The River

This proposal involves the construction of a show window in the Vechte River. The basic structure consists of a pane of glass inserted in the riverbank extending to the entire depth of the river in phase with the bottom and the top of the bank. The structure is to be constructed in such a way that the visitor can walk from the bank surface level down below the surface of the river and stand at the bottom of the river to view the river both beneath and above the river level even when the water level changes as result of varying environmental influences. (Henrik Håkansson)



© Kaltwasser / Köbberling

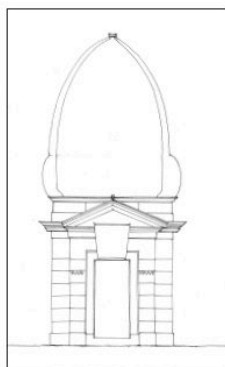
Martin Kaltwasser / Folke Köbberling

Folke Köbberling, born 1969 in Kassel, lives in Berlin and Los Angeles

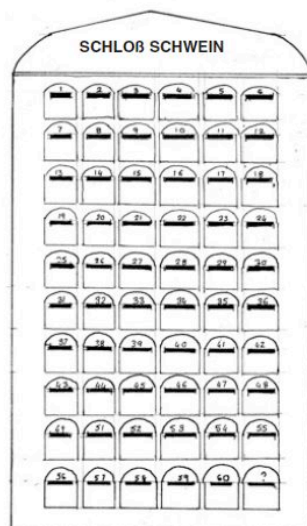
Martin Kaltwasser, born 1965 in Münster, lives in Berlin and Los Angeles

Bicycle freeway junction

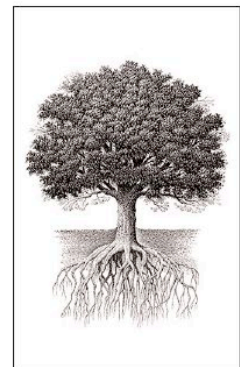
A new traffic policy for the 21st century is the ambitious goal of Martin Kaltwasser and Folke Köbberling. They propose the construction of a bicycle freeway junction following the shape of a motorway cloverleaf interchange as part of a new express pathway-system for the cyclists in the Grafschaft Bentheim. This unique bicycle freeway junction will become the prototype of a sustainable culture of mobility, referring consciously to conventional traffic structures, and ringing in the post-automobile era. Due to traditionally excellent relations between the local region and the Netherlands, both artists encourage a trans-border cooperation and exchange of experience.



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© Paul Etienne Lincoln

Paul Etienne Lincoln

Born 1959 in London, lives in New York

Bad Bentheim Schwein

The old landscape garden at the foot of the castle is the starting point for a wide-ranging proposal by Paul Etienne Lincoln. Originated in 1710-1713, the symmetrical garden's pathway-system radiates into the forest nearby. To reactivate this historic facility in parts is the goal of "Bad Bentheim Schwein." The proposal consists of three levels: The castle as a vantage point with telescope, the landscape garden and the forest as material, and finally the citizens of the Grafschaft as participants. A self-made mechanical Bunttes Bentheimer Schwein, imitating a famous local breed of pig, is supposed stand in a folly on the island of the castle's pond. The Bunte Bentheimer will become again a resident of its former "paradise." A hurdy-gurdy is concealed inside the pig's mechanical innards. Nine delegates from nine saving clubs in the Grafschaft appear at various times still to determine and activate the singing pig. The income from the saving boxes is used to finance the performance and the sustainable enhancement of the landscape.



© Marko Lulic

Marko Lulic

Born 1972 in Vienna, lives in Vienna

Untitled, Clearing

Marko Lulic employs so called Rademacher sphere lamps for a light installation. These lanterns in the unmistakable design of the nineteen eighties are scheduled to be dismantled and scrapped in Schuettorf in conjunction with energy saving measures as well as the re-designing of the cityscape. His proposal cares for an artistic recycling of the sphere lamps. Fifty to sixty of the posts with three to five lamps each are collected and installed as an accessible “clearing” in a public place.



Jacob van Ruisdael (1628 -1682), View of Bentheim Castle from the North-West, c. 1655
© Niedersächsische Sparkassenstiftung

Willem de Rooij

Born 1969 in Beverwijk, The Netherlands; lives in Berlin

Untitled

Re-contextualization of:

Jacob van Ruisdael (1628 -1682)

View of Bentheim Castle from the North-West / Landschap met Kasteel Bentheim, circa 1655

Oil on canvas, 42 x 57 cm

Owner since 1988: Niedersächsische Sparkassenstiftung, Hannover

On loan to the Landkreis Grafschaft Bentheim, Stiftung Kloster Frenswegen, Nordhorn

Current location: Frenswegen Monastery, Nordhorn

For the *raumsichten* sculpture project, Willem de Rooij suggests a new exhibition situation for Jacob van Ruisdael's oil painting *View of Bentheim Castle* at Bentheim Castle. Since its acquisition in 1988, the painting has been exhibited in a niche in the cloisters at Frenswegen Monastery in Nordhorn. A permanent relocation of the painting is necessary due to architectural considerations as this niche closes the historical passageway between the monastery portal and the cloisters that is to be reopened in conjunction with restoring the original state.

The relocation of the painting to the castle creates a new spatial situation in three ways:

- The re-contextualization of the painting enables the historical tie between the painting and its motif relating to landscape, architecture, atmosphere and light to be concretely experienced.
- The modern display ensures that the presentation of Ruisdael's painting and other works of art conform to all necessary technical, climatic and safety concerns on the basis of a "Facilities Report."
- The opening of a space for contemporary art in coordination with the princely family and in conjunction with *kunstwegen/raumsichten* opens new ways of cooperation.

The artist will design a display case that simultaneously deals with the act of exhibiting and the perception of landscape. The showcase will fulfill all necessary climatic and lighting conditions required for an optimal presentation of historic painting. Information about the social and historical conditions under which the painting was made will also be made available. But the main focus of installation is the act of *Re-contextualization*: changing the surroundings of a work of art enables decisive questions on the localization of both historical and contemporary art to be posed as well as on the present-day cooperation between private and public sponsors.



Provisional survey of the river Vechte © Hans Schabus



Exhibition „vorzeichen“, Städtische Galerie Nordhorn © Roland Schmidt
Foreground: proposal Hans Schabus

Hans Schabus

Born 1970 in Watschig, Austria, lives in Vienna

The title of this work is the name of the river, which the railway bridge originally crossed. A disused railway bridge from elsewhere, for example a top chord steel framework bridge with riveted elements is to be laid across the Vechte River. All tracks are to be dismantled. The accessible bridge becomes an abstract relict of the industrial era. It might be, but must not necessarily be convenient for bicycle traffic.



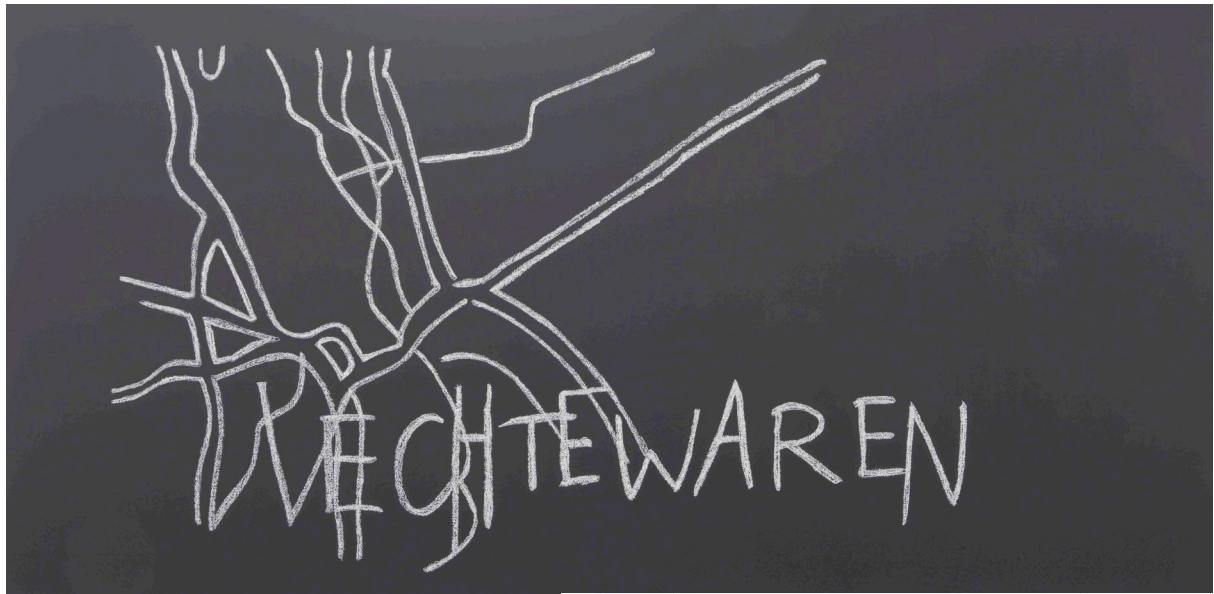
Christoph Schäfer
 Born 1964 in Essen, lives in Hamburg

Topography of Commonness

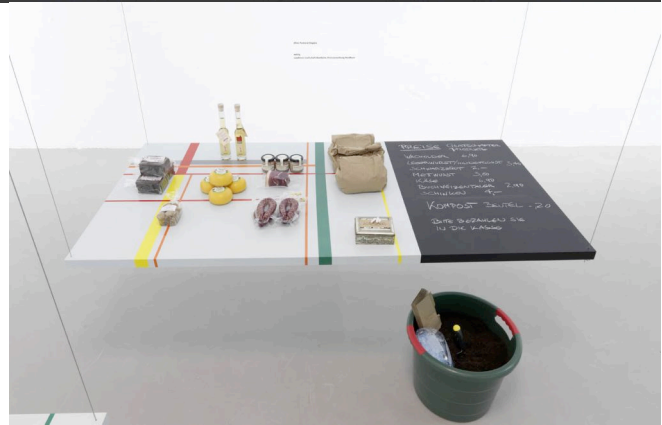
To refresh the idea of common land, the collective property of ground since the Middle Ages, in a contemporary form is Christoph Schaefer's perspective. After detailed research on the legends and history of the so-called Samerrott, a forest of common land, he developed his proposal in three parts: It consists of a glass sculpture located on the edge of the wood and the fringe between private and collective property, a video essay on collective property today, and finally a contemporary reworking of the natural landmark, the so-called raven-tree in the Samer-Rott-woods.



© Christoph Schäfer



First meeting in Ohne, 2010 ©Antje Schiffers



Exhibition „vorzeichen“, Städtische Galerie Nordhorn ©Roland Schmidt

Antje Schiffers, with Thomas Sprenger
Born 1967 in Heiligendorf near Wolfsburg; lives in Berlin

Vechte-Goods

I propose to develop new products for the *raumsichten* area. Products based on the resources of the region. I will design and produce them in cooperation with experts, groups and interested individuals. Over the next ten years each year a new product! This is my proposal. Including a shop or small kiosk for the sale, to get information on how they were produced or how to use them, how they are connected to the region, and who worked on making them. The products are to be paid for in a box of confidence.