

"Biological Wisdom and Social Transformation"
A Collective Exploration



We are living in an exciting time. All over the world germ cells arise and new forms of life are invented. Resistance as a creative and sustainable process of transformation relating to everyday patterns and relationships is being redefined.

This means that the return to elementary and existential practices of everyday life takes a central role. It is a political gesture to grow vegetables on public land, to share seeds, to cook together, to acquire new knowledge in open workshops and produce things collectively. Community work is a political action as well as the question of social transformation as a means to understand the art of living actively and to leave the comfort zone of daily practices and routines.

With the series of actions called, "Biological Wisdom and Social Transformation" we ask to what extent can we invent new social forms when turning to the deep wisdom and intelligence that lies in biological systems?

How for example can expanded knowledge about the life of fungi help to create new metaphors and thereby also generate new practices of resistance? How can fermentation processes be applied to social processes? And what social lessons can we learn from bees, ants, algae or bacteria?

With this project, our overall aim is to connect activist and artist groups working on related questions and to create a trans-local exchange of experience, techniques and knowledge based on the idea of sharing "seeds" generated from within the groups. "Seeds" can be anything – a recipe, a poem, a technique, a task etc. – the only provision is that it is not yet a finished product but instead *activates a processes*.

In January, February and March 2015 we will kick off our discussion simultaneously in various cities and towns through film nights and conversation with a focus on the following specific phenomena: **soil, fermentation and fungi**. In order to generate vibrant discussion, during each film night we juxtapose documentary films on the specific topic with related art-based, experimental films and interviews with artists.

The first three film nights will take place **in Berlin at Grüntaler9** on the following dates:

16 January 2015: 18-22

19:00

Zum Vergleich (2009) Dir. Harun Farocki 61 min.

Bricks form the fundamental sound of our societies, but we haven't learned to listen to them. Through different traditions of brick production Farocki's film makes our eyes and ears consider them in comparison—and not in competition, not as clash of cultures. Farocki shows us various brick production sites in their colours, movements and sounds. Brick burning, brick carrying, brick laying, bricks on bricks, no voice off-commentary.

20:30

Dirt! (2009) Dir, Bill Benenson, Gene Rosow, Eleonore Dailly 86 min.

This movie is a call to action. It brings to life the environmental, economic, social and political impact that the soil has. It shares the stories of experts from all over the world who study and are able to harness the beauty and power of a respectful and mutually beneficial relationship with soil. "When humans arrived 2 million years ago, everything changed for dirt. And from that moment on, the fate of dirt and humans has been intimately linked."

27 February 2015: 18-22

20 March 2015: 18-22

If you are interested in participating in our collective screenings by creating a group in your city, please contact us to receive further information and assistance.

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The program and details for the respective film nights can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/biologicalwisdom/>

We welcome groups from every country to participate with us!