

GRASSLAND

DETAILED PROGRAM RURAL FORUM MIDTJYLLAND

The activities of the Rural Forum all have in common that they focus on three subjects:

1. What is the reality in rural Centre Jutland, what transitions take place and what does this mean for the future of the citizens.
2. How to connect (or re-connect) the people who work and live in the rural areas and the people who influence the life in the rural areas, how to bridge the gaps between the different sectors and between the rural and the urban.
3. Why can art and culture have a role in these processes of transition, how can art contribute and what are the conditions and methods? how can Danish artists profit of the best practise and lessons learned in an international perspective?

Structure of the workshops:

The workshops are 150 minutes (2,5 hours) hours long.

3 workshops at the same time (the participants have to choose

Workshops are structured in three steps:

/ First a scientist or experts describes from a scientific point of view the subject; facts and figures.

/ Secondly artists tell how they worked on this subject, how citizens were involved, how he / she has turned the problem (question / issue) into action, how poetry (aesthetics) is the extra and deeper layers in his /her work.

/ Thirdly a citizen tells about the daily practise and experiences with art as a transition tool; we see the local citizens as the every-day-experts.

/ A well informed and experienced moderator keeps an eye on the clock, stimulates questions, clear answers and conclusions about the role and function of art.

Workshops will mainly take places in the venues in Aasted. Some of the workshops will have the character of an expedition.

THEME A. RE-VITALISATION / VITAL LIFE.

1. Revitalising villages: a good village with a future for all.

How to enhance coherence in the community, how to engage new inhabitants in existing communities? Where and how to meet, formally and informally? How to lift the image of a village. How can art and research make a difference and how does it work? This workshop takes look into methods and results derived from projects in the Fursund area from 2013 – 2017, the Art on the move project 2012 – 2014 and the Art Hall and the Village 2017.

Citizens of Junget and Birgitte Ejdrup Kristensen made a new meeting place. Selde has a new platform, a stage for meeting and activities. Åsted is meeting around murals and the RADIUS –project and Thorum is meeting under the oak trees etc. Art on the Move and The Art Hall and The Village: Steen Rasmussen and a number of Danish and international artists create artistic intervention in 2012-14 and 9 villages in 2017

Creators: Birgitte Ejdrup Kristensen, Lene Noer, Steen Rasmussen.

Scientist: Nadia Hein.

Policy maker: Ditte Staun (politician and chairman of the cultural council Skive).

Cultural organisor: Pia Buchardt (Aarhus 2017- Re-think the Village)

Citizens: Hanne Bavnsgaard, Simone Bech, Ulla Simonsen (chairman of ass. Fursundegnen)

Moderator: Lene Bang.

Language: Danish

2. Revitalising villages: what do young people want /need?

Vital villages need well educated young people. After their education in the city they often don't return because of a lack of jobs, opportunities and facilities. It is too difficult to borrow money for a house. And if they do come back, they often don't take part in the village life – among other things because young innovative thinking is often not especially welcome. How do villages make themselves attractive for young people?

Creators: Jens & Morten,

Creator: Einar Trie, Cirkusskolen

Experts: Per Bech Jensen, Idom , Cresten Ibsen.

Policy maker: Thomas Olesen

Citizen: Bo Futterup.

Moderator: Anne Haubek

Language: Danish

3. Revitalizing villages: How to enhance life quality for villagers, in particular retired citizens.

Less people in day time in the village, few if any medical or social facilities or shops, less bus connections, all the while it is very difficult to sell the house and move to a better place. People get older, and older people still have capacities and knowledge. Can children, youngsters and elderly people give something to each other? Could shared economy be part of the solution? Lonely and forgotten in the village: who would like such a perspective. Deirdre O'Mahony, (IE) shows through examples from X-PO, SPUD, and GROUNDWORKS (GRASSLANDS) and Line Sandvad Mengers from KUBUS and PLACE / PERSON OF INTEREST (RADIIUS) how their projects re-socialise the life in the village and put the resources of the villagers in play again.

Creator: Deirdre O'Mahony (IE). Line Sandvad Mengers.

Cultural entrepreneur: Rosie Lynch and Eilis Lavell (Callan Workshouse, IE)

Shared economy expert: Claus Skytte

Cizitens: Bodil og Helge Pinholt

Moderator: Jan Hartholt.

Language: English

THEMES: B. SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION

4. The urban and rural divide. Connecting the rural and urban: a message to Viborg, Copenhagen and Brussels

Do 'cities' exclude the village and rural people. Does the rural have a negative image and if so what are the origins? Or is the rural just reachless and off the map? How to break through the stereotypes that seem to slow down a positive rural development

The new EU common agricultural policy will start in 2020 and deals also with rural development. We see a growing divide between the different sectors on the country side. Can art be the connector between these sectors, between rural and urban citizens? Arts as a tool for rural and urban development, social inclusion and ecological change?

Through examples from Kenneth Balfelts participatory urban projects (a.o. Enghave Plads in Copenhagen) and Marianne Jørgensens authorship about life in the countryside, art is explored as a driver for area development, in cities as well as in the rural, and for social inclusion and sustainability.

Creators: Ondrej Hrab (CZ), Kenneth Balfelt, Marianne Jørgensen (Kjeldgård)

Scientists: Benno Blasild

Citizens: Pia Buchardt (Aarhus2017), Gunhild Juhr (Selde), Ulla Simonsen (Junget)

EU- agri and RD: Erik Bach Andersen

Moderator: Lene Bang

Language: English / DK.

5. New Cultures (Expats and refugees) in the country side.

Agricultural work is often done by expats from low income countries as Romanian and Poland. There is a steady influx of refugees. All arrive with their own cultures. What does this mean for the local Danes? Do the expats take part in the Danish society? Can art build bridges.

How does Skive and other areas cope with the influx of refugees. Can refugees solve the exodus and youth drain from the country side? Do we know their capacities? From the Czech Republic comes a clear example of how culture contributes to the future of new residents and the connection between the refugee camp and the surrounding villages. How to deal with the fears of the local people, can art help here to build bridges?

Artists: Jana Svobodova and Ondrej Hrab (CZ), Trampolinhuset, Copenhagen

Expert: Anne Berggren + Director of refugee center Skive

Citizens: an expat from a farm and a refugee from Skive.

Moderator: Anne Haubek

Language: English

6. Rural culture and rural identity.

How important is the artistic quality and the poetic aesthetics dimension for the wanted result of participatory works in the rural public space?

Are contemporary, cutting edge art works compatible with the citizens expectations and rural culture? Can they enhance identity and counter the urban prejudices? The theme is explored and discussed through Elle-Mie Ejdrups art projects "The sound of" and "Light, Landscape and voices", and Sjoerd Wagenaars projects in The Netherlands and RADIUS in Aasted (GRASSLANDS). Ton Duffhues has a long experience in working with farmers and agricultural companies. He explores the choices we make concerning food, landscape and agriculture.

Artists: Elle-Mie Ejdrup, Sjoerd Wagenaar (NL)

Scientist: Ellen Marie Braae

Expert: Ton Duffhues (NL)

Moderator: Anne Haubek

Language: English

7. Encounters: The Art of Invitation

Participatory cultural citizenship in praxis by Encounters. Encounters are a UK based organisation who specialise in The Art of Invitation, designing and delivering creative processes that bring people together across difference to build deeper relationships with themselves, each other, where they live and the wider natural world. In disused shops, on boats, on street corners, public spaces, in market stalls, town halls, Encounters have designed and set up Invitations to Join In that have enabled thousands of people of all ages to drop in and share memories, stories, ideas experiences and visions that connect the past, pre-

sent and future of a place. Encounters Director Ruth Ben-Tovim will be running a workshop that shares some of these Invitations developed over the last 13 years and invites you to join in, leaving a trace of yourself behind and co-creating a Rural Forum evolving artwork.

Artistic leader Ruth Ben - Tovim (UK) gives a practical workshop about their methods.

Max attendants: 25 persons.

Language: English

8. Art made in the rural, excursion.

Rural Culture is often presented as traditional art forms. Tourists see folklore dances in old costumes, visit an old church and a historic museum. But water that stands still decays and so does culture. What is needed for a vital art produced in the country side, well connected with it's citizens and considered to be of the same quality value as the urban institutes and creators? Is it only imago and reputation?

Klaus Weiss and Karen Havskov Jensens work, "Selde Selected", is shown as a nonstop power point during the entire forum.

This workshop is A Walk & Talk through Selde together with the project leader of Sculptural village Selde, visual artist Marianne Jørgensen, to see the results of the last 3 years sculptural experiments in public space.

1,5 hrs walk and a talk in the Davincy workspace in the neighbour village Selde.

Creator: Marianne Jørgensen (skulpturlandsby Selde)

Citizen: Margrete Møller about Selde Selected.

European cultural cities: Marilyn Gaddan, Galway 2020 (IE)

Policy makers: Turistchefen i Skive, Alice Bank Danielsen, Kulturkonsulent

Louise Top Rasmussen

Scientist: Anne Mette Hjalager

Moderator: Lene Bang

Language: English

THEME C.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF JUTLAND (AS A EUROPEAN COUNTRY SIDE)

9. new economic models and new ways of living:

Rural capacities and opportunities. How to survive socially and economically, when there is almost no mail delivery, when it is difficult to obtain a bank loan, to get a permission to initiate a business, to get good internet and cell phone connections, etc.? Can artists, cultural organisations, creative industry bring innovation, better image, new business, new experiences, in other words new jobs and survival strategies for the rural areas?

Visual artist Lisbeth Hermansen has consequently bought a whole village, named it Wild West Country Town, appointed herself sheriff and decides supremely who is allowed to inhabit the village: You may meet the sheriff, and talk about life in the country town if you are an artist, craftsman, designer, musician, author, intermediary, dreamer or you have something on your mind.

The European Commission published their policy paper about Smart Villages. The message is simple, village which are not connected to the digital networks have no future. What does this mean for Jutland and the villagers?

Creator: Lisbeth Hermansen

Experts: Sven Irgens Møller, Produktionshøjskolen Marielyst

Scientist: Jan Willem van der Schans, Suzanne Ditlevsen (architect/researcher art and econ development)

Municipality: Teresa Rocitas Nielsen

Moderator: Jan Hartholt

Language: English

PLENARY SESSION

We, Pig Country.

We Pig Country is a solo theatre performance telling about Stijn, a 30-year old boy that returns to his native country after travelling around the world for 12 years. His parents were pig-farmers, his brother has taken over the farm. Stijn himself always wanted to be a knight who serves mankind.

For this performance Lucas did intensive research: an internships at different farms, interviewed grain traders, bankers, veterinarians and agricultural workers. The performance brings stories of different sector together. The performance asks attention for the position of farmers and shows how production methods have changed.

The show has been touring through the Netherlands and Belgium since 2013 in theatres, conference centres and stables. Played over 75 times, mostly booked by farmers, for more than 12.000 people.

The Forening Rural Forum Network Denmark and Lucas de Man would like this performance to tour in Denamrk, performed by a Danish actor in 2018. The city of Aarhus supports our plan; we need more supporters to cover the costs.

This performance is a plenary session. In workshop nr 10 and 11 the further discussion takes place.

Language: English

10. Bankers, farmers, consumers and retailers: who has the key for a sustainable development?

Artists: Lucas de Man,

Every day expert / farmer: Henry Jørgensen, Poul Pedersen, CEO Thise Mejeri, Claus Clausen, formand for landboforeningen Limfjorden.

Ton Duffhues, LTO Netherlands.

Consumer: Okologisk Landforening

Banker: Merkur Bank

Moderator: Anne Haubek

Language: English

11. The food production of the future: local market on a global scale?

We spend less and less of our income on the food we eat. In 1950 we spent half of our income on food, now it is only 10-15%! The number of farms is decreasing, on the other hand they get bigger and bigger, they produce more at lower costs and under more and more controlled conditions.

But also creating a countryside that is a production-area, a factory. Should be re-think our food production? should we re-Dane? The globalization of the food economy has brought efficiency, availability and convenience. However, it also brought down farm incomes and involved environmental and animal welfare problems, lack of transparency, and public health issues. Alternative food systems are being developed, based on short food supply chains. Can short food supply chains increase farmers' income and reduce impact on the environment? We see a growing gap between consumers and producers. We see an international market where local farmer are directly influenced by the world markets. Is urban farming or the short chain food supply a solution for the future?

What does this mean for our food and for feeding the world population? What do consumers know about food production? How to invite citizens to take part in transition and maintaining the environment? What can farmers do bridge the gap with consumers? What can art and design do?

Kunstner: Lucas de Man (B)

Experts: Lyke Kloppenburg – Oosterwoud, Claus Clausen, formand for landboforeningen Limfjorden, Lone Andersen, Landmand og næstformand i Landbrug og Fødevarer, Poul Pedersen, Thise Mejeri

Expert: Jan Willem van der Schans (NL) (short chain expert)

Sprog: Engelsk

12. Rural values / landscape values

What do we value in rural life? The Dutch Farmers Union offers courses to reload the meaning of important values that sleep in unconsciousness. What is the influence of sustainable development of landscapes, farming, villages and towns? What lies in the future for rural towns? Exchange of ideas, that can lead to new types of sustainable landscapes and vital villages and town. The prize-winning documentary Re-dane by Architects Charles Bessard , Dominic Balmforth rises interesting questions on the issue.

Creator: Ruth Ben-Tovim (Encounters)

Expert: Ton Duffhues (NL)

Line Byskov, project leader in Skive Municipality new use of the landscape:

Helga Grønnegaard, leading secretary of Common Impact,

Scientists: Pia Heike Johansen, Syddansk Universitet

Moderator: Jan Hartholt

Language: English

ORGANIZATION

Responsible organization: Rural Forum Network Denmark.

Coordinator: Henk Keizer

Co-curator: Birgitte Ejdrup Kristensen

Project leader: Lene Noer

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