



LIVING-WITH FERAL ECOLOGIES

A MORE-THAN-HUMAN FESTIVAL

Time: September 16th 2023, 11am – 11pm

Space: Lapinlahden Lähde – Puutarhapiha and surrounding park area
[Lapinlahdenpolku 8, 00180, Helsinki]

FESTIVAL PROGRAM

I. EVENTS HAPPENING THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL DURATION (JOIN ANYTIME)

Weaving the Feral – Cabinet of Feral Data Curiosities

By Open Forest Collective (Andrea Botero, Markéta Dolejšová, Jaz Hee-jeong Choi, Chewie)

The installation presents our ongoing investigation of feral ways of knowing, being, and living-with diverse more-than-human ecologies. On display are feral data artifacts such as woven sashes, multispecies tattoos, short *dérive* films, and an eel trap capturing environmental knowledge and cosmologies in various more-than-human habitats including Colombian chagras, Bohemian forest, Croatian wetlands, and the Gunditjmarra Country. Participants are invited to spend time with the artifacts and delve into the stories – of feral relationships and care as well as power and structural inequalities – that they weave together. A short talk by the Open Forest Collective followed by a participatory *dérive* inviting participants to drift with & as the Lapinlahti's more-than-human ecologies is scheduled for 17:00 (see SCHEDULED EVENTS section below).

Multispecies Research Station

By Children of the Anthropocene

Welcome to visit our mobile Natureculture Research Station! The Children of the Anthropocene research project focuses on environmental atmospheres and emerging forms of multispecies collaboration. Taking the Station (recognizable from its mushroom-shaped umbrella) as our point of departure, we invite visitors to engage in pop-up research experiments, such as multispecies storytelling and composing of a Cabinet of Curiosities. Children of the Anthropocene of all age groups are welcome to join. Storytelling sessions are scheduled for 15.00-17.00 and 19.00-21.00 + the research station will be present at the venue for the whole afternoon.

Scaling Perception

By Anton Poikolainen Rosén

An individual perception exercise that suggests ways to zoom out and zoom in when seeing, smelling, hearing, and touching nature. Visitors can take a brochure with prompts and perform the exercise freely in the Lapinlahti surroundings. There will also be a limited selection of “perception tools” to play with – devices that change, amplify, and distort our human perception. Borrow one and see how it changes what you notice. Each exercise takes 15-30 min and can be performed anytime throughout the festival.

Rowing and talking about human-sea-relations

By Gloria Lauterbach, Kaisa Roover, Janne Backman, Julia Lohmann, students of the Materials and Living Systems Course (Aalto) & and more sea creatures

Festival visitors can go on a rowing trip with experts, practitioners, students with a focus on human-sea relations to discuss speculative multispecies futures and have caring, imaginary conversations while being on the water. Each trip takes 15-30 min, we have three boats available throughout the event – book a trip at the main festival venue, get more details & equipment, go row!

The Good, The Bad and The Algae

By Sonja Repetti

Diurnal event, running from 11 - 19:30 

Do you know what algae are? Did you know that they can be beautiful? Come along and meet the diverse microalgae of Lapinlahti. You will have a chance to look at living microalgae together with the Helsinki University marine biologist Sonja Repetti who will be present to answer all your questions. You can also make your own algae out of clay.

Experience the Future: Soil Sensing Rings

By Anton Poikolainen Rosén

Experience how it might be to work with soil care in 2040. This interactive installation simulates the use of rings that sense nutrients in the soil and present this data as sound. Do you dare to stick your fingers in the soil and discover what it sounds like? You can participate in an optional interview afterward to contribute to research on the design of future sustainable technologies.

More-than-Human Karaoke

By Gloria Lauterbach

A video work featuring various more-than-human encounters (without sound). The participants are invited to dub the video works. The produced sing-along will be recorded and mixed with the sounds of Lapinlahti. The performance is a multi-dimensional experiment, including and merging the voices of the karaoke singers, the sounds of the festival location, and the various environments shown in the video installation. The later the night, the feral-er the sounds.

Beacons – More-than-human Lighting 🎃🐋🦋

By Ainu Palmu

Nocturnal event – starting after 19:30

Beacons is an interactive light artwork, which has borrowed its form from beacons that are guiding safe routes on sea. The Beacons work consists of lanterns that are pulsating in the tempo of the heartbeat of some animal. Visitors can decide if they want to see a whale's heartbeat (about 2 beats per minute) or maybe a crow's (about 378 bpm) heartbeat. They can also carry the lantern to its place after they have decided on the species they wish to attune to. Together, the lanterns create a living string of heartbeats.

Open Air Cinema – Rocking Guts 🏠📺❤️

By Delphine Rumo

Nocturnal event – starting after 19:30

Open invitation to watch the life of rocks in construction projects while listening to gut microbiotas' environments captured with stethomicrophones. After noticing your own gut feelings about rocks and development plans in the capital area of Finland, you can write them on a stamped postcard and send them to governmental institutions, associations, and decision-makers responsible for overseeing local construction projects. Sense it, write it, we post it. Each encounter takes about 10 min, starting from 19:30 when the darkness settles.

II. SCHEDULED EVENTS:

12:00 – 12:30 Alusta Pavilion Guided Walk 🐝🌱🐞

By Maiju Suomi

**A satellite event: takes place in the courtyard of the Museum of Finnish Architecture and the Design museum*

Alusta pavilion explores the intertwined quality of nature and culture, and searches for ways to care for biodiversity in urban environments. The pavilion functions as a platform for environmental discourse, both on the level of its materiality and multisensory experience, and the different activities which take place there. It comprises a pollinator friendly meadow and structures made with clay in its different forms; unfired and fired brick and rammed earth. The needs of the non-human visitors, different pollinating insects such as bees, bumble-bees and butterflies, were identified together with ecology researchers. Pollinator friendly perennial plants together with decaying wood offer nutrition and shelter for insects. The porous clay structures simultaneously form space for humans and allow non-human animals to enter and to inhabit them as they wish.

12:00 – 13:30 Reimagining Human-AI Co-Creation through Encountering the Sourdough 🤖🍞🍞

By Lenka Hámošová

Navigating the realm of human-AI co-creation opens some pressing questions: Can we truly co-create with AI if we can't articulate the emotional core underpinning our actions? As we acknowledge this chasm between AI and human realities, we must reflect on the ethics of this

more-than-human collaboration. Is it fair to involve AI in this co-creative process without attaining a mutual understanding between the human and other-than-human parties involved? Join us for a participatory kneading session where we'll explore these questions in a hands-on manner, using the tactile and collaborative process of sourdough preparation as our guiding metaphor.

14:00 – 15:00 Dream Ferale 🌙🐱🦋

By Enrique Encinas

Dream Ferale is a ploy to unveil the dreams of Lapinlahti. Do ecosystems dream of multi-species shifts? or lucidly explore a past extinct? maybe traverse centuries in a week? When visionary visitors join Dream Ferale, their human dreams will resonate with the dreams of Lapinlahti's other-than-human creatures. They will relate to the feral beings that inhabit the dreams of animals, microbes, or trees so these creatures, alive in the dreamworlds of plants, dogs, or fish, can share shards of Lapinlahti's dreams.

15.00-17.00 Multispecies Research Station: Storytelling session I 🍄🍄🌿

By Children of the Anthropocene

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15:30 – 16:30 How to D(A)O Ocean Resilience 🌊🦋🐟

By Michal Kučerák

The ocean, similar to blockchain, thrives on interconnectivity. Over generations, people have exchanged captivating myths about oceans and their creatures, igniting respect, fear, and fascination. Today, in the age of planetary extractivism, we seek narratives that embrace both the mythical and the computational. During this session, we will delve into the blockchain-related concept of DAO (Decentralized Autonomous Organization With Others), as envisioned by Rhea Mayers in 2015: incorporating more-than-human actors that entwine magical thinking, post-extractivism, resilience, and collectivity. Our co-creative practice will be imaginative and hands-on; unveiling diversity of conceptual frameworks, worldbuilding perspectives, and value systems instead of resorting to mere more-than-human technoutopia.

17:00-19:00 Weaving the Feral – A Drift 🌲🐻🌊

By Open Forest Collective (Andrea Botero, Markéta Dolejšová, Jaz Hee-jeong Choi, Chewie)

This dérive drift invites participants to join a feral, performative investigation of multispecies relations that shape the Lapinlahti's more-than-human ecologies. Inspired by the movements and rhythms of local other-than-human creatures, as well as the artistic strategies of dérive (including their flaws), we will drift and co-create feral data together with the local ecologies. We will experiment with various performative sense-making practices and devices, including prompts co-created with the online More-than-Human Dérive portal. The Drift starts at the Weaving the Feral – Cabinet of Curiosities installation spot, with a short introduction into the world of drifting and feral data.

19.00-21.00 Multispecies Research Station: Storytelling session II 🦋🍄🌿

By Children of the Anthropocene

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20:00 – 23:00 Find me Dream-walking in the Steppes 🍵🌿📖

By Iryna Zamuruieva

Come for the tea ceremony, stay for the reading. I invite you to dream together about the Ukrainian steppe, the main area where Russia's war on Ukraine is unfolding and causing harm to all the steppe inhabitants. There will be time to be still, to drink Ukrainian herbal tea, to hear about the creatures for whom the steppe is home, to dream up futures full of flourishing.

22:00 – 23:00 Dark Walk 🌑👁️🐾

By Satu Aavanranta & Tuukka Perhoniemi

An adventurous walk in the dark with nice and safe multispecies company. On a dark walk, we explore sensing darkness, looking at the stars, having adventures in nature, and getting used to being in the dark. The walk includes a guided embodied experience and an opportunity to explore darkness together.

