

ARRINA

Vision



ARNA

*"Our goal is to become
one of Europe's most
significant residencies"*



A close-to-nature vision

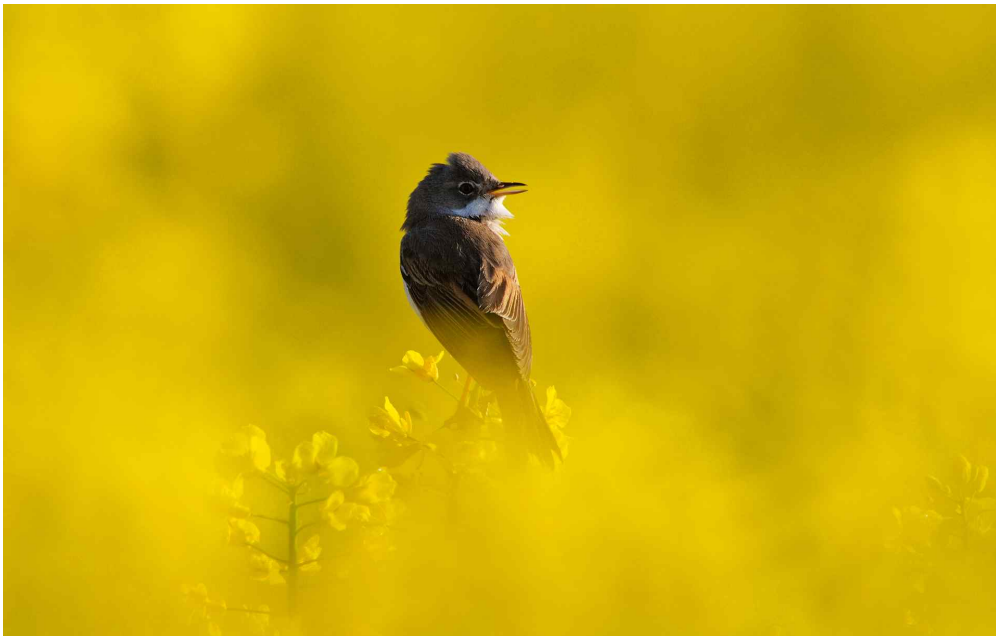
The Swedish Avian Kingdom with the artist in residency ARNA, is on its way to become an important international venue with a focus on human relations towards nature.

Our goal is to create experiences with both “WOW & AHA”, through new kinds of cooperation’s between different cultural expressions, scientific findings and playful learning.

In our vision we also included a building, the former visitor center of the Avian Kingdom with an astounding view over the nature preserves.

In the future, we hope the the Avian Kingdom will become a part in an UNESCO's biosphere area. If so, ARNAs vision to be a venue for interpretations of mans relationships with nature, will come to its full potentials.

This catalouge gives an introduction to the work of ARNA. It is from the perspective of 10 residents, who were chosen to one month stay each, in the Avian Kingdom during 2012. They had great competition for the spots. ARNA got almost 150 applicants from 40 different countries, a proof of the significance a venue as ARNA has in the world, connecting man with nature.



Whitethroat in the Avian Kingdom. Photo Jens Morin



Background

Since 2009, the active village of Harlösa in Scania have created many exciting development projects. The main part of it have been made within the framework of Leader, a EU-based working model where added nonprofit competence is used in exchange for economic contribution.

The Avian Kingdom

Harlösa lies in a rich birdlife area which attracts visitors from all over the place. When the development projects started, it was only natural to give this area its new name, the Avian Kingdom.

ARNA (Art and Nature)

In 2011 an international artist in residence was started up in the Avian kingdom under the name of ARNA. Its work is focused towards professional culture workers and environmentalists from all over the world. The nature profile of the residency has quickly gained a lot of attention. For the 10 spots in 2012, nearly 150 applicants from 40 different countries were received.

ARNA - unique of its kind

The combination of culture and nature might seem as obvious, but there are few organizations in the world with an as distinct nature profile as the one in ARNA. We had to look as far as Oregon in the U.S., where we found Sitka Center. In their organization we have now found a platform for our ideas.

Sitka Center – an inspiration

Sitka Center has 42 years of experience in creating creative meetings in a complex including both residency, courses and contacts with the scientific world. They inspire in their way of integrating their buildings in their protected environment as well. With light, space and close-to-nature materials they entice creative meetings, workshops and concerts far from any urban area.



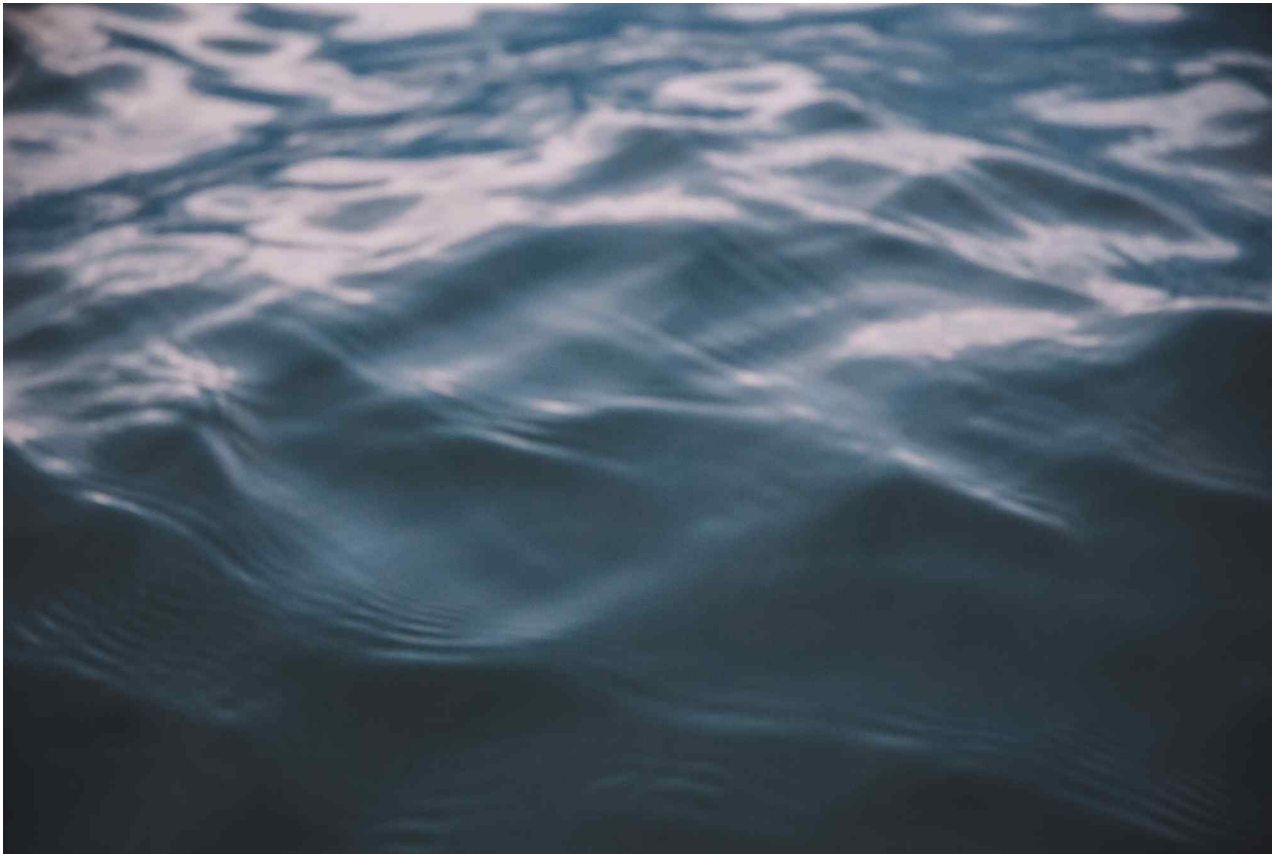
ANDREW SAWYER

(Manchester, UK. 1981)

www.andysawyer.com

Artist statement:

We are surrounded by elements that dislocate our sense of beauty and balance. I am interested in our perception of aesthetic and how we form links with image and sentiment. My works explore the state of change from a scientific, socio-political and emotional standpoint.



The constant flux of all matter and our perception of change are strong factors in my work. As a consequence, light, energy, space, matter and time are all dominant themes in my art.

Andrew Sawyer about his time at ARNA

In July 2012 I was lucky to take part in the ARNA residency. I wanted to use this time to concentrate on experimenting with photographic narrative structures and to explore the links between image and sentiment. The Avian Kingdom was the perfect place for this 'art in nature' themed residency. Being able to live, work and experience Harlosa and its surroundings with fantastic local and international artists is something I have benefitted from immensely.

It has helped me to be able to discuss, define and appreciate my artwork and art form in a new way. It has been an integral part of my development as an artist and it is a time I will always look back to with the fondest of memories.

Harlosa is a community that is rich in both culture and nature; a new and vibrant creative hub for the whole of Scandinavia and beyond.



ARNA

Each artist who come to ARNA is an explorer of The Avian Kingdom, Scania and Sweden. They interpret their experiences here, and displays them at cities as London, New York and Shanghai.



Carla Andrade

(Spain, 1983)

www.carlafernandezandrade.com

Bachelor in Visual Communication and currently studying Philosophy. Exhibitions in USA, Spain, Portugal, France, Germany, Romania, Brazil, etc.

Artist statement

My photography is documentary, fantastic and experimentally.

I'm interested in landscape, in understanding nature as the experience of real and paying special attention in the ecstatic relationship and the metaphysical tension between man and world.



Carla about the light of a landscape

Natural landscape, understood as an indissoluble part of what we are, is essential in all my work. So I wanted to come here for the rural location and expressly because I was interested in doing a photography serie in which the main concept were birds flying in freedom. So the sky of the Avian Kingdom was perfect for my purpose.

Once here, in Harlösa, I found a for me very interesting sky and a very special light, particularly in the last hours of the day, which had something unusual and captivating for me. This permitted me to do a serie about birds, not in an empirical way, but a poetical and aesthetical approach.

This has been my first time in Sweden and I'm sure it won't be the last. Actually, I go back to Spain very happy. It was a so positive experience. I really love Sweden and I've learned many things in this country. But above all, the best part has been meeting amazing people in Harlösa. Each and every one of the people I have met this month, have demonstrated exemplary hospitality and kindness, and in a way I'll never forget.



Impressions of the birds free flight across the sky

ARNA

Many are the times our visiting artists have admired the sky, the clouds and the light in The Avian Kingdom. We who have always lived here say – Oh, is it beautiful? The artists get people here to look at their surroundings with new eyes.



SeoKyeong Lee Yoon

(Sydkorea, 1984)

www.seokyeong.org

2012 PB, San Fransisco Art Institute,
CA, USA. 2007 BFA, Kookimin
University, Seol, South Korea

Artist statement

My work is about the most interesting to me as; love, beauty and death. Life is a tightrope; it depends on the balance between 'life and death' and 'the dream and the real'.



"Can fly" Organic sculpture; leaf and a birds feet.

SeoKyeong writes about her work

I mainly use organic materials, such as animals and flowers. Nature and the cycle of the life are my most important subjects. Sometimes I wonder, how well do I appreciate nature? That is why I chose to come to ARNA: to be as close as I can with nature for a new approach to my life and art.

“People are not permitted to walk in this area, since this area is the important area as a natural habitat for wild birds”, Kerstin Jakobsson said when she gave me a tour in the natural preserve rich area the day after I came here. I was surprised and thought, “How is it possible that people sacrifice their land for birds?” It is possible in Harlösa. Humans are the guests of the nature, and I am the one who can borrow materials from it.

Whenever my father phones me to Harlösa, he asks “How is your day in heaven?”
- I am in Heaven.



“Can fly” 2 x 1 m, Installation with feathers and a little dead bird from the Avian Kingdom

ARNA

The Avian Kingdom in Sweden not only attract a large number of migratory and resident birds, but together with ARNA and its natural profile, it also has a strong attraction to artists worldwide. During 2012, ARNA got almost 150 applications from 40 countries including South Korea, Japan, Australia, China, India ...



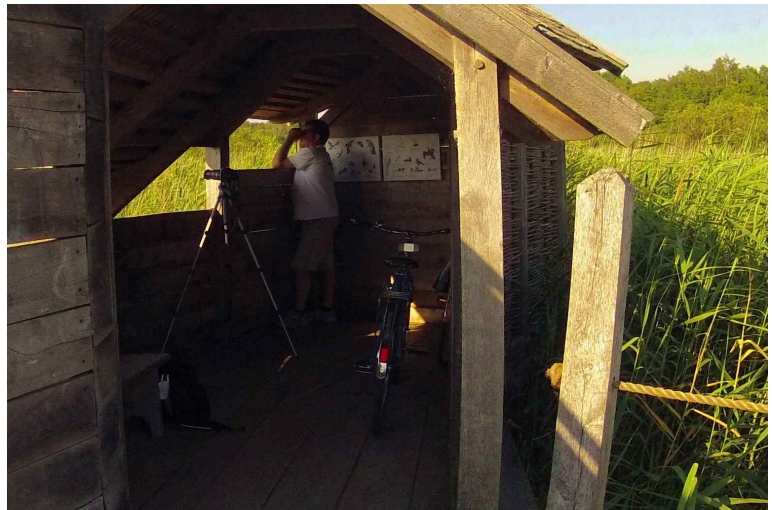
Peter Dalmazzo

(Australien, 1958)

www.annaglynn.com/dalmazzo/index.html

Peter Dalmazzo is an Australian environmental scientist and arts worker. He is Exhibition Team Leader with Shoalhaven City Art Centre and has full curatorial control of exhibitions as well as manager of the team of volunteers.

Peter has more than 26 years' experience working in the fields of biology, estuarine and coastal management, environmental planning and assessment, public place planning, community engagement and education. With the theme of 'art and nature', visiting Harlösa seemed like a natural thing to do as a lot of Peter's work is with birds and their habitats.



Peter studies the birdlife in the lake of Krankesjön

Peter Dalmazzo write about his stay at ARNA

To immerse myself in a concentrated brew of Sweden's cultural and natural character has been a privilege. Culture is concentrated, not diluted, by Harlösa's small size and its proximity to nature. I have seen studios of contemporary practitioners and institutions with amazing sculpture and installation, photography and painting, music and life. In Harlösa I have lived, for too short a time, in a community working hard to ensure that life is a joyful, colourful and worthwhile experience.

To have observed nature through the eyes of artistic Swedes, as well as comrades-in-residence from the US and UK, has been a liberating experience as I normally spend so much time ensuring that descriptions of nature are factually correct in every detail. I have 'impressions' that describe the essence of nature here in a much more lasting way than a dry old treatise describing every vein of every leaf of every plant in the forest.



Peter uses GoPro camera at Lake Vomb

ARNA

The word ARNA means "Art and Nature". The word is also a form Nordic and Icelandic word for female eagle. The combination of art, nature and Nordic heritage is thus united in the name, and to a natural meeting place in the Avian Kingdom in Skåne, Sweden.

It is our vision, that ARNA will also attract professionals in science. The importance of being able to express man's relationship to nature, to entice more people to learn even more, is an art in itself. ARNA can become a place where knowledge becomes an art among other expressions, to be inspired by, and to test new capabilities within.



Anna Glynn

(Australien 1958)

www.annaglynn.com

Anna Glynn is an Australian contemporary artist working with multimedia: including painting, drawing, sculpture, writing, music, sound, theatre, moving image, animation & film making. In 1998 received an International Women's Day Award for contribution to 'Women, Art & the Community'. In 2012 she has major solos exhibitions in Beijing & Australia.

Artist Statement

I am intrigued by the natural world & the accompanying underlying narrative. My work reflects a strong & powerful relationship to landscape & nature. I create multimedia artwork investigating this connection to land & place: ephemeral, fleeting layers of time, past & present overlapping & resonating with memories & stories

Anna Glynn about the Avian Kingdom

I was intrigued by the concept of ARNA and the wonderful vision for the community and the region. The landscape of the Avian Kingdom was a new inspirational environment to explore ...a place of great beauty and abundant birdlife... where I could record nature, create new artworks and meet and interact with the local community.

I have been working on many projects at ARNA including a short film called 'The Lost Swans & the Avian Kingdom'. This work contains my photos of local images, sound recordings, drawing, paintings, writing and video.



The people of the community of ARNA welcomed us like long lost family and I cherish this time...a land where the cherry tree was covered in fruit and the birds sang all night and day!



In the animated film of "The lost Swans & The Avian Kingdom", I collaborated with the local artists, as musician Mats Ede'n and artist Arnold Hagström.

ARNA

The swans in Europe are white, in Australia they are black. But everywhere around the earth, birds are connected to a large positive symbolic value. Anna's animated film inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales, are full of sound recordings from the Avian Kingdom. These audio recordings were also the basis for a radio show that Anna made for the Australian Broadcasting Commission.



C. Matthew Luther

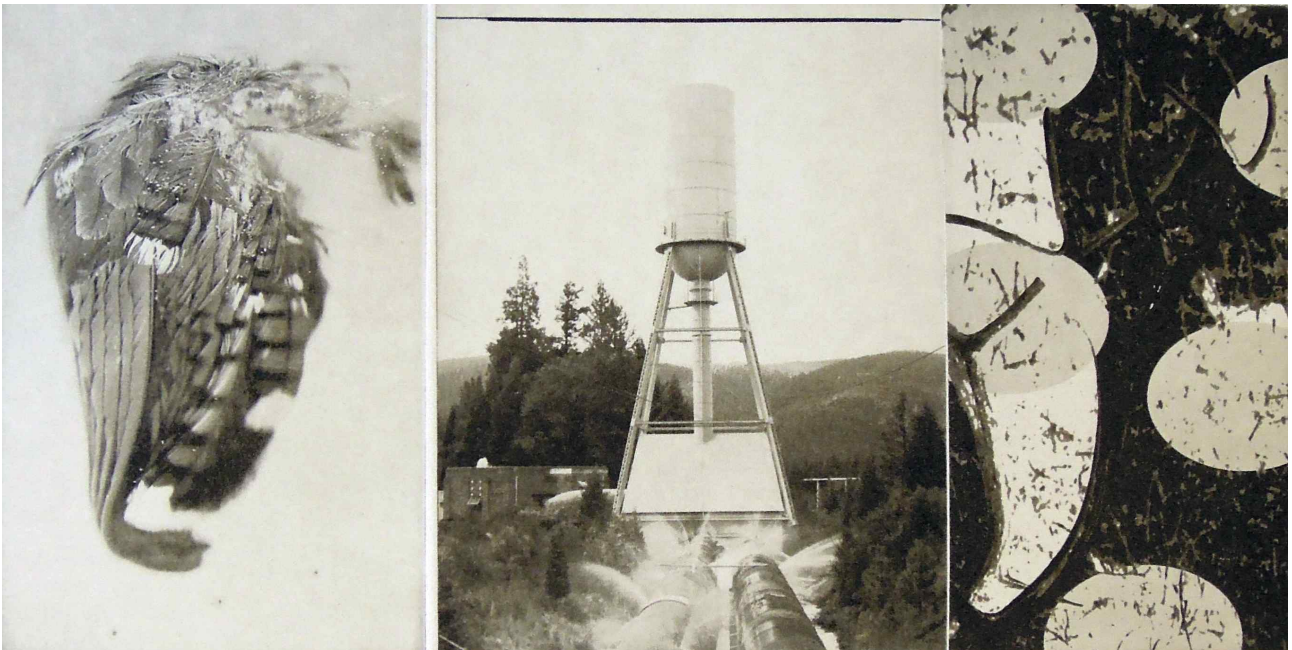
(USA, 1972)

www.matthewluther.com

C. Matthew Luther is a painter, printmaker and video artist living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Born 1972 in Virginia, Matthew has lived and traveled extensively throughout the United States. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts at the Southern Oregon University with emphasis in printmaking and photography and Master in Fine Arts degree at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee with a focus in painting.

Artist statement

The core of Luther's artwork and research is humanity's interaction with nature and the curiosities of how differing civilizations currently and throughout history have interpreted the land. He is interested in how societies have constructed and manipulated surrounding environments for wealth and survival. The artwork develops as an analogy of a fictitious space built on divergent events that have molded our discussion of ecology, the environment and how we witness it.



Graphic work fwith layers of impression

Christopher's notes

The wind blows in several directions in Skane sweeping across large fields of grain. The wind in the Avian Kingdom became a central influence to my artwork during my stay. It was rare to go 15 minutes without seeing a Red Kite flying gracefully overhead. I am in awe of the corvids, raptors, and birds of Skåne. They provided daily inspiration and diversions.

I came to the Avian Kingdom for the birds, nature and culture. I have been increasingly drawn to the Nordic countries, their history, culture and landscapes. Sweden was a natural destination for travel, research and stimulus for my artwork. Norse mythology, birds, and human relationship with nature are important layers to my work as an artist. I did not know what to expect coming to Harlösa Sweden from Milwaukee Wisconsin. I quickly felt at home with the landscape and the extremely kind people of the Harlosa. I found great pleasure in the opportunity to visit and be creative Skåne and great pleasure in the opportunities that presented themselves like riding in the sidecar of a Nimbus motorcycle and watching the Swedish countryside pass by.



Graphic created in The Avian Kingdom

ARNA

An artistry is created by layer after layer of impressions from trips, or people. For many of the artists who resided at ARNA, their experiences here, sometimes even the seemingly simplest, will put strong traces in their future work.

ARNA add layers of Sweden to artists around the world.



Melinda Barcs

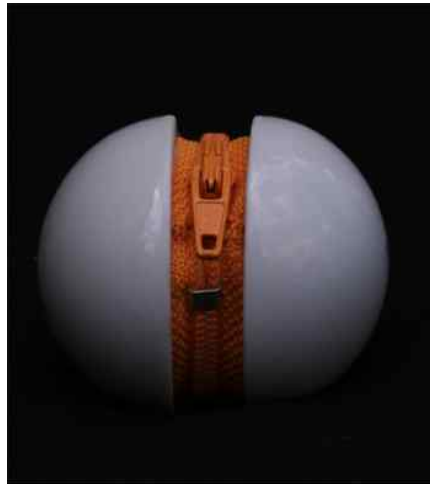
(Ungern, 1985)

www.giraffeceramics.weebly.com

Cermic artist. Graduated of Moholy Nagy University of Art and Design, Budapest

Artist statement

I prefer things that are close to nature and my relationship to clay highly influences my art work. Besides, I am a horse rider and used to live in a farm sleeping by animals, so it is not surprising that I decided to use this raw material which is actually the **soil**.



Photos of earlier, wearable ceramic art pieces

Melinda about her stay at ARNA

After finishing my degree, I hoped to enter a new creative environment and allow myself to respond to it through my art. During my stay with ARNA I met with extremely friendly and inspiring artists who created a warm and open environment where I could explore working with new, locally sourced material with local artists.

My time with ARNA allowed me to take many, inspiring bike rides through the countryside and nearby forests. This was like pure meditation to me. After all the stress of preparing my exam, it showed me the importance of relaxing at the same time as I created, a very important insight, into the art of creating.



Vases made out of cartridge cases created during the time spent at ARNA

ARNA

A ceramic artist of today, is characterized more by working three-dimensional, than to always work in the material of clay. As of most professionals, most will work in a variety of techniques. This also creates a constant cross-fertilization between traditional and new technologies that also opens up new encounters between different cultural workers.

For the future, it would be a desirable to offer a large workroom for heavier techniques at ARNA. A place for physical meetings, open for different kinds of expression with nature as the common inspiration.



Lois Patiño

(Spanien, 1983)

www.loispatino.com

I studied Psychology at Complutense University in Madrid and cinema in New York and Berlin, before doing a master in documentary film in Barcelona. I have developed ateliers with artist and filmmakers such as Joan Jonas, Donald Kuspit, Pedro Costa o Katherin Sieverding.

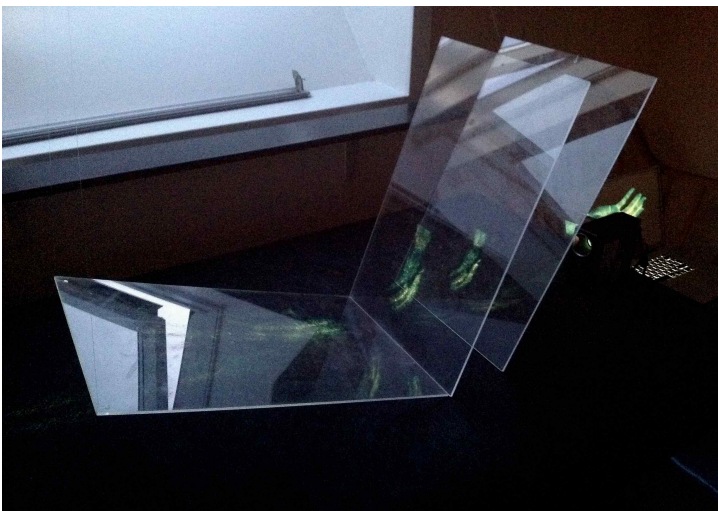
Artist Statement

My works centres around the relationship of the individual with the environment. I have a special interest in the introspective perception of landscape.

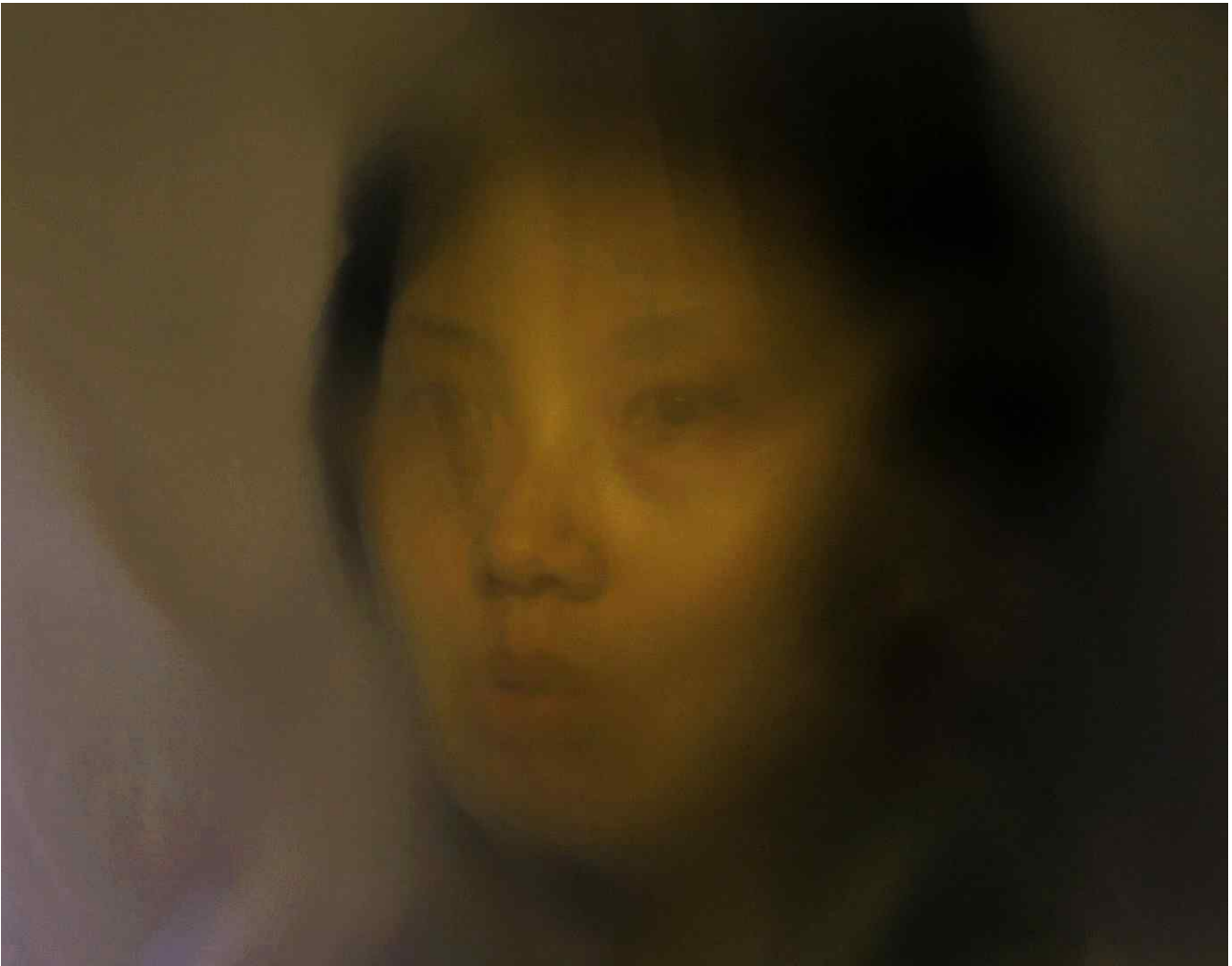
Lois about landscape and and new connections

I wanted to work with the landscape, and although I think that the landscape here is very flat, you will find many interesting places. I really liked the forests around the lakes. The calm I experienced here, in contrast to my home city of Madrid, gave me a particular concentration, a different way of life that helped me a lot at work preparing new projects.

The most interesting experience here, have been having the opportunity to be and to work with people from such a different culture: working with Xia in a videoinstallation, knowing how Arnold works with the printing or Lars with the metal, the dinners at night talking about the cultural differences... It made the experience really exciting.



FPotos from the videoinstallation where Lois created a new artwork together with Xia Gao, connecting her art with his lightinstallations.



Portrait, Xia Gao. I have during my time at ARNA continued to explore a painterly way to work with video, where I distorts photos of portraits. I have also had the piece and concentration to simultaneously work on my other ongoing film projects. During my stay in Harlösa I learned that I was selected as for the film festival in Rome. So I am very happy!

ARNA

The surrounding countryside is very important for us humans. Also cities has their landscapes, but far from the tranquility that many experience in the Avian Kingdom. The closeness to nature here, with its open landscape, freedom and peace is perceived by many visiting artists, as liberating for the inspiration.

In many cases, it is the unexpected or different, which will be the most inspiring. As the meetings with new and interesting people, colleagues or residents of The Avian Kingdom. Many of these contacts will be continued beyond the time here. Both professionally and privately.



Xia Gao

(Kina, 1972)

www.msu.edu/~gaox

Xia Gao is a visual artist who primarily works with textile/fiber, installation, printing, and mixed media. Her works often address personal and cultural adaptation and transformation. Currently, Gao is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art and Art History at Michigan State University. She has exhibited nationally and internationally in numerous juried group and solo exhibitions.

Artist statement.

I love observing people's lives, especially those different from my own. I think it is both the geographic distance and cultural difference that elevate my curiosity. When I relocated into a Western culture, the geographic migration brought me new insight into the cultural milieu of my native East. My work tells stories, personal experiences, and my renewed connection to my cultural tradition and Eastern origin. The transformations in my own life and in Chinese culture are new inspirations for my creative expression.



"A Chinese hug to Harlösa", Chinese knots around a tree in Harlösa

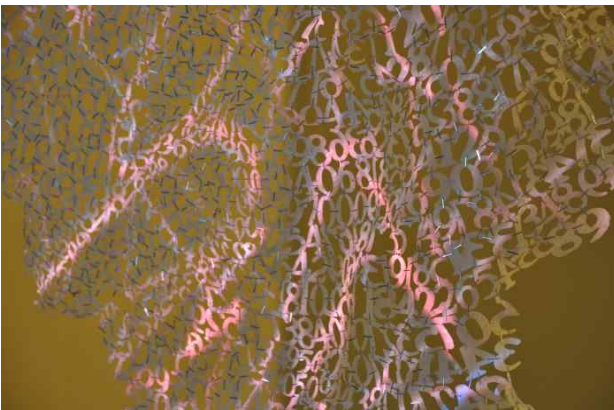
Attending ARNA's residency has not only bridged me the opportunities of working with Swedish professional gallery in solo show and related activities, but also allowed me to collaborate with talented peer artists the program attracts. More important, I have learned so much about Swedish culture, history, art, craft, people, and land in conversations, local events, studio, exhibition, and home visits, gatherings, and works, those intakes wouldn't be possible without this residency experience.



The biggest surprise was meeting Chinese art scholar Dr. Berglund in Harlosa, a truly magic moment of East meets West.



After artist talk presented for my solo exhibition "between" at Tapper-Popermajer Contemporary Art Gallery in Teckomatorp, Sweden



During the time at ARNA I cooperated with the videoartist Lois Patino, here photographed by Carla Andrade



Inspiration I bring with me for future works, the golden fields outside Harlösa

ARNA

Man's relationship with nature, all around the earth is the heart of ARNA. It forms the hub of activities that opens up many new kinds of collaborations, contacts and discussions between people. Running a residence is thus to unite people in a global perspective, in our case through our common heritage, the nature.



Gabrielle Vitollo

(USA, 1990)

<http://gabriellevitollo.com>

BFA Painting from the Maryland Institute
College of Art, USA,

Artist statement

I paint the luscious, raw, gritty, and explicit elements of organs, meat, and other material with vivid coloration. The paintings are not only about viscera, but also about seeing the overlooked, and exploring the building blocks of an environment and a local culture.

An earlier work

The image to the right is a work of a pit-bull's mouth with ambiguous, abstract, and gritty aspects. Viewers can see as dreams or nightmares, depending on their own personal experiences. They are about the outside world and the inner universe.

Gabrielle about ARNA

Upon graduation from art school, the thought of working in an environment without the benefits of peers or professors to evaluate my artwork was at first unsettling to me. However, by attending the judgment-free environment I found at the ARNA residency I was able to explore new artistic concepts, to advance a unique body of work, and to develop my confidence for my future studio practice as an independent artist. Harlösa's magnificent birds and landscape, and the other ARNA resident's taxidermy practice have transformed my paintings into abstract hybrids. Being at ARNA was critical to this artistic evolution





Four of Gabrielle's paintings, created during her time at ARNA. They are inspired of birds, both inner and outer parts. Acrylic on paper, 30x40 cm.

ARNA

For young artists and perhaps especially visual artists, it is of great importance to travel out into the world. These trips gives impressions for life.

From a Nordic perspective, the artists in previous centuries made their formation trips to "the cradle of culture" in the southern parts of Europe. In our time it is instead many Southern countries' artists looking to Scandinavia. They search inspiration from our cultural history, and to live close to nature

It should be of great importance if ARNA could create recurring theme residency for young artists. It would be an unique possibility for future artists around the world to meet, inspire and express the relationship between man and nature. Expressions that would certainly include many experiences of WOW & AHA.



The future location of a visitor center in the Avian Kingdom?

ARNA in the Avian Kingdom

where art meets nature
to explore the creative mind of man



www.arna.nu
www.fagelriket.se

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