

End of the World Garden – Summer camp 2017



(En)countering the rural/urban divide

End of the World Garden will host its first summer programme throughout August 2017. Participants are invited to attend a 'Critical Camp' at EotWG (a two acre artist led off-grid site in rural Cornwall) to discover a mix of theoretical seminars, discussions, film screenings, artist's performance and guided walks. Here we will recodify old divisions and explore new models of rural/urban interaction in architecture, art production, and social systemics.

We will simultaneously develop themes and methodologies for ongoing speculative investigations and artistic research using the land at EotWG as a unique ground for projection.

Practical workshops/activity days and volunteer opportunities focusing on low-impact architecture and development of site infrastructures will run throughout the month.

'The countryside is now the frontline of transformation. A world formerly dictated by the seasons and the organisation of agriculture is now a toxic mix of genetic experiment, science, industrial nostalgia, seasonal immigration, territorial buying sprees, massive subsidies, incidental inhabitation, tax incentives, investment, political turmoil, in other words more volatile than the most accelerated city.'

'The countryside is an amalgamation of tendencies that are outside our overview and outside our awareness. Our current obsession with only the city is highly irresponsible because you cannot understand the city without understanding the countryside.'

Rem Koolhaas

Programme:

Supervised volunteer activities

August 1st to 10th

£0

Help spruce up EotWG ready for action. Tasks include:

- Construction of a compost toilet system from locally milled larch.
- Design and installation of a passive solar array using reclaimed materials.
- General maintenance of the two-acre forest garden.

Join us in these tasks and enjoy free camping on site while learning practical skills.

Mobile Residency Pod – workshop 1

August 12th 09:00 – 18:00

£50 (15 places available)

We will design and build an autonomous movable pod using reclaimed materials. The pod will be constructed to a high standard to provide year-round accommodation for our future residency programme. Work alongside the artists/designers, learn about low-impact architecture and upcycling techniques, and explore an emerging architectural genre – the ‘Apocalyptic Vernacular’. Led by Paul Chaney and Michael Hormann.

Film Screening – This Land Is...

August 19th 19:00 till late

£10 (includes soup and bonfire)

This evening screening in the tractor shed considers the human-altered landscape and landscape-altered humans, with the material of film as active collaborator. Direct impressions of radioactivity on photosensitive materials; urban built environments abstracted into feelings through traces of light; the transmutation of land into property and the troubled relationship between imaging cinematic landscapes, botanical gardens, and expansion of colonialist, imperialist powers; the reclamation of human art objects and abandoned industry by flora and fauna; the destruction of the illusion that there has ever been any separation between the “human” and the “natural” to begin with. Stories in the hills of Southern California, interiors and exteriors blurring on the edge of the desert, geological forces, the boundaries of the film frame, and beyond.

Bad Mama, Who Cares- Brigid McCaffrey

Mike Stoltz- Half Human Half Vapor

Alee Peoples- If You Can't See My Mirrors I Can't See You

Eric Stewart- Harbour

Tomonari Nishikawa- sound of a million insects, light of a thousand stars

Vera Brunner- Sung- Minong, I Slept

Jeanne Liotta- Property

Lichun Tseng - Captured Light of an Instant

Introduced by Marcy Saude

Critical Camp August 20th to 26th

£100 full week (includes 6 nights camping – 20 places available)

£20 day pass (20 places available daily)

The rural/urban model is at a crucial stage. The traditional dissonances between the rural and urban, the roots of which lie in questions of labour division and the affordances given to enlightenment through the development of systemic agricultural efficiency, have been consolidated by capitalism. However, dissatisfaction with modern urban life, unsustainable population growth, climate change, and ecological crises are provoking change. What would happen if the city burst its seams and ruptured into the rural? Should the rural continue to be developed as a landscape of automated factory farms serving the consumptive needs of the urban masses, interspersed with pockets of bucolic nostalgia and green well-being for those who can afford it – a vague skeuomorphic simulation of a traditional rural existence? Or should the rural be integrated into rigorous new models of post-capitalist thinking? Are there ways to address the rift between universalist techno-solutions proposed by accelerationists, and the semi-nationalistic eco-protectionism of the ‘neo-luddites’? What can we learn from historical and contemporary models of agrarian reform, and artist’s ‘back to the land’ projects? What are the new metasocial vectors and techno-materialisms that artists, designers, and planners should consider when addressing the rural?

Join us as we explore these questions during a week of open discussion, practical and theoretical workshops, artist’s presentations, performance lectures, and walking tours of the local area. Each day will offer two workshop sessions and a meal collectively prepared and cooked under the guidance of wild cooking expert and performance chef Dom Bailey. An evening session of informal exchange by the fireside will conclude each day.

Critical Camp workshop leaders/speakers:

Dr Bram Arnold – Artist, dark ecologist, and broadcaster.

Dr Frances Crow – Senior lecturer in architecture at Falmouth University; an architect and partner in sound arts practice Liminal. Founder of *Architecture Making Community* - a research platform hosted by Falmouth University.

Jonathan Hoskins – Visual artist and writer pursuing research-based projects focusing on physical infrastructure, spatial politics and localised collective action.

Michael Hormann – Director of Marraum, a locally based architect’s practice with a focus on ecological design.

Paul Chaney – Director and lead artist at EotWG, horticulturalist, agrosopher, and low-impact construction expert.

Victoria Ivanova – Theorist, curator, and Phd researcher at Goldsmith’s University focusing on capital and systems thinking.

Konstantine Leonenko – Inventor and technologist, founder of Ukraine’s first FabLab.

Marcy Saude – Activist, film maker, and researcher concerned with futurology, and utopian/dystopian conjunction.

August 27th

Mobile Residency Pod – workshop 2

£50 (15 places available)

Completion of the Mobile Residency Pod (see above).

Led by Paul Chaney and Michael Hormann.

Notes for campers:

EotWG is 100% off grid. Water is pumped from a borehole powered by a wind turbine, and we have a basic compost loo. There is very limited access to electricity. We have a small solar panel and 12 volt system on site, but this will be mostly reserved for audiovisual presentations during workshops. It will be possible to charge phones.

We hope to set up a solar shower onsite in time for the Critical Camp. We do have access by prior agreement to the shower and laundry facilities of a small commercial campsite a ten minute walk away – £1 for a hot shower, and £4 for use of the washing machine.

We have a large dry tractor shed and covered workshop with basic camp kitchen facilities for all weather activity. We cannot provide tents and camping equipment – please bring your own.

All dietary requirements can be catered for during collaboratively prepared evening meals. Breakfast and lunch are not included in the price of the camp. We are expecting participants to collectively self-cater for these extra meals.

You will be expected to abide by the countryside code and respect our neighbours privacy while staying at EotWG – while having a great fun and productive time!

<http://eotwgarden.org.uk/>

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Image: *Watch Tower #2 Location*. From *Lizard Exit Plan – Kestle Barton Segment*. Silkscreen on giclee, Paul Chaney, 2016.