

2nd Be-coming Tree Live Art event

28.10.2020 Press information

Sat 31.10.2020 10-11am GMT
11am-12pm CET
3:30-4:30pm IST

The 2nd *Be-Coming Tree* durational Live Art event encompasses 20 live-streamed performances with and about trees happening simultaneously across the globe. Viewed on the same screen via a shared Zoom conference, this multitude of artistic actions offers audiences an experience of entanglement with nature through technology. *Be-Coming Tree* is a one-hour global artistic event embracing a perspective of interspecies kinship and grassroots decentralization.

The event will host performative actions occurring remotely in different countries and time zones by and from:

O. Pen Be (UK), Danielle Imara (UK), Jatun Risba (SLO), Anne Murray (HUN), Surya Tüchler (DE), Phil Barton (UK), Annette Arlander (FIN), Izabela Waszak (SCT), Lucy Stockton-Smith (UK), Agathe Gizard (FR), Lea Jazbec (SLO), Franco G. Livera (ITA), Adam Engler (PT), Myriam Aitelhara (ALG), Emi Bici (DE), Peter Purg (SLO), Dimple B Shah (IND), DeeJ Fabyc & MJ Forde (IRL), Christine Fentz (FR), Sally Annett (FR).

Be-coming Tree Facilitators:
Jatun Risba, Danielle Imara, O. Pen Be
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#becomingtree

2nd Be-coming Tree

Live Art event

(NON)CURATORIAL STATEMENT

Be-coming Tree is a radically inclusive event involving minimal curation. This virtual gathering of artists and trees creates a living artwork that unfolds before the eyes of spectators via Zoom, in real-time. Through individual self-determined acts, participating artists offer multiple windows onto global performative actions simultaneously viewable on the same screen.

The artists, experienced as a multitude, offer a hive-like view to the audience gaze, growing a sense of global kinship with human and more-than-human forms, with a particular focus on the force, beauty and resilience of trees. Artists experience the synchronicity of their acts with others in different time zones, creating an energetic network of shared intention.

Rather than focusing upon individual affirmation, *Be-coming Tree* aims to revisit collective action through decentralization, contagion and spontaneity so as to move slowly - step by step and event after event - in the direction of global unity and a capillary distribution of resources. This is achieved by doing and living Art in reciprocity with human and nonhuman others.

The fact that human lungs have been targeted by the Covid-19 virus and breathing is afflicted, means the decision to find existential and artistic refuge in woods ("the lungs of the planet") is both prophetic and eminently responsive to the unprecedented ecological collapse the Earth has been dealing with in the last decades.

Be-coming Tree Facilitators

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REVIEWS AND FEEDBACK - 1st Be-coming Tree event -

This event was an expressive immersion into the world of the tree from multiple points on the globe and performed in both interior and exterior spaces. It also delved philosophically into de-emphasizing gender and self and moving towards broader relationships with the natural world.

- Murray, A., 2020. BE-COMING TREE: A FOREST OF ARTISTS UNITE. [[online](#)]

I was so moved. In addition to the powerful peaceful moments - and meditation shared by each artist - I was also made aware of - or the performances activated this for me... where I was on our rotating earth. My attention to my space while I experienced the screens was also active. Noticing the sun coming up and going down simultaneously on the screens before us, the wind blowing through my window, the first rays of light (on this continent anyway) streaming into our room, connected to the leaves of the forests, backyards and public parks where the performances were happening was a beautiful connected experience.

- Alexis Iammarino, Interdisciplinary artist and educator

The embodied stillness, intention, connection, sensuality of each performance is beautiful. It makes me want to go into Nature now and move with the heart beat of the earth.

- Sarah Mitchell, from the audience Zoom chat

Enjoying the variety and feeling and seeing intentions in everyone's offering....Really beautiful digital collaboration!

- Nandita Shankardass, from the audience Zoom chat

Thank you for connecting us to all these different, beautiful trees.

- Pippa Best, from the audience Zoom chat

BE-COMING TREE

FACEBOOK.COM/BECOMINGTREE

**LIVE ART EVENT VIA ZOOM, on Sat October 31st, 2020
at 10-11am GMT | 11am-12pm CET | 3:30-4:30pm IST**

With 20 performances by and from:

**O. PEN BE (UK), DANIELLE IMARA (UK),
JATUN RISBA (SLO), ANNE MURRAY (HUN),
SURYA TÜCHLER (GE), PHIL BARTON (UK),
ANNETTE ARLANDER (FIN), IZABELA WASZAK
(SCT), LUCY STOCKTON-SMITH (UK), AGATHE
GIZARD (FR), LEA JAZBEC (SLO), FRANCO G.
LIVERA (ITA), ADAM ENGLER (PT), MYRIAM
AITEHARA (ALG), EMI BICI (GE), PETER
PURG (SLO), DIMPLE B SHAH (IND), DEEJ
FABYC & MJ FORDE (IRL), CHRISTINE
FENTZ (FR), SALLY ANNETT (FR).**

Organized by Jatun Risba in co. with Danielle Imara and O. Pen Be.

Zoom operator: Soren James Photo/Video Documentation: Alexandra Freitas

2nd Be-coming Tree Live Art event

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

O. Pen Be

Title: **TOUCH IN COVID TIME: Trees as touch partners**

Location: Forest in Cornwall, UK

Brief description:

Human to human touch is increasingly seen as contaminating. How can I engage with nature to restore touch as feeling safe and cleansing? Ritual engagement with breath and tree and ecological touch; listening to the tree's senses.

Links: [@O.Pen.Be](#) (IG)

Danielle Imara

Title: **LISTENING TO TREE: In-tree-ition**

Location: Hampstead Heath, London, UK

Brief description:

On London's Hampstead Heath, Imara will allow a Tree to call them. Listening with careful intuition, they will allow Tree to inspire and guide their movements. Imara's movement lexicon may incorporate stillness, flow, symbolic gifts to Tree, and repeated pedestrian movement; informed by aspects of martial arts, and Tree guidance.

Links: www.danielleimara.com, [@danielleimara](#) (IG), [@danielleimaramusic](#) (FB)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Jatun Risba

Title: **BE-COMING TREE**

Location: Panovec Woods, Nova Gorica, Slovenia

Brief description:

In April 2020, Risba enacted *Be-coming Tree* for the first time. By attuning to the landscape within and without while lying naked above the trunk of an uprooted beech, the artist is engaging in a visceral exchange with local woods. This third *Be-coming Tree* 'actio' is a contemplation upon impermanence.

Links: <https://jatunrisba.com>, [@jatunrisba_jokerjournal](#) (IG)

Anne Murray

Title: **DREAM OF THE DENDRITES**

Location: Artist's studio in Budapest, Hungary

Brief description:

Dream of the Dendrites refers to childhood memories of dancing to Tchaikovsky's *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies* alone in my room, and the neural connections that we make to music and light in patterns stretching and growing, as the limbs of a tree moving towards the sun.

Links: www.annemurrayartist.com, www.cloud9pavilion.weebly.com, [@annemurray.art](#)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Surya Tüchler

Title: **OUTSIDE IN: KnotweedRoom**

Location: Hamburg, Germany

Brief description:

In this site-specific performance, branches are coming from the outside into the interior. The branches feel into the space. The outside becomes the inside.

Links: www.suryatuchler.de, www.vimeo.com/suryatuechler, [Surya Tüchler](#) (FB)

Phil Barton

Title: **OXFORD ROAD REQUIEM**

Location: Oxford Road Corridor, Manchester, UK

Brief description:

The performance is an elegy for over 120 mature trees felled for development between 2015 and 2018. The artist will make a pilgrimage to around ten of the sites where the murdered trees lived, performing a brief requiem ceremony honouring their former lives and mourning their untimely deaths at each one.

Links: <https://philbartonartist.c4cp.net/>, [@PhilBxyz](#) (IG)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Annette Arlander

Title: WITH A PINE

Location: Brunnsparken or Kaivopuisto Park in Helsinki

Brief description:

Annette Arlander will perform *With a Pine* in Brunnsparken or Kaivopuisto Park in Helsinki, together with a small pine tree, which she has visited a few times last summer and written letters to as part of her project *Meetings with Remarkable and Unremarkable Trees*.

Links: [Pine Research](#), <https://meetingswithtrees.com/>, <https://annettearlander.com/>

Izabela Waszak

Title: IF TREES COULD SPEAK, Part II: Life Underwater - The Roots

Location: Edinburgh, Scotland

Brief description:

Working with the memory of the land I seek connection with my ancestors diving into the unseen world. Living next to the sea I enter into a dream zone, imagine more. I create an unseen line between forest and sea. Can you feel your roots and the roots of the forest?

Links: <https://nomadic-heart-art-medicine.business.site>, [@nomadicheart](#) (IG)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Lucy Stockton-Smith

Title: **BLENDING BOUNDARIES**

Location: East Kent, UK

Brief description:

Celebration of shape and form defined by autumn.

Links: [@lucyessess](#) (IG)

Agathe Gizard

Title: **TREE IN CADAVRE EXQUIS**

Location: Paris, France

Brief description:

A Surréaliste? performance in Paris? to discover and express the freedom and love of a tree on the day of Samhain. By connecting the sky with the earth through the heart, body and mind. To honour this day and the sacredness of Nature, of Life, Death and the Human Community.

Links: [AgatheBissap La Menace](#) (Soundcloud), <https://vimeo.com/19275840> (movie Babayaga)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Lea Jazbec

Title: **BEHIND THE REFLECTION 02**

Location: Tržič, Slovenia

Brief description:

By removing the mirror section, the artist transforms a mirror into a window through which we look over the trunk of the walnut, »into the interior of the tree«, thinking of the pulses of the old and the new flowing through the trunk between the crown and the roots.

Links: <https://www.leajazbec.com/>, [@leajazbec](#) (IG)

Franco G. Livera

Title: **THE CLAY TREE**

Location: San Pietro Vernotico, Apuglia, Italy

Brief description:

There are circular structures called "pigeon towers" open in the upper part. A bird brought a seed inside which, growing into a tree, invaded the structure! The artist will cover the tree trunk with clay, so as to conform it to the structure. The rain will wash the clay away.

Links: [@fglivera](#) (IG)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Adam Engler

Title: RE / COME BACK / TURN

Location: Rotunda Boavista, Porto, Portugal

Brief description:

The artist drinks from the hands, join liquids, mix fluids and then give the fluid-liquid to a tree. In a cycle where we feel deep connection to other people as well as to nature, everything re-turns and nothing is only white or black. It joins.

Links: [@adam.engler.artwork](#) (IG), [adam.engler.artwork](#) (FB)

Myriam Ait El Hara

Title: IMMORTAL TREE

Location: Mount Chenoua, Tipaza, Algeria

Brief description:

Immortal Tree happens in a forest which caught fire. I'm going to put natural pigments on a burnt tree, thus sending it my vital energy so that it comes back to life. That tree will send in turn energy to the other trees to revive and generate new trees.

Links: [@aitelharam](#) (IG)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Emi Bici

Title: **Other bOdieS - I Feel - 10**

Location: Berlin, Germany

Brief description:

Other bOdieS - I Feel - 10 is the result of fusion between bodies: the body of the artist and diverse skin-textile embodiments of human delirium.

Links: <https://www.bicibaciart.com/>, [@emi_bici](#) (IG)

Peter Purg

Title: **HER AND ME BECOMING THREE**

Location: Vitovlje, Slovenia

Brief description:

The boulder must have rolled down the hill at some point. And stopped at this very point. And waited. Long. Then came winds and the rains and the seeds. Their roots, their trunks and branches and leaves. Its matter permeated, (be)aten by the rains and the winds. Joined by its kin. Joined by their skin.

Links: <http://au.ung.si/peterpurg>, <https://vimeo.com/peterpurg>

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Dimple B Shah

Title: SECRET COLLOQUY

Location: Bangalore, India

Brief description:

Secret Colloquy is about the relationship between me and the plant. In science and Jain philosophy, plants have one sense with which they feel the emotion and can react and flourish to songs they enjoy. The artist engages with the plant in a secret conversation and offering.

Links: <http://dimplebshah.blogspot.com/>, [@dimplebshah](#) (IG)

Deej Fabyc & MJ Forde

Title: RAVEN ENQUIRY

Location: Midland of the Republic of Ireland

Brief description:

Deej Fabyc and MJ Forde perform the Raven enquiry from an oak tree in the middle of Ireland. The 300 year old oak is surrounded by electricity. We will be calling out and discussing current affairs via sign language with the wise tree and the super intelligent ravens.

Links: www.live-art.ie, www.fabyc.co.uk, [@LdnMetArts](#) & [@Deej_Fabyc](#) (TWTR)

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PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND WORKS

Christine Fentz

Title: **NORTH-SOUTH**

Location: Languedoc, France

Brief description:

Only on the day before Oct. 31st, will I be able to meet possible tree-co-performers, and ask for permission from the one who talks to me. This fresh meeting of me being a Nordic visiting French pine trees will shape what I will do...

Links: <http://www.secrethotel.dk/en/>

Sally Annett

Title: **BECOMING A TREE**

Location: Atelier de Melusine, La Trimouille, France

Brief description:

Annett is working with the concept of the Kabbalistic tree of life and will be speaking, drawing, inhabiting and invoking the tree. The aim of the process is unity.

Links: www.atelierdemelusine.com

- Appendix -

COLLECTIVE MIND AT WORK

The following text and visual are the outcome of a collaborative process of co-creation featuring quotes and photos from involved artists about their special trees.

The chosen tree is a millenary olive tree my land was scattered with. My acer and my ginkgo trees. The family of palm trees who was here before I started a relationship with trees. A double-trunk oak tree, grown from under a massive boulder in the middle of a meadow above the valley. The tree is located in a concentric tower and therefore represents a cosmic tree. This tree teaches me about the strength and solidity that can exist in harmony with delicate beauty, and an ability to be flexible, and bend with the wind without breaking. Holy Basil or Tulsi sacred plant is viewed as a living gateway, a threshold between heaven and earth, and regarded as the manifestation of the divine within the plant kingdom. Just like in the case of the "Dinosaur tree", whose elongated branches are supported by extra structures to prevent union failure, human individuals cannot grow strong, healthy and awake without a healthy ecosystem and the support of a caring community. This tree taught me the importance of calming the soul, by cultivating the spirit within. That despite of obvious Duality there is a factual Plurality among all Being. What makes this family special is the standpoint they offer: the way in which palm trees can effortlessly live in close proximity and in contact with each other. They are symbols of my survival and of genetic inheritance and evolution and they can travel with me. I do not have a special tree near me that I can write about. My father's walnut has helped me find peace many times. I have learned, among other things, that choosing a tree friend because they resemble a previous friend is not necessarily the best starting point for a relationship, but not completely impossible.



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We would like to thank all of our partners and supporters that have helped make this event a success.

ARTISTIC & PRESENTATION PARTNERS:

[Performance Magazine Live](#)

COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

MEDIA PARTNERS:

Soren James (Zoom operator)

Maja Usico, An Krumberger (Field recordings)

Sašo Batič (Drone recordings)

Franco G. Livera (Video editing)

Alexandra Freitas (Photo/Video Documentation)