# Meetings with Remarkable and Unremarkable Trees

**Annette Arlander** 

Background:

#### **Performing with Plants**

artistic research project by Annette Arlander <u>https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/</u> <u>316550/316551</u>

## 2017 at Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, funded by Kone Foundation

## 2018-2019 at Stockholm University of the Arts (SKH) funded by Vetenskapsrådet (The Swedish Research Council)





Meetings with Remarkable and Unremarkable Trees

Project blog https://meetingswithtrees. com

Project archive on the Research Catalogue <u>https://www.researchcat</u> <u>alogue.net/view/761326/</u> <u>761327</u> The title of this artistic research project alludes to the celebrated photography book *Meetings with Remarkable Trees* (1996) by Thomas Pakenham and is in some sense forming a counterpoint to it, by questioning what is remarkable and what is unremarkable, while focusing on individual trees. The medium in this project is not photography, however, but rather performance for video and recorded voice.

Although we are often accused of "not seeing the forest for the trees", this project wants to look at the opposite danger, not seeing the trees for the forest, and look at individual trees. This is not to deny that trees form networks and ecosystems or symbiotic relationships not only with other trees but with fungi, bacteria and all kinds of micro-organisms, and are in a constant exchange with their environment, as humans are as well.

(read more <a href="https://meetingswithtrees.com">https://meetingswithtrees.com</a> )

Particular Trees Encountered Previously https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/1013698

Day with Old Tjikko Day with a Juniper 1 & 2 With an Ancient Olive Tree Dear Ficus Macrophylla I

#### Day-long time-lapse videos

Day with Old Tjikko (17 min 45 sec & 19 min 35 sec) performed on 14. May 2019 every hour between 10.30 AM and 7.30 PM on Fulufjället, Sweden

# Day-long time-lapse videos

Day with a Juniper 1 & 2 (21 min 56 sec) performed on 3. August 2019 every hour between 7 AM and 9 PM on Utö, Finland Trees at the end of 2019

With an Ancient Olive Tree (19 min) performed on 19. December 2019 Ulldecona, Spain

Approximited by

Trees at the end of 2019

*Dear Ficus Macrophylla I* (19 min 30 sec) performed on 25. December 2019 in Alicante, Spain

#### **Residencies during 2020:**

ARA (Arts Research Africa) residency in Johannesburg in February-March <a href="https://meetingswithtrees.com/ara/">https://meetingswithtrees.com/ara/</a>

Including Nirox sculpture park (a few days) <a href="https://meetingswithtrees.com/nirox/">https://meetingswithtrees.com/nirox/</a>

Mustarinda in Northeastern Finland in September https://meetingswithtrees.com/mustarinda/

Öres on Örö Island in November https://meetingswithtrees.com/ores/

(beginning the year in Stockholm, not able to return there, and then working as usual on Harakka Island ) Presentations of or performances with trees by others:

a new strategy during Arts Research Africa residency (not developed elsewhere, yet)

See <a href="https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/800342">https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/800342</a>

#### Trees introduced to me

Myer's Oak (10 min.) performed and recounted by Myer Taub on 17 February in Paterson Park, Johannesburg.

Time-lapse videos of days with trees (an old strategy):

Day with the Firethorne Rhus (Nirox) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/822442

Day with a Bog Birch (Mustarinda) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/999357/2/1002

Day with a Pine, Another Day with a Pine (Örö) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/1044218/0/0 Day-long time-lapse videos

Day with the Firethorne Rhus (24 min 10 sec) with a Firethorn Rhus (Searsia Pyroides) in Nirox Sculpture Park every hour between 7 AM and 6 PM on 17 March 2020.

Day-long time-lapse videos

Day with a Bog Birch (with text) (52 min 17 sec & 20 min) on 23 September 2020 every hour between 7 AM and 7 PM with a birch near Mustarinda.



Day with a Pine (3 min 20 sec) performed on 13th November 2020 every hour between 8 am and 5 pm with a pine on Örö.

Day-long time-lapse videos

*Kära Tall (Another Day with a Pine)* (5 min 43 sec) performed on 28. November 2020 every hour between 9 AM and 4 PM with a pine on Örö

Writing letters to trees (a new strategy):

The Pine on Hundudden (in Stockholm) – not completed <u>https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/771644</u>

Dear Firethorn Rhus https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/822442/51/603 Dear Firethorn Rhus II (in Nirox) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/822442/51/2128

The Pine in Brunnsparken https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/831544

The Spruce on Harakka Island https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/844990/0/0

Dear Spruce, Dear Birch and Dear Deceased (in Mustarinda) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/982302/20/3334

Writing with a Pine, Writing in a Pine, Dear Pine, Pines by the Path (on Örö) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/1036306/182/2455

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Practice begun with a Pine on Hundudden in Stockholm on 7. January 2020...

Dear Firethorn Rhus (20 min 15 sec & 6 min) with a Firethorne Rhus (Searsia pyroides) in Nirox Sculpture Park on 18 March 2020.

Dear Firethorn Rhus II (20 min 15 sec & 6 min) with a Firethorne Rhus (Searsia pyroides) in the Nirox Nature Reserve on 19 March 2020.

Dear Pine – Kära tall 1-7 (12 min 30 sec - 20 min 32 sec) between 30. March and 6. August 2020 with a pine in Brunnsparken, Helsinki.

Dear Spruce – Kuusi Hyvä 1-7 (c. 20 min 50 sec) between 10. April and 25. August 2020 with a spruce on Harakka Island.

Dear Spruce – Rakas Kuusi (20 min 15 sec & 5 min 47 sec) on 25. September 2020 with a spruce near Mustarinda

Dear Birch – Kära Björk (20 min 15 sec & 5 min 50 sec) on 29. September 2020 with a birch near Mustarinda

Dear Deceased (20 min 15 sec & 6 min 26 sec) on 29. September 2020 with a dead spruce near Mustarinda

Writing with a Pine II (20 min) performed on 10. November.2020 with a pine on Örö

*Writing in a Pine* (13 min & 5 min 20 sec) performed on 16. November 2020 with a pine on Örö

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Writing letters to trees

Dear Pine (10 min & 4 min 30 sec) performed on 18. November 2020 with a pine on Örö

Pines by the Path (Kära tall) (16 min 20 sec & 4 min 5 sec) performed on 1. December 2020 with two pines on Örö

**Becoming Tree exercise (new strategy):** 

The Oak on Galway Road (in Johannesburg) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/796954

The Maple Tree in Tehtaankatu https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/831532

The Spruce of Independence (in Kaivopuisto Park) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/917581

The Pine on the Shore on Harakka Island https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/944410

The Birch in Mustarinda https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/978491

The Pine's Apprentice (Örö) https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/1034899



*With the Oak on Galway Road* (14 min 47 sec) performed daily between 13. February and 16 March 2020 with an oak on Galway Road, Johannesburg

With the Maple Tree (Corona Diary) (62 min 22 sec & 16 min 50 sec) performed daily between 29. March and 31. May 2020 with a maple in Tehtaankatu yard.

June with the Spruce of Independence (36 min 31 sec & 15 min) performed daily between 1. and 30. June 2020 with a spruce in Kaivopuisto Park.

July with a Pine (50 min 46 sec & 16 min) performed daily between 1. and 31. July 2020 with a pine on Harakka Island

The Daily Birch (September in Mustarinda) (60 min 20 sec & 14 min 10 sec) Performed daily between 2. and 30. September 2020 with a birch near Mustarinda house.

*The Pine's Apprentice* (53 min & 13 min 50 sec) performed daily with a pine next to the residency house on Örö, from 2.11.2020

For more trees and ways of meeting them, see:

Project blog https://meetingswithtrees.com

Project archive on the Research Catalogue https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/761326/761327

Or my website https://annettearlander.com

Thank you for your attention!

18.00