



**....our watery bodies serve as material media.**

*Astrida Neimanis*

Each week we find new invasive species. Birds, fish and new larvae make their way here now. The non-human infects our world, bacteria, viruses, dying plants and heavy metals are parts of our human biome. They are actors in the world now, along with our common travellers: the animals.

The long-standing distinction between us and nature presents us with new existential and even religious predicaments because we are also nature. Hence the Western artistic and literary pastoral has been redefined.

We as humans are entangled in intricate relationships with animals and the environment, where old and so-called anthropocentric approaches are a part of the problem.

Poets, scientists and artists have always been inspired by rocks, but also by the oceans. Geopoetics is also earth-making, and it employs the widest conception of a poem.

We need to ask questions like:

- > How can we engage in art with 'more-than-human' life, e.g. the cushioning forests of seaweed, the myriads of other species, organisms and life on rewilded islands?
- > How can literature, science and art respond to the idea of an increasingly uninhabitable world?
- > How might we find adequate ways to grieve what has been lost while nurturing futures of multispecies flourishing?

We need to listen to interdisciplinary and polyphonic thinking. Different voices, mediums, and fields need to come together, so we can grasp the incredibly complex ways in which we as humans are entangled with and relate to not only land, but the ocean, and this way figuring out how we can care for our surroundings – for ourselves.



### DAY 1 - Monday

All visitors/participants from abroad arrive in the country. A rental car will be ready at the airport. From the Airport, they will drive to Tórshavn and check in to their accommodations.



### DAY 2 - Tuesday

Trip to the island Koltur.

A one day excursion organized by Faroese SOTAN members

Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu and Jón Aldará.

> *The Faroese SOTAN members, SOTAN visitors and additional contributors will sail to the island of Koltur on the boat Kongavarði. Once we arrive, we will be welcomed by Bjørn Patursson, who will give a guided tour of the old village and tell us about the history.*

> *Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu and Jón Aldará will tell us about the Koltur Project - A restorative natural protection effort to get the nature of the island back to its original wild state before it was used for agricultural purposes. They will also be showing us around the island to see specific areas. After this, Bjørn patursson will be offering a taste of some homemade food consisting of local ingredients.*

> *The events for the day conclude with a sightseeing trip by boat around the islands Koltur and Hestur before heading back in to Tórshavn.*

>> *Alternative programme for the day: If the weather does not permit us to travel to the island of Koltur, we will be driving to one of the sights on which similar restorative efforts are being made around the country on small fenced-in patches of land. This effort goes under the name Lendisbati. An endeavour organized by the Department of Botany at the National Museum, run by Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu.*



### DAY 3 - Wednesday

A guided 'art hike' in the area Húsahagi.

A few hours' hike organized by Faroese SOTAN members

Guðrið Poulsen and Jón Sonni Jensen

> *The area called Húsahagi is a mountain area overlooking the capitol Tórshavn. This once natural and wild area, is now used as a landfill for non-flammable and non-recyclable waste, which is then covered with earth. Thus changing the contours and outlines of the mountain itself, turning it in to a human-made landscape.*

> *Guðrið Poulsen and Jón Sonni Jensen will be guiding the hike, focussing on a specific state of mind, specific observations and some artistic exercises.*



**Remote participation: Everyone in the SOTAN network will receive 'hike directions' in order to be able to do an art hike in their own local area. We would love to receive documentation of your personal venture.**



#### DAY 4 - Thursday

Visiting SOTAN members arrive at their new accommodations in the village Norðagøta. The G! Festival starts in the neighbouring village Syðrugøta, which will be the location for the rest of the SOTAN event. No event is on the programme for the day, but the visitors will receive a free weekend pass to the festival and can start enjoying the festivities.



#### DAY 5 - Friday

Presentations at Fjósið. An indoor festival stage in an old barn.

> *Presentation programme:*

- > 'The Koltur Project' (Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu & Jón Aldará)
- > 'Føroyar 5.2 - a seismic soundscape' (Uni Árting & Jens L. Thomsen)
- > 'Lendisbati' (Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu)
- > Geo-poetry reading (Organized by Kim Simonsen)  
(Poets presenting: Marjun Syderbø Kjernes, Beinir Bergsson, Vónbjørt Vang, Anna Malan Jógvansdóttir, Lív Maria Róadóttir Jæger)
- > 'The role of birds between humans and nature' (Jón Aldará)
- > 'Changing landscapes - from an insect perspective' (Agnes-Katharina Kreiling)



**Remote participation: The presentations will be streamed and all interested members of SOTAN will be able to follow along online.**

Later there will be an open discussion (Fireside talk) at Karl's house in Norðagøta. There, everyone will also get the chance to experience the VR version of the seismic sound-installation 'Føroyar 5.2'



#### DAY 6 - Saturday

The official programme is finished, but guests are welcome to enjoy the festival festivities.

**Note:** *Participants should be prepared for a spontaneous additional collective artistic exercise / workshop on this day, as a result of the discussions that will take place in the days leading up to this point.*



#### DAY 7 - Sunday

Guests return to Tórshavn for a final night's stay at their accommodations. Hosts and guests will convene for a final time over a meal.



#### DAY 8 - Monday

Guests depart the Faroe Islands.









**Jón Sonni Jensen** is a visual artist based in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands.

His work deals with the corporeal through notions of identity, self-perception, transhumanism and psycho-somatic experiences. Depicted as fragment, construction and mass-product with a utilization of corporeal and clinical materials, he aims to generate familiar and alienated views on the bodily and its identity.



**Kim Simonsen** is a writer, publisher and scholar.

He has published six books, poetry, non-fiction, and essays, he is translated into several languages, and his poems have been published in magazines and anthologies. Awarded the National Literary Award in the Faroe Island, best book in Macedonia in 2021 and the translation award by the American Scandinavian Foundation in New York. He has published over twenty books as a publisher through the Publisher Eksil. Where he also arranges and curates festivals through the platform Eksil - mostly on post-humanist and new-materialist/eco-art themes and theory, (recently with The Laboratory of Aesthetics and Ecology) in Denmark.



**Guðrið Poulsen** is a ceramic artist based in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands. Her medium is clay, but she also works in other materials. Her field of work ranges from utensils to larger works in the public space. In addition, she works with photography and writes. For the most part, she wanders around and ponders what it means to be a body in the world.



**Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu** is Head of Department of Botany at the Faroe Islands National Museum. She holds a Master's degree in Environmental Science with focus on biodiversity and nature restoration. She has initiated the first large nature restoration project on the Faroe Islands and is also working on the first nature reserve project on the island of Koltur. Apart from being a scientist, she is passionate about art and paints in her spare time.



**Uni Árting** is a geologist by profession and works at the Faroese Geological Survey (Jarðfeingi) and at the University of the Faroe Islands. The research focus is on the volcanic origin of the Faroe Islands and the surrounding platform, where the minerals, rock types and geochemistry are the main scientific subjects. Uni has published several scientific papers, book chapters and edited geological atlas of the North Atlantic Ocean.

As a musician he has published records and toured with 200, Mold, Petur Pólson, ORKA and more, and as an artist working on graphic design Uni has made artwork for some 50 album covers, book covers, posters and web design.



**Jón Aldará** is a biologist at the Faroe Islands National Museum and primarily works in the fields of ecology, zoology, and ornithology. His work duties include managing local bird research projects, participating in local and international ecological studies, building and managing the museum's zoological collection, developing exhibitions, providing consultation about nature management issues, and stimulating public engagement and knowledge with regards to nature research and conservation. Jón is also a member of two actively touring metal bands; Faroe Islands-based Hamferð and Denmark-based lotunn. Both are lyrically rooted in cultural history, folklore, and nature. As a primary vocalist and lyricist, Jón has released 7 full-length albums with various projects and he has played an estimated 250 concerts in 26 European countries as well as the US.







# OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS FOR THE THE REWILDING AND EARTH MAKING TOUR

A collaboration between the State of the Art Network, the publishing house Eksil, G! Festival, The Faroe Islands National Museum, Eystur Municipality and the Faroese SOTAN delegates and additional collaborators

Location and time: Koltur, Tórshavn and Syðrugøta – 11th-18th July, 2022.

Application: Send an email outlining *your interest in our event, your practice and other relevant information* to [jonsonnijensen@gmail.com](mailto:jonsonnijensen@gmail.com).

**Application deadline is 13th May 2022.**

Number of participants: 5

Costs covered on the trip are: International and local travels, accommodation, food, materials and G! festival weekend passes.

Remote participation: Refer to the programme and look for this symbol: 

*In anticipation, kindly  
the Faroese SOTAN delegates*

Jón Sonni Jensen

Kim Simonsen

Guðrið Poulsen

Jón Aldará

Uni Árting

Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu