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On “catching wild deer”? Representations of Scots-Arctic extremes and ethnologies

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Relate North: Everyday Extremes

9th Annual Symposium & Exhibition

You are invited to submit artworks and/or an abstract for the virtual symposium and exhibition **Relate North 2021: Everyday Extremes**. The event is a collaboration between the University of the Arctic's Arctic Sustainable Arts and Design thematic network (ASAD), National Research Tomsk State University, and University of Lapland. This will be the ninth symposium in the series hosted by ASAD. The ASAD network aims to identify and share innovative practices in learning, teaching, research and knowledge exchange in the fields of art, design and visual culture education. The network promotes cooperation and collaboration between academic institutions and communities with the purpose of working towards a shared understanding of critical issues relevant to people living in the north.

Every year, the **Relate North** symposium attracts leading scholars and artists from around the circumpolar north to present research and debate issues of concern in the north through the lens of art and design theory and practice. ASAD seeks to investigate questions such as: How might design practices respond some of the challenges facing those living in northern and Arctic areas today? What role might art play in chronicling and communicating issues important to people in the north? How might the visual arts represent a northern sense of place?

For further information about ASAD: asadnetwork.org
University of the Arctic: uarctic.org

Symposium and exhibition theme

In addition to the broad concerns outlined above, **Relate North: Everyday Extremes** will focus on a more specific perspective of human and non-human wellbeing in the Arctic region. The concept of extremes aims to highlight and describe the particular sensitivity that enables and supports creative and sustainable interaction between human/non-human actors and the everchanging, severe, environment of the Arctic. Moreover, with the current speed of climate change, when the notion of the extreme environment is to be expanded towards most parts of the "Spaceship Earth" in the next 20-50 years, the challenges of nature and their social and cultural implications will call for a creative response. In search of visions and insights, along with locally appropriate solutions, we will focus on the wider perspective of collaborative practices in design, art, research and education within the Arctic region. This includes art and design projects within and between communities, schools, universities, and business, culture, tourism and wellbeing.

The exhibition call is open to artists, designers and makers using any media in traditional and/or contemporary art & design, in addition to presentations of community-based work, environmental art, or art education projects. Please note that the symposium will be held online in a webinar format with a virtual exhibition.

DATES

Symposium: 11 or 12 November 2021
Symposium side events (online): Pecha Kucha, online tour around Tomsk downtown, etc.
Exhibition: 10 November – 31 December 2021 (or *permanent web-address*)
Exhibit Opening Reception (online): 10 November

VENUE

Tomsk is a city and the administrative centre of Tomsk Oblast in Russia, located on the Tom River, with slightly over 500 thousand. Founded in 1604, Tomsk is considered one of the oldest

towns in Siberia. On the national scale, the city is a notable educational and research centre. With six state universities, over 100,000 students, it ranks **THIRD** (after Moscow and St. Petersburg) by the number of students per 10,000 residents: every 8th city resident is a student.

Tomsk State University (TSU) is the oldest university in Siberia. Since 1878, the university has been making a tremendous impact on the development of science, education and culture in the Asian part of Russia, and it is rightfully considered as one of the best national universities. Within the TSU, the Research and Educational Center "Siberian Design Centre" was founded in 2017. Today it is one of the leading Russian research centres in design and the key player in the Siberia market of design education.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Artwork proposals (for exhibition):

- Use indigenous or contemporary aesthetic practices to communicate insights and offer exciting representations of northern cultures and communities
- Explicitly engage with the theme of the exhibition and symposium: Everyday Extremes
- Are exhibition ready in digital format

ABSTRACTS (for symposium):

- Explore, investigate and respond northern or arctic issues of dealing with / adapting to extremes through art or design;
- Seek to develop and engage people in issues connected with northern places;
- Explicitly engage with the theme of the symposium.

DEADLINES (may be subject to change)

- Submission of artwork proposals and/or abstracts by **30 August 2021**
- Successful contributors will be notified by **5 September 2021**
- Detailed information about exhibition venues and conditions by **20 September 2021**
- Receipt of artworks **1 October 2021**

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- **Timo Jokela**, Professor of Art Education, University of Lapland. Chair of Thematic Network of Arctic Sustainable Arts and Design
- **Svetlana Usenyuk-Kravchuk**, Senior Research Fellow, Siberian Design Centre, Tomsk State University
- **Glen Coutts**, Professor of Applied Visual Arts (Education), Faculty of Art and Design, University of Lapland
- **Sofia Prokopova**, Junior Research Fellow, Siberian Design Centre, Tomsk State University

CURATORS OF THE EXHIBITION

Anastasia Voronina, Junior Research Fellow, Siberian Design Centre, Tomsk State University

Please complete and return the following **CONTRIBUTOR APPLICATION FORM** by e-mail to timo.jokela@ulapland.fi, glen.coutts@gmail.com and arctic@siberia.design.

CONTRIBUTOR APPLICATION FORM

I intend to submit an (please choose + it is possible to submit both)

Artwork proposal: **No**

Abstract: **Yes**

Please delete as appropriate and note that it is possible to submit in both categories if desired.

BIOGRAPHY

Authors/artists (list the names of all authors/artists including yourself if you are the author/artist in the order in which you wish them to appear in the printed text.)

Short biography, please include affiliations, contact details including email, and/or website (maximum 100 words)

- **Dr Kathryn A. Burnett**, *Scottish Centre for Island Studies*, Senior Lecturer, University of the West of Scotland teaches inter-disciplinary Masters programmes in Creative Arts Practice and Media. Research includes representation of remote and island spaces; Scottish cultural heritage contexts for applied creative practice incl. archives, cultural place narratives, visuality of rurality and its mediatization. (kathryn.burnett@uws.ac.uk)
- **Mr Ray Burnett**, *Scottish Centre for Island Studies*, is a writer and researcher on transnational dimensions of the Scotland's highlands and islands cultural and social history. (burnett.ray@gmail.com)

SYMPOSIUM:

On "catching wild deer"? Representations of Scots-Arctic extremes and ethnologies.

SYMPOSIUM: Abstract (150 words):

Scotland has a long history of complex, and often 'complicit' engagement and 'exploration' narratives with the places, communities, and cultures of the circumpolar north. These illustrations and narratives include those of the 'Highlander' polymath scholar, folklorist, artist, scientist and traveller, John Francis Campbell of Islay (1821 – 1885). Campbell travelled extensively across northern Sápmi from Finnmark to Arkhangelsk. His notebooks ("from these northern lands") offer sketches of the 'everyday' that offer both a visual and narrative representation and signification of place, people, and material culture at 'the extremes' of his time. On the eve of his bicentenary, this paper seeks to critique, and invite comment on Campbell's textual legacy. We examine Campbell's archival relevance to sustaining a Scottish-Arctic sense of 'extreme' identity and place, discuss ethnologies as visuality tropes, and issues of indigeneity, cultural and environmental survival then, and our continued 'connectivity of extremes' today.

Information about registration will be posted on the ASAD web pages at the beginning of June:
<http://www.asadnetwork.org>

For further information, please contact:

Timo Jokela: timo.jokela@ulapland.fi

Svetlana Usenyuk-Kravchuk: arctic@siberia.design

Glen Coutts: glen.coutts@ulapland.fi