

SELECTED PROCESSES/PORTFOLIO 2010-2007

andrew gryf paterson

Screen
version



Andrew Gryf Paterson (1974) is a Scottish artist-organiser, educator, independent researcher and cultural producer based since 2003 in Helsinki.

His work involves variable roles of initiator, facilitator, participant, author and producer, according to different contexts, collaborative and/or cross-disciplinary processes.

Creative strengths lie in hybridity, communications, organisation and network arts: the ability to bring together and involve people in creative exploration, develop temporary communities, gather unexpected elements and components, creating poetic connections and new sites for cultural activity.

Paterson works across the fields of media/ network/ environmental arts and activism, pursuing a participatory practice through workshops, performative events, and storytelling.

<http://agryfp.info/>

HERBOLOGIES/FORAGING NETWORKS 2010

Pixelache Festival, Helsinki-Kurzeme, FI-LV



The Herbologies/Foraging Networks programme of events, focused in Helsinki (Finland) and Kurzeme region of Latvia, explores the **cultural traditions and knowledge of herbs, edible & medicinal plants, within the contemporary context of online networks, open information-sharing, biological and hydroponic technologies**.

The traditions of finding and knowing about wild food in the local Nordic environment are slipping away from the current generation. How can one attract their attention: With books, online maps, workshops, mobile-guided tours, open-source information or DNA code? Or learn how to grow them yourself, over the dark winter months?

Pixelache Festival events included **seminar presentations** by international artists and Finnish botanical experts; **workshops** sharing that knowledge with the public; a **screening event**; a **round-table discussion** about foraging in the local urban context; and a localised **installation** of the Windowfarms Project (US).

Following, in a midsummer **expedition** to rural Kurzeme (LV), SERDE Inter-disciplinary Art Group will lead **fieldwork** to learn about the cultural heritage using wild plants, creating documents for the 'digital native' generation.

<http://pixelache.ac/helsinki/herbologies-foraging-networks>

Overview of persons & organisations involved in the process

Coordinating partners:

Andrew Gryf Paterson (SCO/FI), Ulla Taipale/CAPSULA (FI/ES), Signe Pucena/SERDE (LV).

Windowfarms Finland designers:

Mikko Laajola, Niko Punin (both FI).

Invited Seminar speakers:

Ossi Kakko (FI), Sirpa Kurppa (FI), Malin Lindmark Vrijman and Mathieu Vrijman of Kultivator (SE), Nina Nordström (FI), Andrew Gryf Paterson (SCO/FI), Sinikka Piippo (FI), Signe Pucena (LV), Christina Stadlbauer (AT/BE) and Jessica Suni (FI)

Invited Workshop coordinators:

Adam Zaretsky (USA), Ossi Kakko (FI), Signe Pucena (LV).

Invited Nordic/Baltic participants:

Kultivator (SE), Klaipeda Culture Communication Centre (LT)

Invited Clip Kino curator:

Nina Nordström (FI)

Administrative, documentation support:

Piknik Frequency ry (FI)

Financially supported by:

'Herbolgies/Foraging Networks' programme was supported by an Art and Culture Production grant from Kultur Kontakt Nord, and AVEK (The Promotion Centre for Audiovisual Culture). Material cost reduction by Puutarhurin Vestas and Edison Opto & inkind support from the University of Helsinki Botanical Gardens was given to the Windowfarms Finland project.

3-image collage photo credits: Windowfarms Project – Nicholas R. Clark, Bee Observatory – Annemie Maes, Forest foraging – Ossi Kakko. 3rd photo credit: Ulla Taipale.

WINDOWFARMS FINLAND 2010

Kiasma takaikkuna, Helsinki-New York, FI-USA



Finnish makers Mikko Laajola and Niko Punin worked in collaboration with Paterson to create an **adapted and localised installation of the Windowfarms Project** (New York) in Finland, using local specialist hydroponic and LED growing technologies, recycled plastic bottles and other materials.

They were joined by a group of local enthusiasts in the construction and documenting process. The producer's task was not only to build the installation in a short period of time, but to develop a **community of interest** and enthusiasm around the project. Voluntary cooperation was essential for success, drawing upon the Finnish tradition of "**talkoot**" and **peer-based learning**.

The Window Farm installation was displayed in Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art 'takaikkuna', Helsinki, for 5 weeks between 20.2-28.3.2010. The plants grown were used in participatory 'Herbologies' workshops during Pixelache Festival on 27-28th March 2010. On disassembling, the bottle-modules and plants were given away to individual enthusiasts and organisations, with the potential of future pedagogical workshops on the topic.

<http://pixelache.ac/helsinki/windowfarms/>

Overview of persons & organisations involved in the process

Windowfarms Finland design:

Mikko Laajola, Niko Punin (both FI)

Building participants:

Karthikeya Acharya, Sarah Alden, Nathalie Aubert, Andrea Botero, Ieva Cepaitė, Kavita Gonsalves, Andrew Gryf Paterson, Simo Haanpää, Kati Hyypä, Lotta Kauppi, Miška Knapek, Cathérine Kuebel, Mikko Laajola, Mikko Laukkonen, Luna Leinonen, Teemu Leinonen, Merja Markkula, Anne Naukkarinen, Papu Pirtola, Jurriaan Pots, Niko Punin, Sofi Salonen, Pinja Sipari, Tommi Taipale, (all based in FI), Ulla Taipale (FI/ES).

Windowfarms Finland producer:

Andrew Gryf Paterson (SCO/FI),
in cooperation with Ulla Taipale (FI/ES).

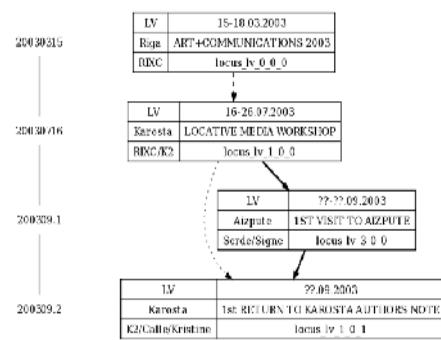
Financially supported by:

'Herbologies/Foraging Networks' programme was supported by an Art and Culture Production grant from Kultur Kontakt Nord, and AVEK (The Promotion Centre for Audiovisual Culture). Material cost reduction by Puutarhurin Vestas and Edison Opto & inkind support from the University of Helsinki Botanical Gardens was given to incubate the seeds, nurturing their growth until their transfer to the Window Farm installation.

2nd, and 4th photos above credit: Ulla Taipale,
3rd photo above credit: Kati Hyypä

DOCTORAL STUDIES 2010-2003

Medialab, Aalto University TaiK, Helsinki, FI



This practice-based research details the author's artist-organiser practice at one particular site in Helsinki over 2 years—former autonomous culture centre/greenhouse 'Happihuone'—including the network of events before and after within a span of 10 years which influenced the manner of engagement and development.

A new methodological approach made, borrowed from archaeological data recording for reflecting upon artistic work 'in the field', to interpret and construct narratives from events of influence, action and representation. This method uses a reference graph of 'stratigraphical' temporal contexts and the connections between them. Highlighting 'storylines' for writing, and 'bare-bones' for storytelling, the method is presented as a means for sharing subjective experience; from both particular and multiple sites, over different periods of time and involvement.

Cross-disciplinary references from social arts and design, archaeological-performance theory, critical fieldwork practice, open planning and activism in public space assists the inquiry: What might be artistic and activist-orientated fieldwork? For the practice-led traveller, community or socially-engaged artist, the researcher, networker and organiser?

Keywords:

Socially-engaged Arts, Fieldwork, Narratives, Participatory processes, Cooperation, Digital culture and society, Grassroot cultural development

<http://apaterso.info/research/>

Currently at the last stage of the doctoral process, i.e. writing the thesis manuscript. All project examples and interpretations have maturely developed over a period of 7 years.

Current work plan (03.2010) is as follows:

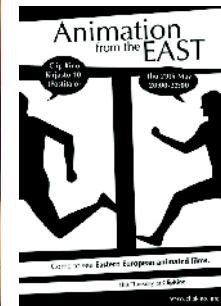
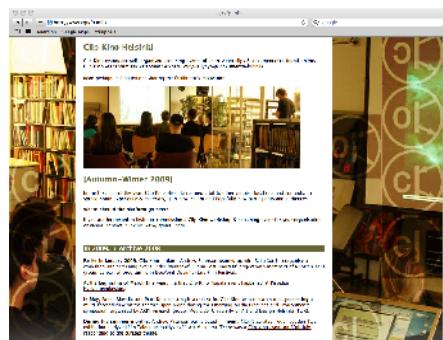
- To produce new academic texts, media and documentations, through reflection upon previous participatory art projects in Töölölahti (Tahtikuvitelma:2005-2006, Hengita residency:2007, Purkupaivat:2007), central Helsinki.
- To complete doctoral thesis manuscript, and develop its contents towards monograph publication.
- To contribute to archive and documentation of the 'Happihuone' project by o2 Finland ry. as a positive example of a small cultural centre for sustainable and ecological issues.
- To disseminate thesis materials online and offline in form of presentations in collaboration with cultural organisations in Finland, the Nordic-Baltic region and internationally with peers, especially in UK, USA, AU and NZ.

Supervision committee:

Lily Diaz, Professor of Digital Cultural Heritage and Systems of Representation, Media Lab TaiK, Helsinki.
 Teri Rueb, Professor of Media Study at University of Buffalo (State University of New York), Buffalo, United States.
 Marita Muukkonen, Curator, HIAP, Helsinki.

CLIP KINO 2010-2008

Helsinki, Pispala-Tampere, Hyvinkää, FI



Social event-based platform for self-organised screening events of short video clips & documentaries found online. It aims to drag aspects of normalised 'private' activity - of viewing downloaded content on one's own computer - into public space for screening, appreciation and debate. It has been used a pedagogical and media literacy tool to learn about online video, self-organising, copy and remix cultures.

Since 2008, Paterson has initiated, promoted, facilitated and presented Clip Kino events at Kirjasto 10 City Library, Ptarmigan Art Space, Nuorten Toimintakeskus Happi, Ateneum Hall (during DocPoint Festival 2009), LUME TV Studio TaiK in Helsinki; aswell as invited occasions at Pispalan Nykytaiteenkeskus in Tampere, and Hyvinkää Art Museum in Hyvinkää (all FI).

<http://clipkino.info/> | <http://clipkino.info/archive.html>

In 2010 this process has been supported by an Arts Council of Finland Multi-cultural Arts grant.

The following persons have been guest-hosts in the process:

02-12.2008 at 'Kirjasto10' Music Library, Helsinki:

Projekti Sosiaalikeskus (FI), Joanne Richardson (RO), Wojtek Mejor (PL/FI), Orgcult' Students at Stadia Polytechnic: Toni Niemisalo, Akseli Virtanen, Joni Happonen, Juhana Lindström, Santeri Pakkanen and Teemu Lipasti (all FI), Spela Semion (SI/FI), Kari Yli-Annala (FI), Ann Morrison (NZ/FI), Eyebeam Students-in-Residence: Tahj Banks, Glen Moore, Wandy Marcano, and Jayquan Harris (all US), Guild of Bonsai Hackers (UN/FI), Sonja Baumer (US), Andrew Paterson (SCO/FI).

20.01.2009 at Ateneum Hall, 'DocPoint' Documentary Festival:

Nuorten Ääni members: Sirja Eskelinen, Nelli Kampman, Rosa Kettumäki, Ina Mikkola, Karoliina Pulkkinen and Ella Soininen (all FI).

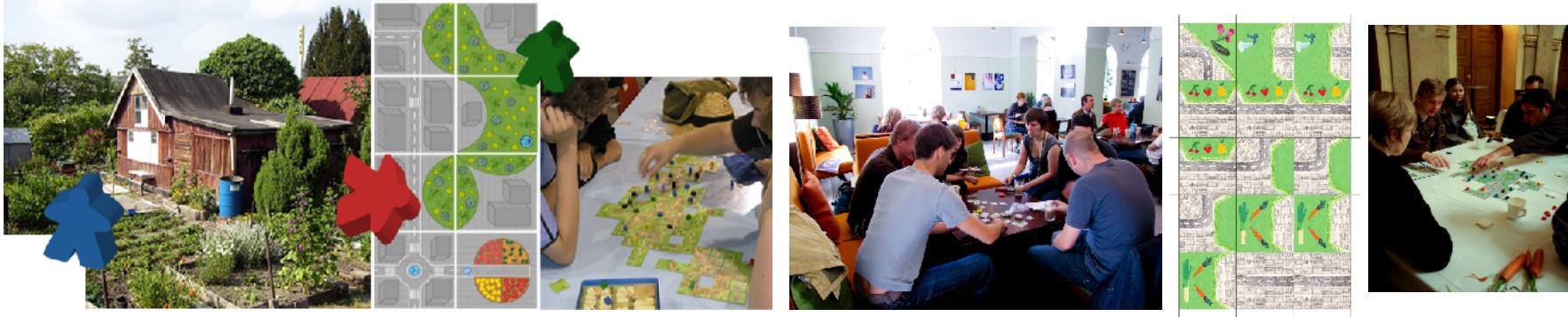
27.05.2009 at LUME TV Studio TAIK, 'Emerging Media and Practices' Symposium: Sanna Marttila and Petri Kola (both FI).

30.07.2009 at Hyvinkää Art Museum: Andrew Paterson (SCO/FI).

19.11.2009- at Ptarmigan Art Space: Jon Irigoyen (ES/FI).

ALLOTMENT GARDEN GAMES 2009

Megapolis2024, Helsinki-Warsaw, FI-PL



The 'Allotment Garden Games' (Siirtolapuutarhapelit) project brought together a **group of artist-producers and graphic illustrator friends** in Warsaw (Wojtek Mejor, Natalia Kulka) and Helsinki (Lotta Kauppi, Simo Haanpää, Andrew Paterson) combined their skills to produce a **reprint of the popular tile-based board-game** Carcassonne. It aimed to address the theme and strategies of allotment gardening, following adaptive methods originating in **fan-based game skinning & modding** (modification) culture.

The process involved design and digital printing of new game 'tile-sets', based on those provided in the basic game-set 'Carcassonne' and its extensions: 'skinning' the game mechanics—developing an inter-connected set of 72 square tiles, with approx size 5cm x 5cm each—to form visual representations of allotments - siirtolapuutarhat - including vegetable plots, saunas, urban buildings, roads, and other suburban features. The rules of the game were slightly modified from the original to suit the new thematic.

The 'Siirtolapuutarhapelit' collective used the project to learn more about allotment culture in Southern Finland and Central Poland, plus related urban farming activism in UK and USA. We introduced our game as a tool to raise the topic of strategy and inter-personal issues related to gaining and maintaining an allotment site. It made its public debut as a prototype at the Megapolis2024 symposium (theme: Food), in Vanha Yliopistotalo, organised by Dodo ry in Helsinki, 26th September 2009.

Overview of persons & organisations involved in the process

Siirtolapuutarhapelit game-tile illustrations:

Wojtek Mejor, Natalia Kulka (both PL)

Collaborative design team:

Simo Haanpää, Lotta Kauppi (both FI),
Natalia Kulka, Wojtek Mejor (both PL),
Andrew Gryf Paterson (SCO/FI),

Initiator and producer:

Andrew Gryf Paterson (SCO/FI),

Financially supported by:

Small materials grant from Dodo ry, to produce the prototype game-tiles.

ALTERNATIVE ECONOMY CULTURES 2009

Kiasma Theatre, Pixelache Festival, Helsinki, FI



The 'Alternative Economy Cultures' (alt.econ.cult) programme on April 3rd & 5th brought together leading international and Finnish thinkers, cultural practitioners and activists, to present alternative economic visions.

The seminar aimed to tackle not just the financial, but the social, cultural, institutional, human, material, emotional and intellectual forms of capital. Not just about individual gain, boosting, balancing or bail-outs, but common good, peer-to-peer, shared wealth and appropriate reward for effort involved. Bridging the gap between presentations, reflections and things-to-be-done, the discussion-based workshop about peer-fundraising asked: Can the crowd-sourcing phenomena be applied to support alternative cultural events in Finland?

The programme of speakers in the seminar emerged from a combination of direct invitations, and peer nominations from the social network of the organiser and associates. The audience for the event had to be constructed also. In organising and cooperation, the alt.econ.cult programme aimed to highlight **peer-to-peer practice**, the event was **funded by a ‘bottom-up’ mix of institutional and seed/peer-funding, where the support grew over time, rather than being determined in advance**. For example, via small personal donations, cultural organisations, government ministries, non-profit political think-tanks, activist media and business companies. We also experimented with an online volunteer donation system, instead of seminar tickets, and used an offline micro-donation system (Piñata).

<http://2009.pixelache.ac/alternative-economy-cultures-post-script/>

Overview of persons & organisations involved in the process

Initiator and organiser:

Andrew Gryf Paterson (SCO/FI)

Seminar participants, Kiasma Theatre & Seminar room, 4.4.2009:

Michael Albert (USA), Michel Bauwens (BE/TH), Geraldine Juárez (MX), Tapani Koppä (FI), Kristoffer Lawson of Scred (FI), Wojtek Mejor (PL), Saja-Riitta Sadeoja of Porkkananmafia (FI), Oliver Ressler (AT), Sara Sajjad of Piratbyrån (SE), Felix Stalder (AT), Tere Vadén (FI), Eero Yli-Vakkuri of Uuva Project (FI).

Workshop about Peer-funding speakers, Demos Office, 5.4.2009:

Geraldine Juárez of Tanda Foundation (MX), Michel Bauwens (BE/TH), Kristoffer Lawson of Scred (FI), Lennu Keinänen/Suomen Verkkomaksut (FI). Aleksi Aaltonen (FI/UK). Andrew Grv Paterson (SCO/FI) & others.

Communications support & chair-persons

Perpetuum Mobile (Marita Muukkonen, Ivor Stodolsky, FI),
Roope Mokka/Demos Helsinki (FI).

Peer-funding online system

Suomen Verkkomaksut Oy, and code-design support from Nordkapp Oy

Financially supported by:

FiFi.Voima, and Framework Journal. Michael Albert by 3 personal donations, plus Vasemmistofoorumi (Left Forum), ATTAC Finland, and the Department of Political Science at the University of Helsinki. Michel Bauwens by 5 personal donations. Geraldine Juarez thanks to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs support of the 'Signals of the South' programme in the Pixelache Festival. Oliver Ressler and Felix Stalder, with support of the Austrian Embassy in Helsinki. Sara Sajjad with the support of Svenska Kulturfonden. Tapani Köppä, by his employer-institution, University of Helsinki. Tere Vadén's travel, by his employer-institution, University of Tampere. The other presenters, organiser and chairpersons are supported by their own means or in-kind support, and giving their time voluntarily.

HENGITÄ.HANKALA HENGITTÄÄ 2007

Töölönlahti, Helsinki, FI



Writer-in-residence / fieldwork for 1 week in July, while living in 3m x 3m x 3m approx space at Happihuone Cultural Greenhouse, Paterson invited active and interested persons involved at Happihuone between 2000-2007, to stop by for tea and coffee, and record a conversational-interview about the issues that have grown around the site and source of 'oxygen-room' in the centre of Helsinki, earmarked by city planners to be part of Finlandiapuisto.

Oral recordings involving 21 multi-disciplinary conversants were made about Happihuone Cultural Greenhouse [now dismantled], with support from O2 Helsinki Sustainable Design organisation. This action consolidated Paterson's doctoral case-study, but did not help save the building.

Furthermore, a **Mural** was made on site in collaboration with Simo Häänpää, Helsinki (FI), 07.2007.

<http://apaterso.info/projects/hengita>

In October 2007, Happihuone was dismantled by its supporters.

The following persons thoughts and opinions were documented in the process:

07.2007 (writer-residency in Happihuone)

Juha Uski; Anna-Karoliina Tetrin; Terhi Järvinen; Kath Oldham; Alan Prohm; Petri Kola; Roope Ahola; Anja Peltola; Mirja Noland; Sirkku Lumioksa; John Willock; Juha Huuskonen; Isabella Haas; Johanna Nordman; Hannu Tikkonen; Tytti Nuorlehto; Papu Pirtola; Marita Muukkonen; Erkki Pirtola; Sampsa Pirtola; Lily Diaz.

10-11.2007

Andrew Paterson (presenting in 'Artivistic' gathering, Montréal); Lasse Lampenius; Cindy Kohtala; Simo Haapää; Kirmo Kivelä in conversation with Papu Pirtola (in Finnish).

07.2008

Kai Vaara.

MORE PROCESSES / CONTACT



These pages are just a selection of recent processes.

More processes (as full-size screen-resolution slides) can be found online:

<http://apaterso.info/portfolio/>

Selected Processes 2003-2009

http://bit.ly/agryfp_2003-2009 [.pdf :4.6 MB]

'ADDPF+?' Fieldwork and process in Chicago, US, 2007

http://bit.ly/agryfp_addpf [.pdf 3.6 MB]

'Tähtikuvitelma' Installation, workshop and process at Happihuone, 2005

http://bit.ly/agryfp_tahtikuvitelma [.pdf 5.7 MB]

'Mapmyths' Fieldwork and process in Karosta, LV, 2003-2007

http://bit.ly/agryfp_mapmyths [.pdf 3.6 MB]

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