

KLEMENSKER TERRA: THE CLIMATE CRUCIBLE – a research residency on Climate, Art and Women



In the face of intersecting global emergencies of climate change, justice, refuge and equality BIRCA is creating a Climate Crises Art Residency with extraordinary women performing artists from around the world. **THE CLIMATE CRUCIBLE** brings 8 women together for 2 weeks to create, share and provoke themes of survival via exchanging and exploring artistic tools and methods.

THE CLIMATE CRUCIBLE takes place in the frame work of BIRCA's **Klemensker Terra** project (see below) and is co-curated with international renowned live artist, environmental scientist, cultural activist **Moira Finucane/Finucane & Smith** from Melbourne/Australia in partnership with [Ringling Museum of Art of Sarasota, Florida/USA](#) and its Curator of Performance **Elizabeth Doud**, climate artist, founder of [Climakaze](#) and cultural provocateur.

The residency sites its response in the bodies and creativity of women, still the primary caregivers, educators and health workers worldwide, and still globally subjected to oppression and violence cradle to grave. It sites the question of survival within the bodies and creativity of women to seek the urgency, authenticity and insight that this oppression gives to questions of a global future which is just. It does so by addressing the question of “connecting to land” in the natural surroundings of BIRCA and understand on a deeper level the climate crises we are facing and how we can react to this. Working together with curators from Australia and USA, countries that are both struggling with climate change and how to fight it compared to the larger degree of engagement in Denmark, gives an extra dimension to this.

BIRCA together with the co-curators will conduct an open call worldwide for participants working in the field of performing arts committed to the subject of changing the conditions of the world by digging deeply into this intersection of climate, justice, refuge and equality to find artistic answers on how to address these questions. Each artist will be refunded their travel costs, receive access to a space to work at BIRCA (the two big main spaces, the barn, the field, forest and gardens), a room to live in and food for shared cooking. The call will have a special focus on encouraging the participation of first nations artists and lesser heard voices, 2 of the artists will be chosen among artists from Bornholm and Denmark.

Each artist is expected to share 10 minutes of their work – outcomes, thoughts, provocations - daily in a crucible tour, documented in turn by the artists. The sharing and exchange of ideas and urgencies forms an integral part of this residency, a unique opportunity to share ideas and inspirations and form links across distanced cultures that is often prohibitive and a barrier to power and progress. At the end of the residency

a Live Exhibit and Sharing is open to the local public, as well as recorded and shared on social medias. All locals and visitors are invited to bring something to and share in a Feast together with the artists after the sharing.

In creating partnerships with Ringling Museum in USA and Finucane & Smith in Australia we embed future opportunity for exhibit performance and showcasing in the structure of **THE CLIMATE CRUCIBLE**. We seek to actively build future powerful networks that can amplify through community and culture as the participants return to their homes.

Partners

Moira Finucane is a globally renowned live artist, director, writer and performer. Drawing on high art, low art, street life, the natural world, the spiritual and the populist, Finucane creates performances; crossing genres from cabaret to installation, drama to literary, underground club to gallery, museum to music hall to create indelible visions of humanity, freedom, power and desire. Finucane studied environmental science, specializing in environmental law and World Heritage conservation, before moving into human rights & development specializing in the area of gender violence. She began creating performance in the underground and alternative scene of the mid 90s; her creations a mash up of variety, fairy tale, museology, taxonomy, burlesque and archetype. She is the creator of the acclaimed Art vs Extinction Suite "The Rapture", that should have performed at CPH Stage 20. We hope we can combine the residency with staging "The Rapture" at CPH Stage 21, where Finucane will also be part of The Odin Theaters festuge in Holsterbro event.

The Ringling Museum of Art (Florida) is, one of the pre-eminent museums of North America. Housing 21 diverse art galleries, a world-renowned Circus Museum, an historic mansion and 66 acre grounds and gardens, the museum is home to the Historic Asolo Theater, and annually produces a performing arts series called The Art of Performance. Keenly interested in artists that are addressing questions of climate change, rapidly shifty ecologies, and the social and artistic responses to living on a planet in crisis, Ringling has a focus on multi-year transnational exchange. **Elizabeth Doud** directs the museum's Art of Performance program, she is an expert in Latin American performing arts and climate performance, and founder of the **Climakaze Miami** performance platform.

Background and perspective - Klemensker Terra

Klemensker Terra is an artistic investigation of a village and landscape on Bornholm, the local area of BIRCA. With the project we want to create the foundation for a new type of history that is universal, comprehensive, inclusive and cultural-historical rooted in nature. Klemensker Terra is an overall framework for a number of initiatives that, through new optics and new anthropological, engaging and interactive artistic methods, engage in dialogue with the area while creating new artistic tools. The overall perspective is artistic research into landscape, nature and body to explore our connection to nature and the land we live on/off. It is a concrete understanding of nature's diversity, but also an energetic understanding of how we ourselves are nature from a quantum physics perspective. The basic research will natural merge with artistic strategies for working with climate activism based on this fundamental connection with nature. The project engages in dialogue with the villagers through its history and culture, including artistic walks in the city and the surrounding area. The project will unfold in the next few years with several projects and studies through artistic research in residencies, various performance formats and dissemination of results via social medias and press etc. All parts will link the local, national and international performing arts field.

The village of Klemensker is part of the village cluster "4 Kløver Klyngen", and the project will also be used to investigate how art can be included as an instrument in the development of villages in rural areas. The work is anchored in dialogue with Bornholm's Region by architect Vivi Granby at Regional Development. In recent years Susanne Danig/head of BIRCA has participated in several international discussion forums on Art in Rural Areas, and she has participated in the Voices of Cultures / EU Commission study on the theme Culture in Non-Urban Areas. Experiences from this are included in the project.