



Universaltypus (Beuys)



Alchemistischer Typus (Beuys)

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'To reshape the old form (Gestalt), that has died or rigidified, into a living, pulsing, life-enhancing, soul-enhancing, spirit-enhancing form: this is the expanded concept of art.'
Joseph Beuys

*'Il nous faut cultiver notre jardin -
We must cultivate our garden.'*
Voltaire, shortly before the French Revolution

'How can we learn to hear the grass grow?'
Hazel Rosenstrauch

The Shifting Gardens builds on cultural research and deep ecology as well as on ideas and creative practices that have, to a large extent, been developed at the Social Sculpture Research Unit at Oxford Brookes University. www.social-sculpture.org
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Drawing on the double meaning of the German word 'wandelnd' as 'strolling' and 'transforming', the title of this social sculpture workshop suggests that the primary garden is in ourselves - invisible, yet very real, as our mindset, our consciousness.

From the image of the human being as a mobile and (potentially) transforming garden one can challenge the current dogma of economic growth: What kind of growth do we actually need in order to thrive? What nourishes such growth? What hinders it?

Other questions in this workshop are: What is alive in us – as individuals and as communities? How can we cultivate our perceiving, thinking and relating in such a way that desirable forms of life can grow from them?

In the context of community gardens and urban gardening
The Shifting Gardens offers insights and creative practices that help to relate in new, fertile ways to oneself, to each other and to the world.

In this workshop participants can experience themselves as the kind of artists the world needs in order to become humane and ecologically viable.

Invited to participate are persons of all ages, from all disciplines, professions and backgrounds.

The duration of this workshop and how it unfolds depends on the local conditions and on the needs of those who participate.



Rebecca Gasson, On Making Visible, 2008

Photos and design: Rebecca Gasson

The Shifting Gardens

A Social Sculpture Workshop



The World as a Garden