

Seminar: *BETWEEN EARTH AND ART*

The seminar was arranged by Galleri Image in connection with the exhibition *Dissolved Darkness* and held at Kunsthall Aarhus, Denmark, on Saturday the 29th of January, 2022, from 14-16pm.

A conversation between an art historian, a geologist, and an artist about how we relate to nature.

Is there something to be found between art and geology? If so, what might that be? And can it uncover something about the way human relate to the world today? Veronika Geiger explores these questions in her current show *Dissolved Darkness* at Galleri Image, by merging geological field work with artistic processes. In connection with the exhibition, Galleri Image and Kunsthall Aarhus presents the seminar: *Between Earth and Art*, where the relationship between geology and art is further examined.

The seminar *Between Earth and Art* bridges geology and art by presenting an art historian in dialogue with a geologist and the artist Veronika Geiger. The art historian is professor in art history Jacob Wamberg, while Maja Rasmussen PhD in geology and current post doc at the University of Copenhagen represents the geologist.

Jacob Wamberg: *Autochthonous Images: On the Earth as Darkroom:*

Photography reminds us that images are not merely aethereal phenomena, exterior imprints of immaterial figments of the mind, but can be developed within matter itself, more specifically, in the technological womb known as the camera obscura. Is the first rise of the image, the Paleolithic cave paintings, perhaps already to be interpreted as manifestations from a similar womb, the one of nature? In this presentation I will unfold a brief history of images, where the visions of art sprouted from the cracks in the heaviest material of the biosphere: the matter of the Earth and its condensation in rocks.

Bio: Jacob Wamberg is Professor of Art History at Aarhus University.

Maja Bar Rasmussen: *Crust Formation in a Geological Blink of an Eye – Fagradalsfjall Eruption in Iceland 2021:*

The volcanic eruption at Fagradalsfjall in Iceland (2021) provided geologists with an ideal opportunity to study, how new crust is formed along the global spreading zones. The eruption is the longest eruption registered in Iceland over the past fifty years and put into focus the importance on continuous supervision of changes in the chemical composition of the lava. I will give you a geological introduction to the eruption that started in March and ended in September 2021, as well as show videos and discuss how the character of the eruption changed both on a physical and chemical level over the 6 months and how melt from the mantle becomes crust and stone that we can eventually collect and display on our windowsills.

Bio: Rasmussen holds a PhD in geology from the University of Iceland and is currently undertaking a post doc at the University of Copenhagen.

Veronika Geiger: *Dissolved Darkness:*

Taking point of departure in my exhibition Dissolved Darkness at Galleri Image I will introduce you to my practice as an artist and my influence from field work in geology. I have taken part in several field trips with geologists, particularly in Iceland, but also Sicily. In my work I draw on these experiences I have from spending extended periods of time in remote areas. My work investigates concepts of time, gravity and our connection to places in uninhabited parts of the world.

Bio: Veronika Geiger, born 1987, is a Danish/Swiss artist, that lives and works in Denmark. She is educated from Glasgow School of Art and from Iceland Academy of the Arts. See more on her website: www.veronikageiger.com / www.galleriimage.dk.