

ÅRHUS KUNSTBYGNING

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The Imagine Farm

2nd July – 17th August at The Aarhus Art Building (Århus Kunstbygning)

Build your dream future at *The Imagine Farm*

On the 2nd July this year The Aarhus Art Building (Århus Kunstbygning) will open an enormous Imagine Farm in both the indoor and outdoor areas. Children and adults are invited to help shape the future in a large, total installation by the Swedish artist collective Kultivator. Through The Imagine Farm the arts centre will set a focus on alternative lifestyles, experimental encounters with nature, and on the interface between art and the ecological dream.



One of the 70 papier-mâché figures at *The Imagine Farm*. The picture was taken at Kultivator's farm at Öland in June 2010.

The living nature playground

Throughout the summer the area outside The Aarhus Art Building is being transformed into a living Imagine Farm, featuring events, experiences, market, workshops and a variety of sensory encounters with nature. All organized by individuals and communities who have experience with sustainable, and just as importantly, fun solutions. Plant flowers and vegetables, come to the exchange market or participate in a wild food workshop. You can also just have your own adventure in the nature playground, where you can hide in dens, jump amongst hay bales and much more. Read more about the specific events at www.aarhuskunstbygning.dk.

Cows at the table with Kultivator

Kultivator is an artist collective that operates an organic farm in Öland, Sweden. They consist of three artists and two farmers, and since 1995 have produced vegetables and rapeseed oil, engaged in forestry and kept cows and sheep. At the same time as running an organic farm, they are also using visual art to imagine how we might do things in other ways, in keeping with the English poet William Blake's words: "*What is now proved was once only imagined.*" In the work *Middag med køer* (Dinner with cows) (2005) people sat at the table with cows, and in 2010 Kultivator announced a marriage between art and agriculture by holding a traditional farm-wedding that lasted three days and included guests from around the world.

Aeroplanes that run on waste and a kind of music-energy-accumulating-machine, you decide ...

How will we live in the future? How should we produce food and what should we do with our waste? How will we travel and how will we take care of the old and sick in the future? These are the questions that a number of schoolchildren in Aarhus have given their opinions on in the form of imaginative drawings and wishful texts. They have provided their ideas on how they would WISH the future to look. These drawings and texts have now been guests at Kultivator's farm in Sweden for two months. It is out of the children's visions that Kultivator has created The Imagine

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Farm in The Aarhus Art Building's basement floor. The exhibition takes shape as an alternative map of the world - a total installation - which includes, amongst other things, 70 papier-mâché sculptures that can be moved around, repaired and assembled to form your own desired future. The Imagine Farm welcomes all children and all that are young at heart.

IMAGINE – towards an eco-aesthetic

The Imagine Farm is one of The Aarhus Art Building's (Århus Kunstbygning) themes for 2011: IMAGINE – towards an eco-aesthetic. With this theme The Aarhus Art Building hopes to contribute towards forging new collaborations between art and sustainable development. The theme emphasizes the concept of sustainability's origins and the connections between ecological and social problems which since the early 1970s have been characteristic of the thinking and the development of this concept.