

Vilnius meeting:

Full programme including list of
presenting spaces www.letmekoo.lt:
IIB network

27/04

13:50-14:00 Introduction
14:00-15:15 Presentations
by independent
spaces and
initiatives

Schools & Gardens

28/04

10:30 Walk around
Sodas 2123:
Swallow project
space, Atletika
gallery

11:00-12:15 Presentations
by independent
spaces and
initiatives

29/04

10:30 Walk around
Sodas 2123:
FAMM and
Architektūros
fondas

11:00-12:15 Presentations
by independent
spaces and
initiatives

18:00-00:00 Performance
program by
Swallow at
SODAS 2123
spaces

22:30 Empty Brain
Resort music
program

2022

SODAS 2123,
Vitebsko 23, Vilnius

2022 / 04 / 27 - 29



L T M K S



PROGRAMME

MODERATED DISCUSSIONS PROGRAMME & TOPICS

Vilnius Meeting 2022: Schools & Gardens' aims to create a horizontal space of exchange between established professionals about the current developments and futures of independent cultural fields. Members of two networks – Artist-Run Network Europe (ARNE) and Independent Initiatives Baltics (IIB) will be taking part in this exchange.

The overall meeting is titled Schools and Gardens, which is lifted straight off the meeting location and its initiator – an artist-run cultural centre SODAS 2123, organised by Lithuanian Interdisciplinary Artists' Association, based at the premises of an ex-school building. While being a reference to this abundant space housing many independent initiatives, it is also a way to establish the imaginary for the meeting around the visceral, and necessarily collective places of schools and gardens. They ensure growth but not without growing pains; they supply us with tact and social knowledges upon which we build and sharpen our tools for their cultivation – if done right, and with a tender hand.

Artist-Run Network Europe (ARNE) is a European project that aims to strengthen the self-organised artist-run sector in Europe with focus on local and international cooperation, and to create a simple informational framework for art professionals and art students, namely through a collaborative online platform, Artist-Run Resource Centre (ARRC).

Independent Initiatives Baltics (IIB) is an emergent network, grounded in 2022, for independently run spaces in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. It attempts to establish a meeting point between the histories, presents, and the futures of the Baltic region, exploring the needs and possibilities to cooperate based on mutual ideas, social and material infrastructures.

Vilnius Meeting 2022:
Schools & Gardens
27-29 April, Cultural centre
SODAS 2123

Wednesday 27th April

Lunch
Event introduction
to min Presentations by participants / Public program
13:00 - 13:50
13:50 - 14:00
14:00 - 15:15
Main hall

Location:
apiece (Vilnius, Lithuania)
Lokomoff (Jelgava, Lithuania)
Totaldobre (Riga, Latvia)
Low gallery (Riga, Latvia)
427 (Riga, Latvia)
Candyland (Stockholm, Sweden)
Flat Octopus (Stockholm, Sweden)

Break & coffee
Discussion groups: Collectivity, Co-operation, Conviviality
Visits to Vilnius spaces: apiece, Autarkia
Dinner at Delta Myba
15:15 - 15:45
15:45 - 17:15
17:45 - 19:00
19:00 end

Thursday 28th April

Morning coffee & visits at SODAS 2123, Aletika, Swallow / Public program
to min Presentations by participants / Public program
10:30
11:00 - 12:15

Rundum (Tallinn, Estonia) (online presentation)
FOKJ (Tallinn, Estonia)
Hob Gallery (Tallinn, Estonia)
Ormsion House (Limerick, Ireland)
Alfred Institute (Tel Aviv, Israel)
Top e.v. (Berlin, Germany)
Trivium (Vilnius, Lithuania)

Lunch
Discussion groups: Infrastructures, Taking Space and Time
Break & coffee
Visits to Vilnius spaces: Egrest, Vitrina & Bench, Editorial
Free evening
12:15 - 13:15
13:15 - 14:45
14:45 - 15:00
15:30 - 17:00
17:00

Friday 29th April

Visits at SODAS 2123, FAMM, Architektūros fondas exposition space / Public program
to min Presentations by participants / Public program
10:30
11:00 - 12:00

RIXC (Riga, Latvia) (online)
Mortos ratono (Vilnius, Lithuania)
Verpejos (Varena district, Lithuania)
Autarkia (Vilnius, Lithuania)
Alternative Art Guide (The Hague, Netherlands)

Break & coffee
Discussion groups: Publics, Communities, Engagement
Lunch and coffee
Workshop + Wrap up in groups
Free time
Performance program + afterparty by Swallow at SODAS 2123 / Public program
Concert at Empty Brain Resort (SODAS 2123) / Public program
12:15 - 13:15
12:30 - 13:30
13:30 - 14:30
14:30 - 16:00
16:00 - 18:00
18:00 - 00:00
22:30

Wednesday 27th April

Collectivity, co-operation, conviviality

How do we cooperate internationally?

What do independent initiatives – perceived as 'local' and 'small' in scale, another discussion to have – take from participating in transnational and 'global' events and cooperation networks? How do we know which events and networks to choose (i.e. long-term cooperation projects, alternative art fairs), and how much resources to allocate, and what experiences we could share? How do we ensure smooth international cooperation between independent initiatives that are different between each other in shape, form, or locality?

Moderated by: Alice Maselnikova (Candyland, Flat Octopus, Supermarket Art Fair, Stockholm)

Neighbor-friendly: Why do we engage in regional cooperation?

How do we choose and separate between international ('global') and regional cooperation? What are the benefits and drawbacks of regional cooperation for independent initiatives? How do geopolitics (and state and supra-state funding that follows) influence our choices and preferences for regional cooperation?

Moderated by: Vytautas Mickelevicius (Vilnius Academy of Arts, Vilnius)

How do we 'survive' locally?

How do we – as independent initiatives – position ourselves in our local art fields? Do we see ourselves as integral in the local institutional networks, or do we need to strive for autonomy from them as non-institutional, independent initiatives? What are the limits of independence, i.e. how it affects a relation to the funding structures? Do we only see ourselves in 'survival mode' in our local art fields in comparison to larger institutions, and how do we change that – is it by establishing our autonomy, or by seeking deeper institutional interconnections?

Moderated by: Niamh Brown (Ormsion House, Limerick)

Thursday 28th April

Infrastructures: taking place and time

How do we make (the) space for ourselves?

What forms do independent initiatives take, and what does their physicality mean for the programming, does space make us, or do we make the space? How do we shape the space and community around us through our physical infrastructures? How do our local urban, social and cultural contexts influence our physical spaces?

Moderated by: Lilian Hüb (Hüb Gallery, Tallinn)

How do we create our own independent economies?

What are our financial sources as independent initiatives, and how do they condition our independence? Do we need to strive for commonisation of our sources and resources (i.e. crowdfunding, participatory grantmaking, etc)? Or, is commercialisation a way for our financial sustainability? Or, should the state and municipal support stand stronger? Or – do we need to diversify our economies, and how do we do that?

Moderated by: Andreas Ribbung (AM Network, Candyland, Stockholm)

Who do we speak to, and how?

Who are our audiences, how do we create them and communicate with them? Are we more inclined to see our colleagues, culture professionals as our audiences, or are we able to create new audiences through our open, 'informal' ways of working? What specific tools of communication do we have as independent initiatives, if any? How does us being independent influence how we see, create, account to the public for our audiences, in difference to large state institutions?

Moderated by: Kaspars Liegavits (Totaldobre, Riga)

Friday 29th April

Publics, communities, engagement

How do we work (together)?

Does 'independent' mean 'informal' in our internal relations of our independent initiatives? How do we divide labours, roles and functions, is this division vital to ensure the existence of our initiatives or does it create unnecessary hierarchies? What models of self-organisation can we envision to work best to our goals? How do the internal relations affect the content outcomes – how do we divide the creative and the administrative positions, and is it possible to have clear separations between these responsibilities?

Moderated by: Rob Knip (Alternative Art Guide, The Hague, Netherlands)

Access and Responsibility

What are the responsibilities of independent art spaces? Most originate with a mission of egalitarian accessibility. However, the operational realities of non-profit art initiatives often limit factors like content and opening hours, restricting the reach of our work to specific audiences and communities. Tangible change begins with honest self-assessment. How do these real, logistical challenges limit us? What resources does true 'accessibility' require? Are independent arts initiatives even equipped for this? Does our quest for accessibility make us any more capable than other institutional agents to create and support lasting community and participation, instead of maintaining the gate-keeping status quo?

Moderated by: J. Murtughi (Autarkia, Vilnius)

Do we need to be visible internationally?

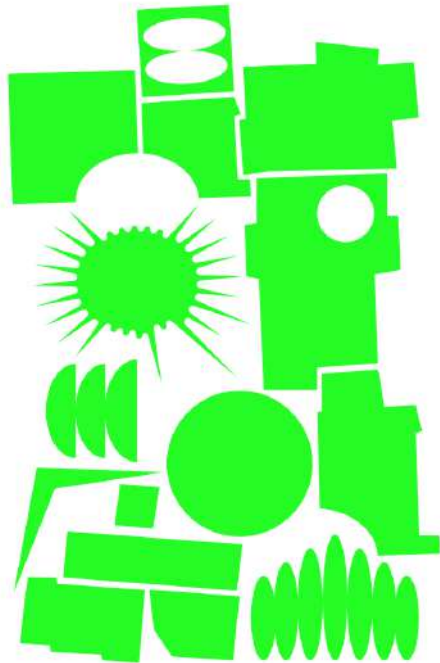
Do we need to speak to audiences beyond our local-longue? How do we create non-local, transversal communication about our initiatives? How do we know where to aim for international communication, and how to construct it, what platforms and forms of language do we use? How much resources does such communication require, are we equipped for it, and is it worth it?

Moderated by: David Kerr (Low gallery, Riga)



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ABOUT ARTISTS PROJECTS 1,2% CONTACT EN LT



Vilnius meeting:

Schools & Gardens 2022

SODAS 2123,
Vitebsko 23, Vilnius

2022 / 04 / 27-29

MEETING OF ARNE AND BALTIC INDEPENDENT INITIATIVES AND SPACES AT SODAS 2123

2022-04-21

SODAS 2123 (Vitebsko 23, Vilnius) will greet the last days of April (27-29th) with an international gathering 'Vilnius Meeting 2022: Schools & Gardens' for independent spaces and initiatives based in the Baltic countries and widely in Europe. The event is organised by the Lithuanian Interdisciplinary Artists' Association (LIAA), curated by Lina Rukevičiūtė and Vaida Stepanovaitė.

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and art students, namely through a collaborative online platform, Artist-Run Resource Centre (ARRC). **Independent Initiatives Baltics (IIB)** is an emergent network, grounded in 2022, for independently run spaces in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. It attempts to establish a meeting point between the histories, presents, and the futures of the Baltic region, exploring the needs and possibilities to cooperate based on mutual ideas, social and material infrastructures.

Schools and Gardens will be a buzzing three day professional event with part of its activities open to the public, unfolding in SODAS 2123 indoor and outdoor surroundings just waking up from the long winter sleep.

The audiences will be able to listen to the presentations by an array of invited organisations and spaces from the Baltics: Estonians from Tallinn – Hoib Gallery, Rundum, FOKU; Latvians from Riga – LOW gallery, 427, RIXC; Lithuanians from various cities – apiece, Verpėjos, Lokomotif, Montos Tattoo, Swallow, Atletika, FAMM, Architecture Fund. They will intersperse with presentations by artist-run initiatives from ARNE: Candyland, and Flat Octopus (Stockholm, Sweden), Ormston house (Limerick, Ireland), Alfred Institute (Tel Aviv, Israel), Totaldobre (Riga, Latvia), Alternative Art Guide (The Hague, The Netherlands), Top e.V. (Berlin, Germany).

On the evening of 29th there will be a public performance programme curated by project space Swallow at SODAS 2123. Empty Brain Resort (SODAS 2123) will greet the night with a music programme.

Invited participants will also visit spaces in the city Editorial and Išgirsti.

The overall meeting is titled *Schools and Gardens*, which is lifted straight off the meeting location and its initiator – an artist-run cultural centre SODAS 2123, organised by LIAA, based at the premises of an ex-school building. While being a reference to this abundant space housing many independent initiatives, it is also a way to establish the imaginary for the meeting around the visceral, and necessarily collective places of schools and gardens. They ensure growth but not without growing pains; they supply us with tacit and social knowledges upon which we build and sharpen our tools for their cultivation – if done right, and with a tender hand.

Location: Cultural centre SODAS 2123, Vitebsko Str. 23, Vilnius.

Dates: 27-29 April 2022. Link to full public programme:

Organiser: Lithuanian Interdisciplinary Artists' Association in partnership with SODAS 2123 and Kaunas 2022.

LIAA activities funded by Lithuanian Council for Culture and Vilnius City Municipality. The event is organised with the support of the Creative Europe programme of the European Union and Nordic-Baltic Mobility Programme for Culture. Main information partner – 15min.