

City of Winter: S-NOW a personal form of architecture

Miroslaw Balka Studio of Spatial Activities, Faculty of Media Art, Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw

Laboratory of Sustainable Architectural Production, Umeå University of Architecture

As Long As We Want

In the autumn of 2013, Apberget was removed so Utopia could be connected to the water mains and open on schedule. What will happen to Rådhusorget, and if Apberget will be replaced, is still uncertain.

Colloquially referred to as Apberget, 'the monkey mountain,' is a nickname derived from people's interaction with the site and their sitting – like monkeys – upon it, basking in the summer sun. Originally intended as a speakers' tribunal, and effectively acting as a political rallying point throughout its history, the structure also became a focal point within the city and a recognisable location for people to sit, socialise and meet.

When students of Umeå School of Architecture and the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts met, an effigy to Apberget rose in snow and ice in Vänortsparken.

At 15:00 on Saturday 1st February, a sound action will take place in the enclosed space of ice on the new Apberget. A distorted visual connection to the performance enacted within the frozen walls offers a spectre of actions and events past.

Saturday 1 February 2014

15.00 – 15.45 **As Long As We Want action** Vänortsparken

Sunday 2 February 2014

As Long As We Want Vänortsparken

Barbara

BARBARA comes from the Swedish „Bara bra” meaning „Only good”. A response to „How are you?”

BARBARA will walk through the city, marking the public space: a line on the snow like an architectural sketch on a map.

BARBARA materializes our observations of Umeå.

BARBARA can be followed for three days over the Opening Weekend.

You can be our witness.

Friday 31 January 2014

Barbara secret action centrum

Saturday 1 February 2014

9.00 – 12.00 **Barbara action** centrum

Sunday 2 February 2014

13.45 – 14.30 **Barbara action** Vänortsparken

The Mohicans

In native language: *people of the waters that are never still.*

Raw blocks of ice are carriers of information, used as a transparent wall. The message is formed as a code, with a visual expression of digital noise. Applied using spray, it recalls a primitive meaning of a graffiti manifesto. The information is readable only through digital devices and requires active involvement from a viewer. The code is vulnerable to passage of time and will become unreadable at some point.

The project debates the transformation of Umeå for 2014 Capital of Culture and its very neat public spaces. It gives an opportunity to reflect on the meaning and durability of culture in the context of nature and constant social changes.

Saturday 1 February 2014

The Mohicans action, Vänortsparken

Sunday 2 February 2014

The Mohicans action Vänortsparken

While in Park

A game and performative action in the Friendship Park. Twenty people will work with twenty tools on ten blocks, five of ice and five of snow. The action explores relationships, not just between tools, ice and snow, but more importantly relationships between people.

There will be a performance on Saturday by the artists.

On Sunday we invite the public to take part in the action.

Saturday 1 February 2014

13.30 – 15.00 **While in Park action** Vänortsparken

Sunday 2 February 2014

14.30 – 15.30 **While in Park action** Vänortsparken