

Æstetisk Seminar

Abelardo Gil-Fournier and Jussi Parikka

Living Surfaces – book launch and discussion on environmental humanities, media, and art

Diving into the world of plants and vegetal surfaces, artist Abelardo Gil-Fournier and professor Jussi Parikka offer an experimental way to understand visual media culture in dialogue with the worlds of biological and ecological life. While “surfaces” have been central to art history and for example modernist aesthetics, Gil-Fournier and Parikka’ new book *Living Surfaces Images, Plants, and Environments of Media* (MIT Press, 2024) looks at the different scales of management and control of living surfaces of the planet from biosphere to agriculture, remote sensing to forests as sites of mediation – of visibility and hiding, of obfuscation and targeting. Their approach combines questions of datafication with aesthetics and even (landscape) architecture as they discuss their theoretical and artistic inspiration in surfaces as part of current topics and debates on planetarity.

The event will also feature their new video essay on planetary light. It focuses on how disappearance of ice and glaciers can be described as aesthetics of reflection, the albedo effect. Sound artist María Andueza Olmedo has designed the soundscape of the new video work.

The event is organized by Kunsthall Aarhus together with the Department of Digital Design and Information Studies and the Aesthetics Seminar, School of Communication and Culture at Aarhus University. It is also supported by the Environmental Media and Aesthetics research program.

Torsdag den 26. september 2024, Kl. 15:00

Kunsthall Aarhus, J.M. Mørksgade

13, 8000 Aarhus C

Alle er velkomne / All are welcome