



LIAAF

2019

August 30 — September 29

Lofoten International Art Festival (LIAF) 2019 takes its inspiration from the multitude of inhabitants, materials, struggles, and processes that reside and take place within the wide intertidal zone surrounding the Lofoten islands. Like the tide, the festival ebbs and flows through the year in four small communities across the entire archipelago.

The LIAF exhibition and “High Tides” public programme both take place in Svolvær, Lofoten, Norway

High Tides

In the intertidal zone creeps the starfish — our curatorial companion of the 2019 edition of LIAF — with an eye on each arm, a witness to several events at once. These arms are waving with gestures suggestive of camaraderie, struggle, excitement, curiosity, and movement for the sake of movement. Expansive rather than focused, the curatorial arms have aimed to open up a set of diverse conversations that can entangle and connect in unfamiliar ways. Not only based within each of the locations where LIAF has been embedded throughout the year, the curatorial arms will each form a varied programme of “High Tides”, featuring talks, performances, film screenings, DJ sets, and live music, taking place in Svolvær throughout the five weekends of the festival. →

Splash, stress & elasticity

● Saturday September 28

Humans & their space. The conversation stitches together topics such as migrational patterns, Neoliberal Capitalism, and the seasonal overpopulation that occurs throughout the tourist season in Lofoten. It explores notions of pressure and tension, and the infrastructures that attempt to cope with these rhythmic and cyclic movements.

This programme takes place during the closing weekend of LIAF 2019 with contributors soon to be announced.

From the horse's mouth

● Friday September 20 — Sunday September 22

Exploring resilience and community from human and other-than-human perspectives. This arm initiates “The Kelp Congress”, a 3-day public programme that seeks to explore the artistic and cultural dimensions related to kelp and other macroalgae. Events include: open studios, presentations of artistic research processes, a keynote lecture, talks, and kelp-related performances.

With Devil's Apron, Sarah Blissett, Futurefarmers, Signe Johannessen, Julia Lohmann, Sabine Popp, Astrida Neimanis, and Cecilia Åsberg.

The Kelp Congress is organised in collaboration with Mustarinda, The Department of Seaweed, Post-humanities Hub, ArtLab Gnesta, Skåftfell — Center for Visual Art, and Laboratory for Aesthetics and Ecology.

Opening Weekend

● Friday August 30 — Saturday August 31

The opening weekend of the festival is the first of a series of High Tides. Live music, DJ sets, performances, film screenings, and artist conversations takes place alongside the opening of the exhibition spaces.

Thinking tide, sensing scale

● Saturday September 7

This arm draws awareness to (natural) phenomena, as well as the ‘apparatuses’ through which events are measured and sensed. This programme consists of a live performance, talks, discussions, and a concert, with Grace Dillon, Greg Fox, Signe Lidén, Arjen Mulder, and Geir Olve Skeie.

Maths, matter & body

● Saturday September 14

This desiring arm seeks to explore the resonances and contradictions between human bodies, solid matter, statistics, algorithms, gravity, etc. It centres on imperfection, precision, error, pattern, and erasure, with an emphasis on embodied responses to the inexplicable and the unexplained. The contributors of this programme will soon be announced.

LIAF 2019
SVOLVÆR
LOFOTEN, NORWAY

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE* & EXHIBITION CONTRIBUTORS

Michaela Casková, Futurefarmers (Amy Franceschini and Lode Vrancken with Guests)*, Toril Johannessen, Jackie Karuti, Damla Kilickiran, Signé Liden*, Trygve Luktvasslimo* , Tricia Middleton, Kateřina Šedá, Soundcamp, and João Pedro Vale & Nuno Alexandre Ferreira*, with more artists soon to be announced.

HIGH TIDES

Devil's Apron (Kåre Grundvåg and Trond Ansten), Sarah Blissett, Grace Dillon, Greg Fox, Hashman Deejay, Signe Johannessen, Julia Lohmann, PLO man, Arjen Mulder, Astrida Neimanis, Sabine Popp, Geir Olve Skeie, and Cecilia Åsberg, with more artists, speakers, musicians, and performers soon to be announced.

WRITERS-IN-RESIDENCE

Susanne Christensen, Joni Hyvönen, and Mats O. Svensson in collaboration with Vagant.

The curatorial team of LIAF 2019 (Hilde Methi, Neal Cahoon, Karolin Tampere, and Torill Østby Haaland) are interested in the dynamic movements of the curatorial 'arms' as processes of continual revision and responsive re-conceptualisation, as directions that frame and shift focus, and as methodologies that foster energy, proximity, and poetics throughout the whole of the festival. The 'artists-in-residence' format — as part of, and in spite of the art biennale context — considers how this approach can provoke new affinities, knowledge, and empowering encounters that are invested in local agencies and place, and that connect to otherwise unreachable (local) communities, companions, and collaborators.



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Plus more TBC

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