



Capacity.

Play me [capacity. guitar song]

how can we listen with humility?

how can we learn with curiosity?

how can we act with respect & reciprocity?

capacity: a welcoming.

i think a lot about what it means to know something. ontology (what we know) and epistemology (how we know what we know) is often on my mind. is there agency, do i choose what i know and how i know it? can i be critical or question it? am i a learner and teacher in turn? thus for these questions i explore knowledge re/production, and here the specific site of Amsterdam Science Park, I try to focus on scientific learning which I see as currently happening in a hierarchical (teacher/student, professor/assistant, prioritization of western knowledge as superior to the Other...), as well as ordered (timed classes, standardized testing...) way.

This site is where I happened to find myself and learn, invariably due to millions or trillions probabilities leading me to live in Amsterdam and study at Science Park at this point in time. Here, I question the agency of mine: (not) choosing location, my emotions attachment to space but also passion for site(s) of knowledge



re/production. My view is that imagination is a powerful tool of (creating) another world/s possible.

Thus, the project you're about to see/hear/co-dream with me is on a future ASP as a metaphor for what knowledge re/production as a way of living can be.

capacity: a love ethic.

bell hooks asks us to answer these question by the means of alove ethic- to“utilize all the dimensions of love - care, commitment, trust, responsibility, respect and knowledge”.

Where can capacity for love be found? Can there be abundance of care, feeling and knowing as well as capacity for creation in this site of scientific learning & teaching?

capacity for love & abundance of care.

I must admit I have more questions than answers, more drive for exploration than aim. But I believe in growth and learning more than notions of linear progress anyway so maybe that's okay. What I, as a human-expression of nature and the world consciousness you and I experience, have capacity for is kindness, curiosity, learning and growth. But I also have capacity for error, mistakes, re/producing harm and narrowmindedness. For this I want to be cautious. For

sweden and remained there until the end of my teens so i am also swedish.although many do not recognize me human enough to be swedish. I am. sweden is a part of me and I am a part of that land. I am afraid - fear is part of me. I am gentle and sweet and harsh and cold. iam a sister, a child, a 'woman', a 'queer', a 'brown'.. I am living on earth, although not always as mindfully as I would like. I am also part of earth and one day I plan to return there.earth is not only part of me, but has made me and my entire being along with my ancestors.

perhaps we are one.

capacity for love.

In capacity for love and abundance of care bell hooks' love ethic feels central. care, commitment, trust, respect and knowledge must be sought for love to be abundant. Now, you ask, what does love have to do with deep ecology and Amsterdam Science Park? In my dream scenario, everything.

In 'Braiding Sweetgrass - indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge and teachings of plants" Robin Wall Kimmerer shares that respect and reciprocity for the land, human and non-human kin is essential for survival and thriving, for dignity of life and for, well, love. I dream of common languages or means of communication - be it scientific jargon (if so, what is science. what can science be?, math, love, spirituality, affection, that is spoken and acted upon in Amsterdam Science Park as a potent site of teaching and learning (science). What

could this love language be, make, connect in this network of beings? Recognition of beings as beings for abundance of love and care - it's difficult to emotionally attach, love and care for an 'it'. Perhaps here, English is rendered obsolete.

love for family (blood and chosen) are not higher or lower in rank than the romantic/sexual love. the nuclear family to be reproduced as obedience to the state is not the goal. maybe here there is no state - only ethics and love, respect and reciprocity - mutual responsibilities through connection and care. this relationship anarchy allows for the destruction of hierarchies and the creation of respect and reciprocity between species. Oneness and connection is prioritized so that kinship can be felt and authority is grounded in responsibility towards each other.

capacity for feeling and knowing, also knowing what we do not know.

Audre Lorde teaches us that the uses of anger may be vast if this anger is used to fuel movements of compassion rather than being submerged, paralyzed and corrupted by hate. Let the anger fuel your fight. Know what you are fighting for. What are you fighting for? What are you angry about? One of the things I fear most is apathy. I'm often reminded of the power of storytelling - the lives being remembered and the lessons learned for future generations. The values instilled and the knowledge re/produced. What are

yours? What can you create with the tools you have been given? What tools have you taken for yourself?

capacity for voices.

In 'Making Abolitionist Worlds - Proposals for a World on Fire', Nick Estes writes that (his community) can be here for another 500 years [in the face of continued colonial oppression]. Knowledge re/production and its consequences may sustain communities, destroy them or create them. The only constant is change but in Amsterdam Science Park, the aspiration for learning involves actively co-creating their own worlds, as aware, reflective agents within a network, actively reminded of **their** own agency and capacity for creation. However, Audre Lorde also teaches us that 'the master's tools will never dismantle the master's house'. How can oppressive structures of harmful knowledge re/production be abolished and a new world be critically rebuilt when the tools I have been given are not my own? How can ASP be envisioned as a site for learning, caring & growing when the structures I move within now are allowing little wiggle-room for agency and voice-amplification. What is my voice in the sea of voices where most of us do not shout the loudest and some who do are quickly silenced? Gratitude and listening aids me when the helplessness wells. In my mind and on this paper, I envision a Science Park where *beings* learn with curiosity and humility.

capacity for creation.

hierarchies are frowned upon, patents forbidden as is hoarding of resources, including knowledge. A love ethic is the norm, consciously re/produced every living (and dying) moment. as in 'braiding sweetgrass', all beings are learners and all beings are teachers. the study of language and naming is both play and work - mindful of the constructionist powers of what we speak, hear and embody. the more joy and rest interwoven in reality, the more healing and growth (into something different or more of the same, but never necessarily better or worse). scarcity mindsets are met with care, and as trust is built, abundance becomes clear. the study of traditional ecological knowledge and western science are mere schools of thought (and feeling, and being, and ways of living, and ways of constructing the world around us). feeling as a way of knowing is important and not separate from rational or logical truth-seeking. the question "what is your truth?" is often asked. the answers often change, as plastic as our experiences, wisdoms and care given and received.

music, storytelling and laughter are truth-seeking practices in the school, as are observations (i contribute with the first two, i hope to hear joy leak out of you in the third). observations use all the senses: seeing, hearing, smelling, touching, tasting, movement/balance and relational positioning. the studies of each and all together are lifelong journeys, spanning generations of wisdom. at times, our bodies will remember what our minds cannot. the study of chaos/order, equilibrium and

tipping points is called 'balance' - an elusive concept always aspired to and only rarely achieved. this is okay. perfection is not the goal. no end destination is aspired to, only the constant practice of responsibility, reciprocity and kindness in our collective striving for learning (and teaching). In an ever-changing balance of chaos and order, resilience in the face of uncertainty is explored as are critical questions on who is currently forced to be resilient and how resilience can come about with less violence and more care. Asking: is what we are saying the same as what we want to express?

capacity for change.

caretakers of land and land caretakers of us. mutual caretakers because at the end we are not separate, we are whole. hurt one and you hurt the other. we are one but not separate so also not equal. likely, the earth will survive human fall. but perhaps that would simply be a change in the same organism and according to the first & second laws of thermodynamics: no energy will be lost, simply transformed. perhaps we can heal one and thus heal the other. perhaps there is only one and no other and all can be part of a larger capacity.

capacity for wisdoms.

all about love - bell hooks(quote from 2001, p.94).

the uses of anger - audre lorde

braiding sweetgrass - robin wall kimmerer

the short instructional manifesto for relationship anarchy -
andie nordgren

we can be here another five hundred years - a critical
reflection on shiri pasternak's 'grounded authority' " - nick
estes.

recognition and critique: an interview with judith butler -
rasmus willig

parable of the sower - octavia butler

parable of the talents - octavia butler

the argonauts - maggie nelson

