

"Three Urban Energies divided by 10min"

Intervention by Bartaku at "Conversations 48 Degrees Celsius"

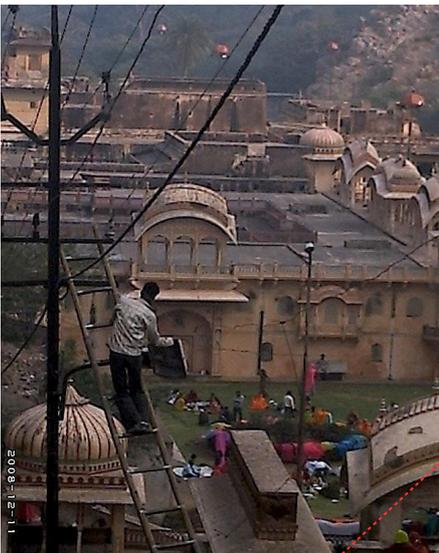
Session 1 > City Space and the Everyday *Intervention: The inter-connectedness of the built environment, social and environmental sustainability.* June 13, The Park Hotel, 15 Parliament Street, Delhi.

The 'Conversations' are part of *48°C Public.Art.Ecology Arts Festival.* Delhi, India. Dec. 12-21, 2009
<http://www.48c.org/conv.html>

Three Urban Energies divided by 10min

Electrified Water in The Jungled Urban Sprawl of Kinshasa (RD-Congo)

As in many hypercities, access to electrical power is unequally distributed in Kinshasa, capital of RD Congo. The infrastructure originates from colonial times whereas population nowadays is tenfold, surpassing 8 million people. Hence the 'have-nots' are invited to be creative and improvise, which some entrepreneurial citizens do by tapping electricity by connecting vertical wires to the horizontal wires of the main grid.



[This was illustrated by connecting a multi-coloured good luck string -from the town of Jaipur- vertically to a silver wire found at the festivals opening ceremony and...].

The electricity is then distributed to households who pay this new middleman in the informal economy.

Rain in Kinshasa is binary. When rain is *on*, it transforms the city immediately: the sewers -stuffed with rubbish and rats- share the water with the symbolic roads and plots in no time. Sometimes landslides occur.

Motorized ground transport becomes impossible. Not for the symbolic cars -pieces of scrap metal turning and pumping till they finally die after six previous lives in Europe, but also not for the white UN/EU/NGO-jeeps nor the 4 Hummers (and I am sorry to say, also not for the growing fleet TATA vehicles).

As a consequence, thousands of *Kinois* have to wade back to their homes in this urban jungled flooded sprawl. After every downpour, the town talks about another dozen of people who did not make it to their homes. In the dark they did not perceive how the pending horizontal wires were creating electrocution fields by energizing the water.

[...putting the multi-coloured thread in the glass of water provided to the speaker].

Chinese Interactive Solar Electric Peace Water Pump

Freiburg is a small provincial eco-town in the South-West of Germany, bordering the Schwarzwald (Black Forest). In 2007 it hosted *Intersolar*,

one of the *number ones* of the solar energy fairs in the world. Halfway the central thorough-fare, squeezed between the pavilions -that harbour the fancy stands of solar branches of petrol companies, equipped with sun-tanned sales boys and girls- a Chinese man and his daughter have put up a Confucian designed stand in which they are selling sun powered water pumps.



A demo set-up consisted of a round black latex basin filled with water and 6 tiny water pumps powered by the direct current from a blue-greyish solar panel. That the sprinkling water patterns could be controlled manipulated by simply using the hand to create shadow patterns in front of the solar cells clearly demonstrated the use of solar cells as -simultaneously- a power generator and light sensor. Also, this peaceful interaction of water, wind and light highlights the conflict prevention or peace bringing qualities of the solar water pump against the backdrop of wars over water.

Olympics & Water for Land in London(UK)

At a permaculture workshop in the Hackney Marshes a spokesman of the

prepare for the extreme drought that will turn up...

Afterwards, whilst pushing garlic on top of II WW rubble

pass on a little piece of paper -one on the front first row and one on the opposite side of the last row- containing the lyrics of poem by Ivor Cutler performed by Linda Hirst - "Women Of The World". It is unclear when and where these bits of paper dissolved in this process...

"Women of the world take over.
Because if you don't
the world will come to an end.
And it won't take long.
Men have had their shot
and look at where we have got."

[repetition repetition]

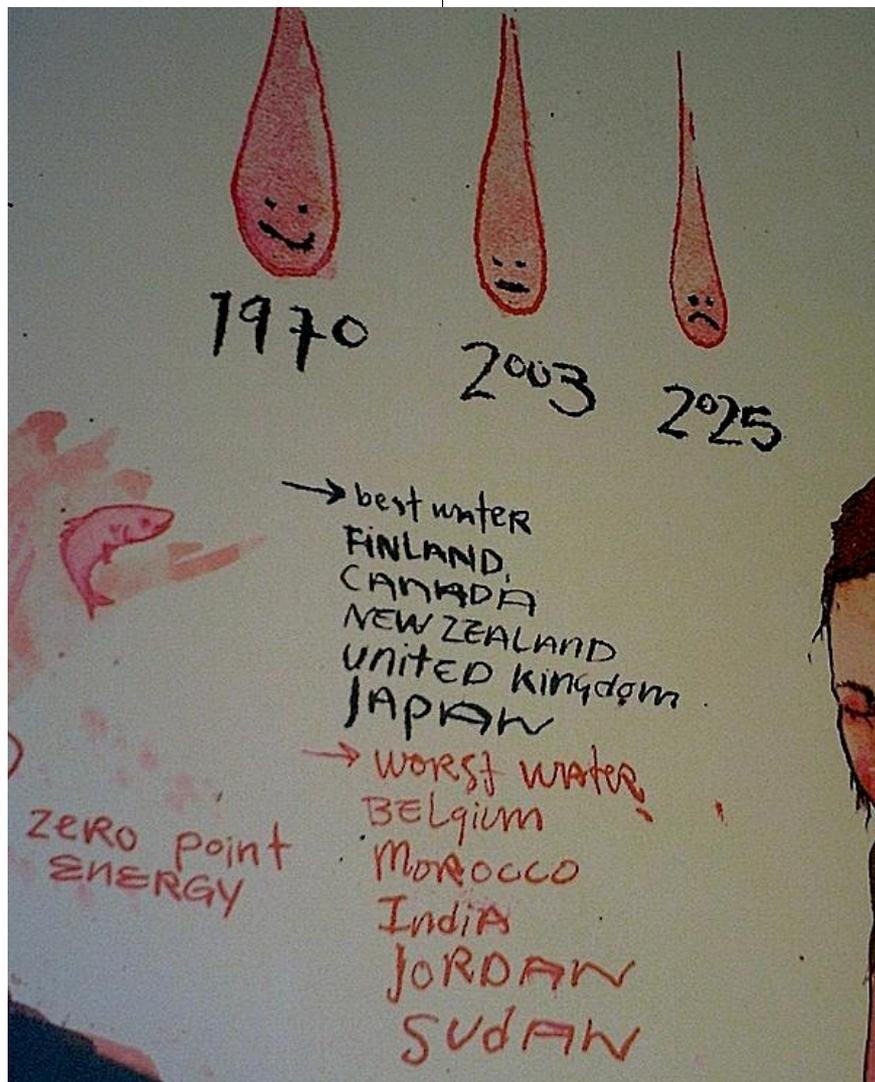
http://archive.wfmu.org:5555/archive/BL/BL_Cutler_Ivor_and_Linda_Hirst_-_Women_Of_The_World.mp3

Photos:

Top left: Grid works in Galta Temple. Jaipur, India - Photo by Bartaku, Dec. 2008

Top right: Water pump Tilonia Station. Tilonia, Rajasthan, India - Photo by Bartaku, Dec. 2008

Bottom: Part from poster made by 'Keegan Meegan' (onefootinfront.com; UK) at the Water Pavilion of the UN. World Expo Zaragoza, Spain. Photo by Bartaku, Sept. 2008



Transition Towns-movement explained how they prepared a town for more sustainable living. I asked him if it would not be a more sustainable way of energy use to introduce 'sustainable move and rebuild practices' in order to prepare the population to flee to the Alps f.i., as the island called United Kingdom is bound to be reduced to a tiny dot of land mass being taken over by the rising seas in the next decades. After having to repeat the question, he then argued that it is more likely that they would have to

under an apple tree to keep insects away from him, it became clear that - presumably before the rising water- the 2012 Olympic Games will usurp garlic, tree and the rest of the edible forest garden. A top down decision regardless protest of the local community...

Bartaku, Dec. 4, 2009. Delhi, India

A Posteriori Note:

During this brief discourse, the attendees were asked to

This text is part of Bartaku's research project: **PhoEf: the Undisclosed Poésis of the Photovoltaic Effect.**

http://libarynth.org/luminous/phoef#phoef_research_on_the_photovoltaic_effect

In affiliation with interdisciplinary lab FoAM [Brussels / Amsterdam]

<http://www.fo.am>

bartaku@yahoo.co.uk