

Press Release 10-05-22

Mini-MAJELIS

Rural School of Economics

Drawing towards Cultural Resilience and future-past Economies

25th May 2022: a day of meeting friends and colleagues online and at ruruHaus, to compost knowledge by drawing together, talking about female resistance and a potluck-dinner.

ruruHaus Address and [ZOOMLINK](#)

The plans for the day:

12.00 Welcome by **Myvillages** and **ruruHaus**. ([all English](#))

Introducing the Rural School of Economics, local partners and learning together in and around Kassel. With Kathrin Böhm and Wapke Feenstra from Myvillages.

Introducing the programme for the day and moderator **Amira El Ah**

12.30 Documentation showing the communal coach trip to **Upländer Bauernmolkerei** the day before. The dairy knowledge held by everyone who came was shared whilst making cheese together. The trip was organised in cooperation with **Frauentreff Brückenhof**, Kassel.

13.30 **Multi-local Drawing Class** – an introduction to sharing local places through live drawing. A slow online and on-site event guided by Myvillages.

15.00 **Break** – wherever you are. If you can, continue to draw on a table cloth in front of you. At ruruHaus we will also prepare the pot-luck dinner. The live-stream stays on.

16.00 **“The Face of the Revolution is Female”** is the first of two online dialogues that day, and focuses on the role of women in change and cultural revolution, with Belarusian philosopher and author **Olga Shparaga**, cultural manager and activist **Alina Dzeravianka** and researcher **Oksana Zaporozhets**. Moderator: **Amira El Ahl** ([English and German](#))

17.00 **Commoning on the Scale of the Everyday** discusses lived systems of creating ecosystems and new economic imaginaries. Cultural Producer and organizer **Marianna Takou** will introduce the role of funding systems for art in undoing the colonial binary of global north and south. Researcher and community organiser **Bianca Elzenbaumer** focuses her work on supporting and creating community economies and commons in the Italian Alps. Moderator: **Amira El Ahl** ([English and German](#))

18.00 **Hang-Out and a Lumbung-Myvillages-Potluck-Talk** – we have invited friends, partners, ruruHaus members and Lumbung artists guests to bring some food and drinks and talk about rural undercurrents. Table cloths are our new canvas and Amira El Ahl and **Johannes Guttenhöfer** are roaming with a mic and camera to livestream the gathering and to find out what’s on the tables.

20.00 **End**

About the contributors:

ruruHaus is formed by combining 'ruru' for ruangrupa with the German word 'Haus'. ruruHaus is a living room for Kassel and is organised around nongkrong, the Indonesian term for getting together and hanging out. ruruHaus stands for the opening of a place and the sharing of resources.

Myvillages advocates for a new understanding of the rural as a place of and for cultural production. In 2020 Kathrin Böhm and Wapke Feenstra set The Rural School of Economics, which is trans-local, multi-lingual and pan-formal. It is an extension of Myvillages' ongoing work to acknowledge and share rural knowledge in collaboration.

Upländer Bauernmolkerei is the only organic dairy in Hesse, founded as an agricultural cooperative in 1889 and is today run by approx. 250 dairy farmers. Located in Willingen (Upland), the cooperative has just opened a new production facility at the edge of the village, and together with the dairy facilities in the village and the Milk Museum the cooperative provides a strong and resilient business and cultural space.

Frauentreff Brückenhof in Kassel was founded in 1985 by women for women to provide educational and social opportunities for women of all ages in the neighbourhood. The aim is to enable conditions for mutuality, to learn, explore and experiment together and across individual and collective cultural histories.

Amira El Ahl is a Kassel born and based journalist and moderator with a focus on society, politics, culture and art. Amira's journalistic work includes foreign correspondence for Der Spiegel in Kairo, and regional correspondent at Hessische Allgemeine in Kassel.

Olga Shparaga philosopher, till 2021 she taught philosophy at the European College of Liberal Arts in Belarus (ECLAB). She is a member of the feminist group in the Coordination Council. She is currently a fellow at Berlin's Wissenschaftskolleg. Her latest book, "The Face of the Revolution is Female", was published in German by Suhrkamp in 2021.

Alina Dzeravianka is a cultural manager and activist based in Brest, Belarus. She was a project director at Brest Fortress Development Foundation (2013-2021) closed by the authorities in December 2021. She currently lectures at the Cultural Heritage Development of European Humanities University and works with Konstepidemin (Gothenburg, Sweden) and Prastora KH (Brest, Belarus).

Oksana Zaporozhets is a visiting researcher in the CoMoDe project team at the Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, IfL). She used to work as an Associate Professor and the Head of the Laboratory for Urban Sociology at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow. Her major research interests are in the fields of urban transportation, especially everyday life.

Marianna Takou is a researcher and organizer from Athens, Greece. She is currently based in Utrecht, where she works as a producer, organizer and researcher at Casco Art Institute: Working for the Commons. Casco Art Institute envisions more just ways of living together through practicing art and fostering the commons.

Bianca Elzenbaumer creates spaces for making, learning and exchanging both locally and trans-locally, together with her partner Fabio Franz and other members of Brave New Alps. The community academy La Foresta and the Alpine Community Economies Lab are ongoing action research projects in Northern Italy.

Johannes Guttenhöfer has been managing jojo.tv in Kassel since 2003, where national and international film and television productions are made, including television reports, documentaries, EB team services and feature film productions.