



PASS newsletter

Center for Practice-based Art Studies

Dear reader

Here is some news from PASS.

New research strands

We've been working for some time to define the research profile of the center. To do so, we've had to be fully staffed, which we are now, but also to find the right balance between our role and task as a meeting place for basically all practice-based PhD students and practitioners in art studies and as a research-based provider of courses, seminars, and other events. PASS is both a broad network organization and a research center with special interests and capacities. Against this background, we have identified five so-called research strands. These reflect the PASS team's own ongoing research projects and competences, as well as the research strategy guidelines we follow when planning teaching, seminars, collaborations, partnerships and other activities.

The five cross-cutting strands have the following headings:

1. Instituting Otherwise - Working Conditions
2. Remaking Memory
3. Critical Environments
4. Practicing Radical Pedagogies
5. Making Public

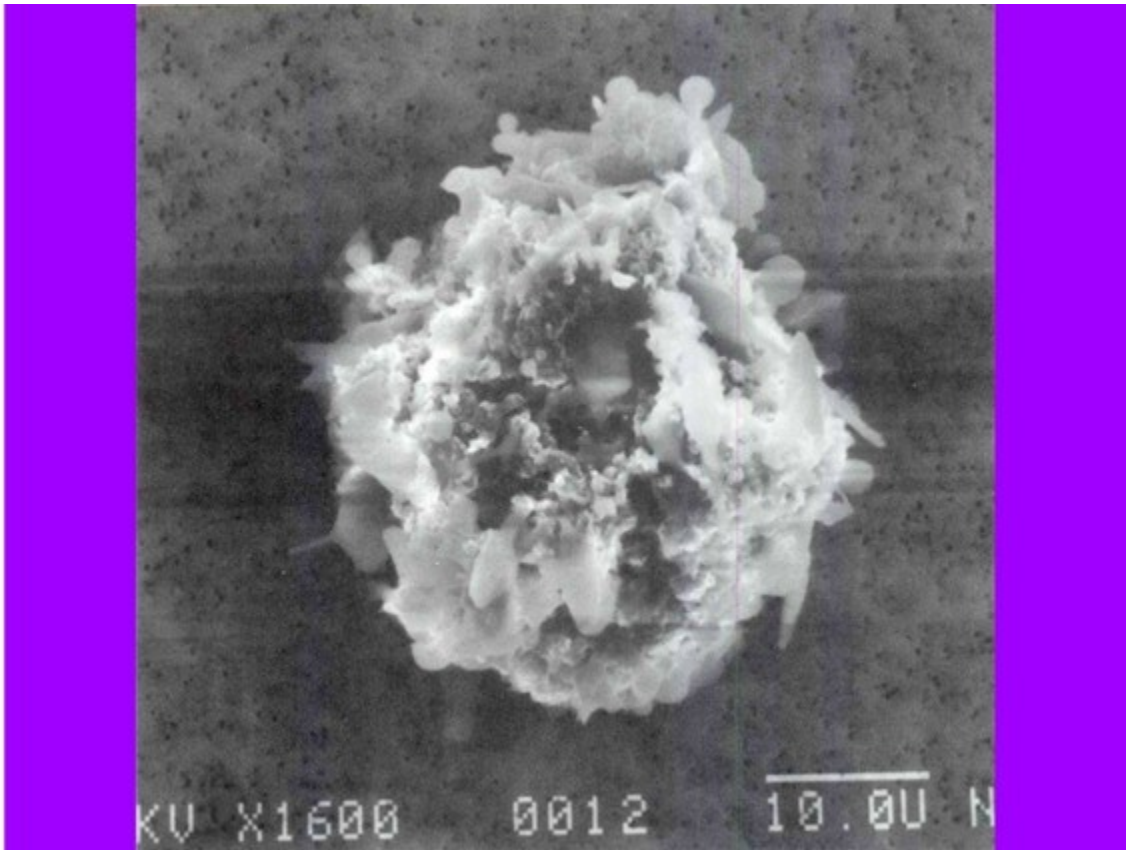
If you want to know more about these five areas, you can find more detailed descriptions on our website. There, you will also find brief descriptions of several of the ongoing projects led by PASS staff.



Extractivism in the North seminar 29 January 2025. Mirko Nikolic: Post-extractivism, climate and environmental justice from the European semi-periphery". Photo: Runa Johannesen.

A seminar on extractivism

The one-day seminar [Extractivism in the North](#), which took place at the end of January and attracted around 70 participants, was for us the perfect knowledge-sharing event. Firstly, the issue of extractivism – resource extraction as both historical and current capitalist practice and ideology – is very close to our hearts. We have held both workshops and reading groups where consequences of extractivist logics have been thoroughly discussed, and this is in line with the Critical Environments research strand. Secondly, we were happy with the way it came about. PhD student Ida Bencke asked us on behalf of a group of colleagues if PASS would co-organize a seminar day where research results, practices, and methods in this area of inquiry could be shared and discussed. The initiator (and eventually presenters) was the newly established working collective ARNEN consisting of visual artist Nanna Elvin Hansen, visual artist Honey Bibi Beckerlee, and architect Runa Johannesen (PI). For PASS, such collaboration is a gift. We liked the fact that the day's presentations covered many different methods. Some presenters spoke from an artistic practice, others from academic research, and some from a mix of both. There was no distinction between lecture/paper presentations and performances. All presentations used whatever methods were relevant and had been an integral part of investigating the topic. All these presentations together perfectly illustrate what we at PASS call "epistemic equity," a radical juxtaposition of different forms of knowledge and practice.



Anne Haaning, Stardust Echoes in the Glow of Code, 2025. Courtesy the artist.

Anne Haaning at Heirloom

We are also pleased to have played our small part in a recently opened exhibition by visual artist and postdoc researcher [Anne Haaning](#) at Heirloom - Centre for Art and Archives. Anne gave a presentation of her work in Greenland at the Extractivism seminar. The exhibition at Heirloom, called TRACER OBJECT, is different. It is about stardust and making things visible that the human eye cannot see, based on research conducted in connection with her postdoctoral fellowship at Goldsmiths. The exhibition can be seen until 31 May.

Future Ancestry. Copenhagen-Berlin 28.4-30.4 & 16.6-18.6 2025

As part of our Spring 2025 program, we are organizing a two-part seminar together with Junge Akademie (Akademie der Künste, Berlin) and Berlin-based curator and author Solvej Helweg Ovesen under the title *Future Ancestry*. The seminar is for artists, curators, museum professionals, academics, and PhD students. They will explore how storytelling, hybrid identities, interdisciplinary research, and art can engage with and reformulate the past to address important questions of our time. They will draft and shape ideas of alternative futures over a total of five days, three days in Copenhagen and two days in Berlin. How can we shape the future by re-imagining the past? How can artists, curators, scientists, and even AI help each other share these stories with the public?

We will look at artworks and artistic practices by Eli Cortinas, Josefa Ntjam, Yael Bartana, Justin Kennedy, Kristy Nataraja, Ersan Mondtag, Jacob Kudsk Steensen, Melanie Bonajo, Clara Sika Helbro, Lawrence Lek, Mykola Ridnyi, and Mikey Woodbridge some of whom will be speakers at the seminar. We will look at theories, concepts, and perspectives that can help us understand important new approaches and practices in contemporary art. Read more soon on our website under the study programme. There are a few places available, including all course, travel, and accommodation costs. To apply, send an email to pass@hum.ku.dk by April 1st. In your email, please include a few lines about yourself and your motivation for applying.

Study trip to the Netherlands 22.4 – 26.4 2025

Every year, PASS organizes a study trip related to themes that interest us. Last year we were in Vilnius, Lithuania, and this year we are traveling to the Netherlands. We have reserved a number of places for PhD students and postdocs, but we also have places for others in the field of art studies, such as independent curators, visual artists, and museum professionals. PASS will cover your travel expenses. This year's theme is 'Decolonizing Histories in Theory and Practice: Institutions as Sites for Reimagining Pasts and Futures'. We will visit four cities: Amsterdam, Utrecht, Rotterdam, and Leiden. Through a mix of activities, including museum visits, focused collection studies, discussions with interesting colleagues, city walks, and other activities, we will learn more about ongoing processes in decolonizing practices, such as radical museology, pedagogy, and historiography. If you are interested in participating, please send a short application to pass@hum.ku.dk.



Extractivism in the North seminar 29 January 2025. Honey Biba Beckerlee: Digital Matters. Photo by PASS.

PASS is open to more people

People often ask if they need to have a PhD stipend, a scholarship, or be affiliated with a research institution or a museum to participate in our program. The answer is no. Most of our activities are open to anyone working in the field, regardless of whether they have research funding or employment. If you find an activity on our program page that you're interested in, send us an email. Because of GDPR rules, we cannot send invitations without asking for permission to do so. If you want to receive invitations to certain events, like study trips or writing workshops, please send us an email and tell us you want to be on the mailing list.

Wishing you a great Spring!

Mikkel Bogh

Head of Centre for Practice-based Art Studies (PASS)