

Toner

KUNSTVEREIN VIA 113

Begleitbrief

www.via113.de kleine Venedig 1a 31134 Hildesheim 05121/981991

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2002

ÜRLARDANNS N°1 - DANCEFLOOR N°1 Island of Skye – I C A I

....In a deep, dark lake, not fare from Haerot, there lived a dangerous creature with the name Grendl....

That's the essence of my schooltime.
I had to learn it by heart, to memorize it. I did it.
Normaly I am quite glad to memorize my own name but in this case we had a teacher who wasn't very funny and he threatened with punishment if we wouldn't be able to recite it.

Perhaps once upon a time I wasn't as bad as today to remember parts of texts but after this kind of education I always have in my head that memorizing has something to do with forgetting, with bad marks, with shame and punishments, so I decided to avoid this ability.

This is not absolutely true, but it's an attempt of explantaion.

Original I wanted to start with *William the Conqueror* but I didn't remember the story, only the *battle of Hastings 1066* – the same teacher, the same problem.

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15 more or less young *artists* of 5 countries (Portugal, Czech, Germany, French and Scotland) were invited to travel to the Island of Skye.

They should built up a work in connection to the environment, more or less the matter of way: side –specific.

The headline was: *Land, Sea, Skye* subtitled by *Landart*.
Of course it's difficult to use words like *landart* today, after *Mariaslongssmithonsheizersfultonstremlettsanddibbets*.
Of course we can start now a criticism about contemporary names, titles and projects but we don't want to.

It was a very beautiful project in a very special region of Europe. A little bit wet, sure, but for every little sundrop you are quite happy, you jumped in the sky and tried to get established when you landed on the slippery ground.

Of course only a few works were good artworks but that's like everywhere. The majority is fortunatly boring and not worth the trouble to care for it but on the other hand in such projects there are a lof of other parts to discover.

First the different people, coming of dfferent countries, with very different attitudes, tastes, behaviours, scents, movements, emotions, languages. It's wonderful and vey instructive.

Than the country itself. You are not there as an ordinary tourist, you want to come closer to this unknown place of your little world. You offer a kind of barter transaction, a trade.

You know that you are only one little human beeing who is nothing against this old and serious landscape, but on the other side you enjoy the game of a conqueror. You discover



this area, this undeveloped wideness of countryside.
You alone, with rubber boots and mobile phone, with hot water in the rucksack and screaming sheeps on your side, with peanutbutter sandwiches in you, and sky-jet-lines over you.
Alone with the other 20 000 people on the 1735 km² large island....

As far as we have written in the last letter, you know about our new institut **I C A I – Skye**, a multipurpose exhibition hall, accomodating research, academic pursuits and the synthesis of Science with Art.

We founded it in this project period.

One reason was, that we need an instruction, an order, an own frame with the obsession of valueing our products..

One of the first products we built up is the **DANCEFLOOR N° 1** or in Schottisch-Gällisch: **ÜRLARDANNS N°1**.

For this highflexible, multipurpose and inexpensive *free port* we use a scottisch euro-palete and painted it in the very white of **I C A I**.

This white doesn't existe in the Scottish Highlands.

Besides we put a little radio with two rechargeable batteries.

The idea is to built up 25 000 of this dancefloors in the future and to distribute the white *free-ports* on the Island, on Europe.

In this way everybody has the opportunity to make a break in his ordinary for a little dance and it's no matter if he is going for work, going conquering or going for taking a rest.

The **DANCEFLOOR N° 1 – 25 000** are also good for taking on lease. You can put it in you garden, you can give as a present to people who like to dance or you can give it to people who don't like to dance.

The highflexible **DANCEFLOOR N° 1- 25 000** are more then a indefinite challenge, they are the possibility to look for another way of life, another kind of movement, simple: An alternative.

If you are interested in, please sent a letter with your questions, with your order to:

I C A I – Skye

International Contemporary
Art Institute – Skye/Scotland

An Tuireann, Struan Road, Portree,
Isle of Skye IV 51 9 EG
0049/(0)1773106013

At the end we want to say thank you to all the helpers, accomplices and special thanks to the Edinburgher Sculpture Workshop. Thank you for the nice weeks, the very good experiences, the funny raindrops.