

BUNDESKUNSTHALLE



Press kit

SAVE LAND

United for Land

6 December 2024 – 1 June 2025

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Exhibition Information

Duration	6 December 2024 – 1 June 2025
Press officer	Sven Bergmann
Curators	Henriette Pleiger (Bundeskunsthalle), Tony Simons (CIFOR-ICRAF, Senior Fellow UNCCD-G20 Global Land Initiative), Wagaki Wischnewski (UNCCD-G20 Global Land Initiative)
Combined ticket for all exhibitions	13 €/reduced 6,50 € All visitors up to and including 18 years of age have free admission
Climate Ticket	In the Bundeskunsthalle app, visitors receive a 10% discount on the ticket price as an incentive to travel in a climate-friendly way http://app.bundeskunsthalle.de
Exhibition website	http://saveland.art/en

Cooperation partner



Media partner



Cultural partner



#SaveLand
#United4Land
#LandisLife
#GenerationRestoration



General Information

Director	Eva Kraus
Managing Director	Oliver Hölken
Opening Hours	Tuesday 10 am to 7 pm Wednesday 10 am to 9 pm Thursday to Sunday 10 am to 7 pm Public holidays 10 am to 7 pm Christmas: Tue, 24 Dec, closed Wed, 25 Dec, & Thu, 26 Dec, 10 am to 6 pm New Year's Eve/New Year's Day: Tue, 31 Dec, 10 am to 3 pm Wed, 1 Jan, 10 am to 6 pm
Opening Hours from 1 Jan 2025	Tuesday 10 am to 6 pm Wednesday 10 am to 9 pm Thursday to Sunday 10 am to 6 pm Public holidays 10 am to 6 pm
Public Transport	Underground lines 16, 63, 66 and bus lines 610, 611 and 630 to Heussallee / Museumsmeile Deutsche Bahn / UN-Campus: Lines RE 5 (Rhein-Express), RB 26 (MittelrheinBahn), RB 30 (Rhein-Ahr-Bahn) and RB 48 (Rhein-Wupper-Bahn)
Parking	There is a car and coach park on Emil-Nolde-Straße behind the Bundeskunsthalle. Navigation: Emil-Nolde-Straße 11, 53113 Bonn
Press Information (German / English)	www.bundeskunsthalle.de For press files follow 'press'.
General Information (German / English)	T +49 228 9171-200 www.bundeskunsthalle.de

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Media Information

SAVE LAND

United for Land

6 December 2024 – 1 June 2025

As part of its interdisciplinary exhibition series on scientific and socially relevant topics, the Bundeskunsthalle is conceiving an exhibition on the question of the ecological restoration of land. This is being done in close cooperation with the UNCCD (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification), which has launched an initiative to restore one billion hectares of land worldwide by 2030. The exhibition uses the perspectives of art and science to raise public awareness of this urgent issue. The exhibition will take place at the end of 2024 to mark the 30th anniversary of the UNCCD.

Land is a crucial foundation for life on this planet. Soil is the life-supporting link between the Earth's climate and biological diversity and provides a variety of different ecosystems that need to be restored and preserved. However, as an agricultural and industrial base, land is at risk of devastating overuse, with half of humanity already affected by the negative impacts of land degradation. Land, in all its meanings for our lives, must be put back at the centre of our trade in order to curb the economic and social overexploitation of land resources.

In order to raise public awareness of this important issue, the exhibition uses the latest media technology and combines exhibits from art, cultural history and natural science in order to understand the ecological problems and potentials of the human-influenced environments: (1) the city, where 57% of all people live, (2) the land areas used by industry and agriculture, and (3) the world-wide areas of still almost untouched nature, which are of central importance especially for the world climate. The exhibition not only enables a rational understanding of the importance of land for all of our lives, but also an immersive experience of the different habitats. Accompanied by an augmented reality guide, visitors can tangibly experience and explore the topic of "land" in a panorama cinema and various interactively designed environments. Far from a dark vision of the future, the exhibition aims to focus on a positive narrative that inspires action for the common cause: Let us unite locally as well as globally to save land and thus lives of all kinds!

An exhibition by the Bundeskunsthalle and the UNCCD-G20 Global Land Initiative to mark the 30th anniversary of the UNCCD



Interactive globe „Land Global“, 2024 © dform/Bildwerk



Exhibition texts

INTRODUCTION

Only 29 percent of Earth's surface is not covered by water. This is our habitat: the land areas of our planet. Our soils take up to hundreds of years to form. But one extreme event is enough to destroy them in a matter of minutes. Up to 40 percent of the world's soils are already considered degraded, particularly due to human overexploitation. Preserving our soils is of the utmost urgency not only for ourselves, but also for biodiversity and the global climate. Land is a treasure of existential value that must be protected.

This exhibition combines important positions in contemporary art with exhibits from cultural history and the natural sciences and uses the latest media technologies to understand the global situation of land. What is the state of soils in cities and on rural land used for agriculture and industry? And is there any nature left in the world untouched by humans? What can we do to protect land? The exhibition aims to inspire action for the common good.

30 Years of UNCCD

For 30 years, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) has brought nations together to protect and restore land. Every year, the world loses 100 million hectares of productive land – an area nearly three times the size of Germany – threatening the livelihoods of more than 3 billion people.

This exhibition not only marks a milestone in the global effort, but also serves as an urgent invitation to individuals and communities to join us in securing healthy, productive land for future generations.

The G20 Global Land Initiative

Land is the foundation of human existence. This exhibition celebrates the connection between land and life. It joins the voices of art, culture and science to spark awareness and action to reduce degraded land.

Co-sponsored by the G20 Global Land Initiative (GLI) at UNCCD and Bundeskunsthalle, the exhibition calls on us to save land and shows us how to halt and reverse land degradation. The G20 Global Land Initiative was established in 2020 by the Group of Twenty (G20) which now also includes the African Union. Under the supervision of the UNCCD, the aim is to reduce degraded land by 50 percent by 2040. Be the changemaker. Pledge and take action before you exit the exhibition!



LAND IS LIFE

What does the word 'land' mean? Land is the ground that is not covered by water. Land is the platform that connects all living and non-living things on planet Earth. But land also has other meanings: Land is property, land is culture, land is a feeling – we are bound to the ground by gravity. Land appears in all imaginable forms and can be of enchanting or terrifying beauty.

Without fertile soils, the existence of humanity and countless other living beings is threatened. Worldwide, two out of five people are affected by degraded land. This is accompanied by natural disasters, food and water insecurity as well as social and economic instability.

To better understand land in its complex significance for our lives and to achieve a faster restoration of degraded soils worldwide, we need to consider different perspectives. We need knowledge from the natural sciences as well as from cultural history, sociology and political economy. And above all, we need Indigenous, local knowledge to protect our soils. We do not yet have a "planet B" in sight.

The Natural Cycles of the Earth

Land is the thin skin of our planet. It is an indispensable player in the cycle of nature. All spheres overlap in the soil. The lithosphere provides rocks and minerals. Water comes from the hydrosphere and the atmosphere brings air. But this mixture needs another player to come to life: the biosphere with all the inhabitants of the soil – from bacteria to mammals. Almost like flour, salt and water only become bread dough when yeast activates them.

Soil stores and purifies water. It recycles nutrients such as nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus. It binds enormous amounts of carbon, which is crucial for the global climate. Its biodiversity is unimaginably diverse. And last but not least, soil allows plants to grow, without which we could not survive. More than 90 percent of the world's food production depends on land.

What is healthy soil?

Even the smallest crumb of soil is a world of its own. One gram of soil can contain an estimated one billion microbes. The soil forms its own complex ecosystem that enables our life and that of countless other living beings.

According to a study from 2023, soil as a habitat could contain up to 59 percent of the world's total biodiversity. With 430 million species, it also contains half of all bacteria and, with 5.6 million species, up to 90 percent of fungi.

These countless inhabitants of the soil ecosystem help to produce our food, recycle organic material and could even provide new medical agents such as antibiotics. Soil is also the largest carbon store in the world. However, all of this only works if the diverse life in the soil is preserved. Only the continuation of an ecological balance keeps the soil together and prevents it from being exposed to erosion.



Key Terms for the Protection of Natural Habitats

Biological diversity encompasses the diversity of ecosystems (communities, habitats, and landscapes), species diversity and genetic diversity within species.

UNESCO biosphere reserves serve the large-scale protection of natural and cultural landscapes. Biosphere reserves are also used to test nature-friendly ways of living and farming.

National parks are protected areas in which nature is allowed to unfold largely undisturbed and remain as pristine as possible.

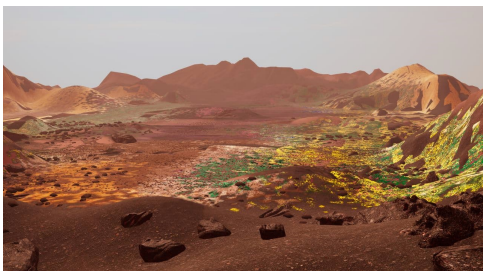
UNESCO World Heritage Sites are testimonies to past cultures, material traces of encounters and exchanges, artistic masterpieces, and unique natural landscapes. What they have in common is their extraordinary universal value.

The Diversity of Landscapes

People live on different types of land. The natural sciences divide land into biomes, ecosystems and habitats, but these terms are not uniformly defined in different disciplines such as geology or biology. The term biome is used to describe extensive areas of the Earth's surface that can be differentiated from one another by the plants, animals, other organisms and inanimate components that occur within them. However, there is no universal standard for defining the criteria for biomes, so the number of biomes in different models of the Earth varies.

The panoramic cinema in this exhibition celebrates five broadly defined landscapes that differ in terms of their flora, fauna and climatic conditions:

- Forests
- Grassland
- Deserts
- Wetlands
- Polar regions



Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg, *The Wilding of Mars*, 2019
© Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg Ltd., courtesy the artist



Jan Hostettler, *Feet, Over 3000 km on a Walk, Winter, Spring, and Summer*, 2016/2017;
Photo Jan Hostettler



CITIES – THE MATERIAL WORLD

Today, the world's population is 8.1 billion and it is still growing. More than half of all people live on just 2 percent of Earth's land surface: in cities. By 2050, more than two thirds of us will live in cities.

As ecosystems, cities are characterised by heavy building development, sealed soils, dense traffic and high levels of human disturbance of nature. Cities consume immense amounts of energy and raw materials. Their constant growth leads to increasing consumption, but also to an increasing waste of resources. The complex supply systems of large cities are accompanied by gigantic amounts of waste and pollution. Sealed soils lose their ability to bind carbon, regulate water availability and serve as a healthy habitat for a variety of organisms.

Cities are places where not only many people come together, but also the great challenges of our time: climate protection, adaptation to climate change, maintaining and creating healthy living conditions, social justice and the loss of biodiversity.

What can we do? Cities need a green infrastructure that simultaneously contributes to human well-being and biodiversity.

Land Sealing in Cities

Open spaces, fields, meadows and forests are being built over every day for the continuing growth of cities and settlements as well as for transport areas. In Germany, this currently amounts to 52 hectares per day – areas on which important natural services can no longer be provided for us humans. Under concreted and asphalted surfaces, groundwater and drinking water cannot be recharged, surface water runs off more quickly and intensifies heavy rainfall and flooding. Concreted and asphalted surfaces become very hot and put a strain on health. The loss of green spaces means that people lose recreational areas. And last but not least, the habitats of animals and plants are also lost as a result.

According to studies by the World Biodiversity Council, the expansion of urban areas and the associated changes in land use are considered to be one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss worldwide. This is another reason why the development of climate adaptation strategies for cities is focussing on green and open spaces and the increased planting of trees.

The Metabolism of Cities – Overconsumption and Waste

In addition to a functioning supply system, a city's metabolism also includes regulated waste disposal. However, waste is not only to be disposed of, but also represents a local resource.

Cities are organisms that are kept alive by their environment. Every year in Germany, 6 tons of energy sources are used per person, 6 tons of minerals are used for construction, 3 tons of food are consumed, 9 tons of greenhouse gases are emitted, 2.8 tons of construction waste are landfilled and 0.6 tons of municipal waste are disposed of. The extraction of raw materials and the deposition of waste materials take place outside the cities. The same applies to water supply and wastewater disposal. If their metabolism were cut off from the surrounding countryside, cities would perish in a very short time. The city of the future will also be interwoven with its regional and global environment through material flows.



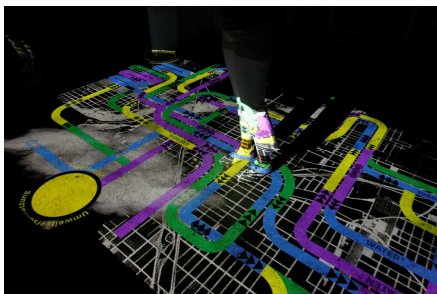
On the one hand, cities would have to greatly reduce their consumption of resources and waste materials and, on the other hand, give nature more space to regenerate itself for the benefit of us all.

How can we make life in cities more ecological?

Even simple measures such as reducing waste, recycling to prevent pollution, using public transport, planting shady trees and creating green spaces and green roofs can have a huge positive impact.

However, it is also important to relieve the burden on the surrounding areas of cities. Cities are not self-sufficient and are largely dependent on areas outside for food, energy, water, labour and materials. Appropriate measures include using water more consciously and sparingly, choosing environmentally friendly building materials, switching to renewable energy, sourcing food locally and supporting the development of a circular bioeconomy.

Perhaps most importantly, however, is the realization that everyone can play a part in restoring land and preventing land degradation – even in our cities. We can all take a more conscious approach to our soils. We can set ourselves goals, personally, in our households and in our communities, and stand up for them.



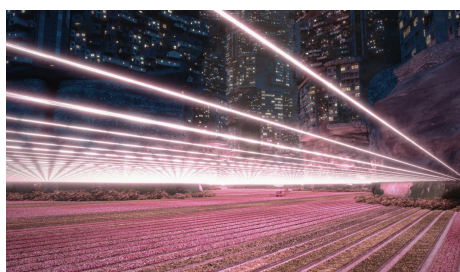
Interactive floor projection "Cities – The Material World", 2024 © dform/Bildwerk, Vienna



Agnes Denes, Wheat field – A Confrontation, 1980er-Jahre, video © Agnes Denes, Courtesy Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects



Klaus Staeck, Roaring Stag in Front of Industrial Chimneys, 1975 © VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2024; Axel Thünker, Haus der Geschichte Foundation



Liam Young, Planet City, 2021 © Directing and design: Liam Young with VFX Supervisor Alexey Marfin



RURAL LAND – THE BIG HARVEST

Humans have been farming and rearing livestock for thousands of years, but since the 1960s, the way we treat the land and the animals in our care has changed radically. Today, immense areas of land are required for the mass cultivation of food. More than half of this land is used for feed production in livestock farming and only 39 percent for the cultivation of plant-based foods that we eat ourselves. However, animal products provide only 18 percent and plant products an impressive 82 percent of the calories consumed worldwide.

Modern agriculture with its monocultures and use of chemicals means that we are using up the soil. Globally, food production is responsible for 80 percent of deforestation, 70 percent of freshwater consumption and 29 percent of greenhouse gas emissions. It is the main cause of biodiversity loss. Added to this is land degradation due to mining.

What can we do? Agricultural production must no longer be measured solely in terms of yield per hectare, but must include the following values: nutritional value as well as the costs and benefits for the environment and society.

Strategies for Sustainable Agriculture

In the face of a steadily growing world population, producing more and more calories has long been the main goal of agricultural production. Hunger still exists where people have no access to food due to poverty or local conflict, but the total amount of food energy produced by the world's farming industry is easily sufficient to feed everyone on the planet.


However, this efficient form of agriculture comes at a price. The excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides causes problems for human health and the environment. Intensive agricultural practices have led to land degradation worldwide, with large areas experiencing yield losses due to top soil erosion, salinization and other problems. A more sustainable agricultural system must not only be environmentally sound, but also economically and socially viable for all involved.

A regenerative form of agriculture focuses on restoring soil health. This often involves strategically integrating trees into the landscape in a way that is particularly effective at controlling erosion and regulating water flows.

Global Livestock Farming

Global meat production has more than quadrupled in the last 50 years. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) expects meat production to increase to 455 million tons by 2050. The FAO also forecasts further growth in global milk production, based on the current annual production of 950 million tons.

Farm animals are animals that are only in the world because we humans have an interest in using them. Modern livestock are specifically bred high-performance animals that must be fed according to their enormous genetic potential. Whereas in the past animals were mostly fed with by-products of human nutrition, today cattle, pigs and poultry are fed an optimized feed mix of high-quality cereals and legumes, complemented with nutrient supplements. Farm animals therefore mainly eat arable crops that could also be used directly for human consumption.



Due to land degradation, which is also a consequence of livestock farming, there are increasing calls for a rethink. This includes moving away from intensive livestock farming, high-emission processing and transportation systems as well as wasteful, meat-intensive food systems. On the production side, instead of the current intensive agriculture, a management of land resources should be promoted that brings benefits for society, the environment and the economy.

The Culture of Maize

The Peruvian artist Ximena Garrido-Lecca, living in Mexico City, writes about her artwork *Inflorescence – Seedings*:

Corn is one of the most important crops in the current global economy. It's used to produce more than 4,000 industrial products, such as pills, cosmetics, adhesives, oil, flour, fructose sweetener, chewing gum, and ethanol.

Historically, corn held a central position in pre-Columbian mythology and was a significant source of nourishment, enabling the birth of civilization in the Americas. Considered the origin of humanity by the Maya and Aztecs, its cultivation has shaped all aspects of life, from social environments to the notion of time.

In many agricultural civilizations in the Americas and Europe, threshing floors were sacred spaces used as platforms for ceremonies and rituals and were thus central to the community. Before industrialization, threshing was mainly related to communal work and involved harvesting rituals and festivals that united a community. Corn threshing by hand is still practiced in many rural areas in the Americas, where different corn drinks have been used in ceremonies since ancestral times in Peru and Mexico.

The installation *Inflorescence – Seedings* recreates a threshing floor, aiming to restore ancient forms of communication between humans and nature. It exposes ancient mythologies and knowledge, emphasizing the origins of corn, the crop's multilayered meanings, and its current exploitation by capitalism. This exploitation, particularly in the form of genetically modified maize, has a significant negative impact on the environment, public health, and Indigenous agricultural communities, sparking concerns and urgent discussions.

Sustainable Mining of Resources

The major periods of human history (stone age, bronze age, iron age and modern age) indicate our reliance on mining. The extractive sector includes:

- rock (marble, limestone, sand)
- energy (coal, oil, gas)
- gemstones (diamond, sapphire)
- metals (phosphorus, iron, aluminium)

Currently, there are ca. 60,000 mines covering ca. 10 million hectares on our planet. Over 40 million artisanal miners produce ca. 20 percent of global mining output often in dangerous and unhealthy circumstances. Mining is far from being benign or sustainable and we have non-mined alternatives for energy resources.



We cannot do without mines, but we can be more sustainable. We can:

- be more efficient and collaborative in the extraction and use of minerals.
- require better worker protection and environmental standards.
- avoid mining in protected areas and fragile habitats.
- insist on landscape restoration after mining.
- better recycle and repurpose already mined resources.



Interactive floor projection "Rural Areas – The Big Harvest", 2024 © dform/Bildwerk, Vienna



Julian Charrière, Pure Waste, 2022 © VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2024; Film still: Julian Charrière



Bertel Thorvaldsen, Summer – Relief cycle: The Four Seasons, 1986 © Landesmuseum Württemberg, Hendrik Zwietasch



Vessel in the form of a cornucopia, Moche, 450–750, Historical archive of Cologne with Rhenish Image Archive



Ximena Garrido-Lecca, Inflorance – Seedings, 2002–2024 © Ximena Garrido-Lecca, Courtesy Galerie Gisela Capitaine, Cologne

NATURAL HABITATS – NATURE'S CORE

Only 23 percent of the planet's habitable surface can still be categorised as nearly untouched nature. Most of this land is located in just 5 countries: Canada, Alaska, Brazil, Botswana and Australia. We know little about these areas and tend to romanticise or forget them. In any case, we do not attach sufficient value to them.

The loss of biodiversity has been progressing dramatically worldwide for many years. Nature is becoming increasingly depleted. Permanently unused areas in which ecosystems can develop naturally without direct human influence have become rare worldwide. This also jeopardises and destroys our own livelihoods.

What can we do? One of the most effective measures to halt climate change and biodiversity loss is to stop deforestation. This is because forests make a significant contribution to carbon storage and provide a protected space for countless living beings.



The Allegedly Unknown “Wilderness” – Indigenous Perspectives

All the knowledge and experience needed to protect tropical forests lies with Indigenous peoples and local communities, who are often the best stewards of their forests. Indigenous territories – whether legally recognised or not – comprise 80 percent of the world’s biodiversity and contain almost a fifth of the carbon captured in forests worldwide. Their traditional knowledge and practices offer invaluable insights into sustainable forest management. Satellite data shows that the healthiest forests in the world are those that are legally managed by Indigenous peoples.

Apart from the fact that Indigenous peoples’ land rights are not respected or are denied to them, less than 1 percent of climate and biodiversity funds go directly to them. Indigenous peoples and local communities have not yet been compensated and receive no funding for their important conservation work.

Re-evaluating Natural Habitats

Gross domestic product (GDP) is a measure of production and income and is expected to reach USD 110 trillion globally in 2024.

GDP is broken into 3 sectors, but averages mask a wide range at country level. Over 80 percent of all GDP comes from urban areas.

- Services make up 64 percent of the global average.
- Industry makes up 30 percent of the global average.
- Agriculture makes up 6 percent of the global average.

The main problem with GDP is the failure to recognise Environmental Goods and Services (EGS) such as clean water, carbon storage, biodiversity, and pollination that come largely from natural habitats. Economists estimate the global value of EGS to be between USD 16-54 trillion but these are currently neither traded nor recognised as economic values.

There can be no transition to a green economy unless we include EGS in country balance sheets. Perhaps this can show the real difference between “standard of living” and “quality of life” at the levels of individuals, countries and humanity as a whole.

Forest Stewardship

Forests have been covering land on Earth for over 300 million years. For only 0.05 percent of that time, humans have played a role in their stewardship albeit in a largely destructive way. Forests once covered 50-60 percent of the Earth and they helped reducing the atmospheric CO₂ levels and average temperatures.

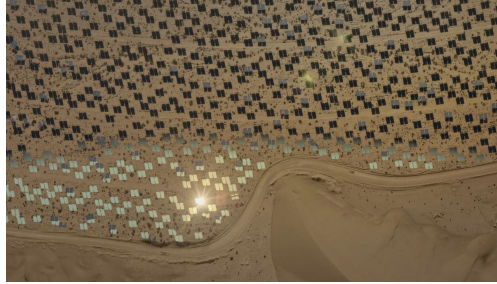
We have cleared more forest in the last 100 years than in the previous 10,000 years. We now have 31 percent forest cover, and the key question is how low can we go? Apart from the immense diversity of life in our forests, 1.4 billion people depend on forests for their livelihoods.

Sustainable forest stewardship must achieve:

- Conserving and restoring forests as most important natural capital
- Redesign of agriculture policies and subsidies to prevent forest conversion
- Empowerment of local communities and disadvantaged groups in forest management
- Better recognition, valuation and rewarding of the global public goods and services from forests



Interactive floor projection "Natural Living Spaces – The Heart of Nature", 2024, © dform/ Bildwerk, Vienna



Liam Young, The Great Endeavor, 2023, video still
© Directing and design: Liam Young with VFX supervisor Alexey Marfin



Julius von Bismarck, I like the flowers, 2023
© Julius von Bismarck; VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2024, Courtesy: the artist and Sies + Höke, Düsseldorf, Photo: Roman März



Grace Ndiritu, Natural Disasters: No. 3 Tremor, 2007, video, music: Michael Nyman © Courtesy of Grace Ndiritu and LUX, London

TAKE ACTION

For land restoration to succeed worldwide, governments, companies, and individuals must work together to stop the negative trend. Healthier soils bring many benefits, such as local food, sufficient clean water, a more stable economy and more secure livelihoods.

But what does "take action" mean? How should we engage in the restoration of degraded land and make our lives more land-friendly? There are several step-by-step approaches:

- Raise your awareness of the issue and inform yourself.
- Talk to others about the issue and share your experiences.
- Stand up for the issue, for example, by taking part in campaigns.
- Change your behaviour and attitudes in everyday life.
- Become active in the restoration of degraded land.

In this room we present several projects and stories. They include ideas that we can all implement as first steps, but also inspirations on what a more land-friendly life could look like in the future.



Food and Land

We can restore more than half of all degraded land with sustainable agriculture. The power to do so lies not just with politicians, manufacturers and farmers, but rather with all of us, individually and collectively, with:

- every meal
- every food purchase
- every crop choice
- every balanced diet.

Look beyond food as the ingredients alone. Food has social equity, processing, packaging, transport and wastage dimensions in it. For humanity, food is not just a necessity and a pleasure – it is a basic human right along with its heritage values.

The projects presented in this room of the exhibition are intended to suggest first steps and trailblazing inspirations for a more land-friendly life.

Well-being – Tourism and Land

Nature keeps us physically alive, but we also need its beauty for our mental health. We like to enjoy this when we travel.

Tourism can be extremely beneficial for both the provider and the tourist. It accounts for 10 percent of global GDP and 10 percent of jobs worldwide. Experiencing new places and new cultures brings greater knowledge and appreciation of human and natural diversity. But it also accounts for 10 percent of carbon emissions, and over-tourism can cause huge global and local land degradation problems.

Sustainable tourism could look like this:

- Be informed about destination options, and choose intentionally to be more sustainable.
- Don't over-consume food, water, and local services.
- Say no to plastic and avoid waste.
- Use public transport.
- Use local businesses.

The projects presented in this room of the exhibition are intended to suggest first steps and trailblazing inspirations for a more land-friendly life.

Fashion and Land

Fashion is a creative and innovative means of expression, but the clothing industry also has a major impact on soils and the environment. Every year, 100 billion new garments are produced, 87 percent of which end up in landfills. The fashion industry causes 10 percent of all carbon emissions, for example, through long transportation routes. A total of 6,500 different chemicals are used in textile finishing, including heavy metals such as copper, arsenic and cadmium. In addition, the water consumption in the manufacturing processes is immense.

Slow fashion refers to a change in consumption in which the actual value of an item of clothing is recognized and attention is paid to socially and ecologically compatible production. Slow fashion also means reducing general consumption and thus showing more appreciation for individual items of clothing. Repairing and reusing are important goals in this context.



The projects presented in this room of the exhibition are intended to suggest first steps and trailblazing inspirations for a more land-friendly life.

Energy and Land

The energy currently produced worldwide comes from a mix of fossil fuels and renewable energies. 80 percent of it comes from fossils (oil, gas and coal). This makes up 75 percent of human carbon emissions. 70 percent of fossil fuels are drilled onshore and thus threatens land and rivers. An energy transition away from fossil fuels and a reduction in global waste would also benefit the land areas.

Globally, everyone on average emits 4.7 tonnes of CO₂ per year (6.7 tonnes in Europe). This needs to drop by 50 percent globally (65 percent in Europe) to 2.3 tonnes by 2030 to keep below 2 °C temperature rise.

Every single person whose CO₂ emissions are above 2.3 tonnes needs to:

- bring their emissions down by using renewables, by a change in lifestyle, and by being more energy conscious (for example, wasting food is also wasting energy) and
- pay compensation for the emissions that cause costs for developing countries and low-lying island states to adapt to climate change.

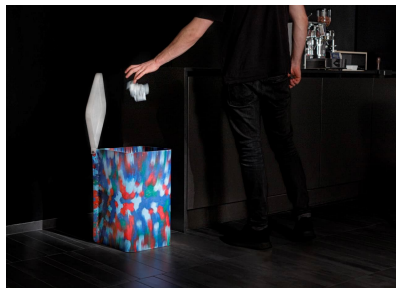
The projects presented in this room of the exhibition are intended to suggest first steps and trailblazing inspirations for a more land-friendly life.



Banner „there is NO PLANET B“, comprehensive school Hürth, 2019 © Haus der Geschichte Foundation, Photo Axel Tünker



Insa Sistig-Heuken, Natura morta, 2016, Photo: Ina Sistig-Heuken



Jonathan Kuhlmann, CapTon: Visual Recycling, 2022; Photo Jonathan Kuhlmann



Manu Washaus, Sweater: Study of the Possible II, 2013; Photo: Manu Washaus

Medienkunstraum

Liam Young

The Great Endeavor

2023

Video, 9:23 minutes

Liam Young with VFX Supervisor Alexey Marfin, Los Angeles



Current climate targets cannot be reached by slashing future emissions alone. The capacity to remove existing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store it underground at gigatonne scales must be developed. The 'great endeavour' to capture all this carbon will involve the construction of the largest engineering project in human history, and the development of a new infrastructure equivalent in size to that of the entire global fossil fuel industry. *The Great Endeavor* approaches this challenge with a radical optimism that captures the design, construction, and drama of what it might look like to build this imaginary infrastructure.



Artists

Julius von Bismarck
Stefanie Bühler
Peter Delius
Cao Fei
Julian Charrière
Agnes Denes
Ximena Garrido-Lecca
Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg
Kiki Grammatopoulos
Nancy Graves
Paulina Heidelberg
Jochen Hiltmann
Jan Hostettler
Candid Huber
Jan Karczewski
Jonathan Kuhlmann
Richard Long
Galo Moncayo
Grace Ndiritu
Claes Oldenburg
Nohemí Pérez
Florian Pucher
Ina Sistik-Heuken
Monika Sosnowska
Klaus Staeck
Bertel Thorvaldsen
Luc Van Hoekel & Pim Van Baarsen
Manu Washaus
Liam Young



Richard Long, Bluestone Circle, 1978 © VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2024;
Collection Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam

Catalogue



The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue.

SAVE Land United for Land

Published by

the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany and
UNCCD-G20 Global Land Initiative

With contributions by

Purabi Bose, Moustapha Cisse, Angela Churie Kallhauge, Eva Finkerbusch,
Kazue Fujiwara, Reinhard Geßl, Jacinta Gure, Brian Harris, Chris Jamie,
Iyenemi Ibimina Kakulu, Eva Kraus, Eike Lüdeling, Florian Mayer, Nachson Mimran,
Peter Minang, Musonda Mumba, Henriette Pleiger, Tony Simons, Ibrahim Thiaw,
Muralee Thummarukudy, Susanne Wedlich, Wagaki Wischnewski

Scope and format

Hardcover, 20 x 25 cm

260 pages, 200 illustrations

In German and English language

Hirmer Verlag, Munich

Price museum edition: 39 Euro

Price bookstore edition: 45 Euro



Educational Programme

GUIDED TOURS

AUDIOGUIDE

German

Free of charge via the Bundeskunsthalle app

Artistic concept and production: Linon Medien

Public guided tours

Tuesdays 4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

Sundays and public holidays 11 a.m. – 12.00 a.m.

3 €/reduced € 1.50, plus admission to the exhibition

Tickets are available at the box office or at bundeskunsthalle.de/tickets.

ArtCard reservation: T +49 228 9171-200

Curator tours

With Henriette Pleiger, curator of the exhibition

Sunday, February 23, 4.30 p.m.

Sunday, April 27, 4.30 p.m.

Sunday, May 25, 4.30 p.m.

60 minutes each

5 €/reduced € 2.50, plus admission to the exhibition

Tickets are available at the box office or at bundeskunsthalle.de/tickets.

Guided tour during the lunch break

Art break

Precious Land

Wednesdays, January 15, February 19, March 19, April 9, May 14, 12:30 – 1 p.m. each day

We offer you an entertaining speed tour during your lunch break to balance out your daily working life.

8 € (guided tour and admission)

Tickets are available at the ticket office or at bundeskunsthalle.de/tickets.

Individually bookable for groups

Information and registration at: buchung@bundeskunsthalle.de

Family tour with Kiwi Cuckoo

Henriette Pleiger, curator

Sonia Hellmann, art educator

Kiwi Cuckoo and Henriette Pleiger take us on a journey, this time into the soil. We walk on it every day and don't even know what secrets it hides.

Who lives there? Is the soil the same everywhere? Let's discover all this together, come along!

Of secrets and wonders

Family tour with the hand puppet Kiwi Cuckoo

Sundays, February 23, April 27, May 25, 3 – 3.30 p.m. each day

3 €/reduced € 1.50, plus admission to the exhibition



Baby-Art-Connection

Guided tours and talks for parents with babies (1–12 months)

From the changing table to the museum

Wednesdays, January 15, February 12, March 12, April 23, May 21,

10:15-11:45 a.m. each day

15 €, incl. visit to the exhibition (one parent and baby)

Registration via buchung@bundeskunsthalle

or in advance at bundeskunsthalle.de/tickets

Exhibition tour for intercultural groups

Meet & Speak

Dialogic tour for people with and without a refugee or migrant background

Intercultural groups can discover the exhibition together, talk to each other and ask questions.

Come along, bring friends and your languages!

Bookable free of charge for intercultural groups

Max. 15 people/group

Written registration required: buchung@bundeskunsthalle.de

Group tours

60 minutes, 70 €

90 minutes, 90 €

60 minutes, guided tour with curator € 180

60 minutes, guided tour with director 250 €

plus admission ticket € 13/reduced € 6.50 per person

Written registration required: buchung@bundeskunsthalle.de

Guided tour for visually impaired and blind people

Save Land. United for Land

Saturday, January 26, March 16, May 25, each 11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Land: origin of everything, habitat, food and economic basis, basis for artistic exploration, breathtaking and frightening...

Since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution around 1850, man has not only shaped the land worldwide, but also depleted it. Yet healthy soil is the life-sustaining link between climate and biodiversity and provides space for a multitude of different ecosystems. These must be restored and preserved if humanity is to survive.

In an exciting interplay of natural sciences, sociology, art and cultural history, the topic is examined from different angles and presented using the latest media technologies.

An exhibition that aims to educate, entertain and inspire.

The experience-oriented, immersive presentation offers a range of interactive elements.

In addition, art educator Uschi Baetz will provide you with detailed descriptions of further exhibits during the tour and integrate them into the thematic context. We look forward to an intensive exchange with you!

3 € tour fee, plus admission to the exhibition

Written registration required: buchung@bundeskunsthalle.de



Guided tour in German sign language

With the deaf art mediator Rainer Miebach

Saturday, March 29, April 26, May 17, each 3–4.30 p.m.

We look forward to an intensive exchange with you!

3 € tour fee, plus admission to the exhibition

Written registration required: buchung@bundeskunsthalle.de

Telephone guidance *When calling culture*

Save Land. United for Land

Thursday, February 6, 5–6 p.m.

With Uschi Baetz

Land is the crucial basis for life on this planet. Since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution around 1850, humans have not only shaped the land worldwide, but also depleted it. Yet healthy soil is the life-sustaining link between climate and biodiversity and provides space for a multitude of different ecosystems that need to be restored and preserved.

The experimentally designed exhibition uses the interdisciplinary perspectives of various natural sciences, as well as art and cultural history, to shed light on the importance of land for our lives and features interactive, immersive and playful elements. An exhibition experience that aims to educate, entertain and inspire.

From home or on the move, you can take part in a guided tour of our exhibition via your (landline) telephone. You will receive an insight into the exhibition concept and detailed descriptions of the works of art.

Bei When calling culture is aimed at people who, for various reasons, cannot visit museums or cannot visually grasp the content of a guided tour. For example, because they are blind or visually impaired. Or they are not mobile or live in a care home. For these interested parties, the communication of culture, art and historical topics is made possible via telephone.

Participation free of charge

Registration is possible up to one day before the tour with Melanie Wölwer (BSVH) at: buchung@beianrufkultur.de or by telephone +49 40 20940429.

The access link will be sent by e-mail the day before the telephone tour.

Further dates and information: www.beianrufkultur.de

When calling culture is a joint initiative of the Hamburg Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (BSVH) and grauwert, the office for inclusion and demographically sound solutions

EVENTS

WEDNESDAY_LATE_ART
SPEED GUIDES_DJ_DRINKS

Save Land. United for Land

11 December, 6–9 p.m.

Your evening full of art, culture and music!

SPEED GUIDES

(German, English, Turkish...)

Save Land. United for Land

Dance Worlds

Mark Dion: Delirious Toys

PARTICIPATORY ACTION/INTERVENTION

Quite sandy

Drawing on sandpaper

With Katharina Jahnke

INTERVENTION

Paper frenzy

LOUNGE & DJ & DRINKS

With DJ Desertification aka @Jounce

13€/6,50€ with ELLAH-Card, including a drink

ELLAH - The annual pass for young art lovers

Tickets are available at the box office or via bundeskunsthalle.de/tickets.

Next date:

WEDNESDAY_LATE_ART

Wednesday, January 22

Tuesday, February 4, 5 p.m.

Land Restoration

Lecture event of the UNCCD-G20 Global Land Initiative

(The program will follow at www.bundeskunsthalle.de/veranstaltungen.)

Tuesday, April 2, 7 p.m.

Enter Science

The Future Talk in cooperation with the DFG - German Research Foundation

Soil and biodiversity

Sunday, May 18, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Our soil!

An action day all about soil

A day all about soil. An offer for all visitors, young and old. Here you can ask questions, get information and tips. The topic is presented in a multifaceted way with hands-on activities, presentations and information.



Lecture

Watch out for dust! Germany's soil is disappearing

Sunday, May 18, 3 p.m.

In Germany, one in four fields is already severely threatened by erosion. Of the almost twelve million hectares on which wheat, maize, barley or sugar beet grow in this country, more than half are affected. The loose, organically enriched topsoil of a field is up to thirty centimetres thick. The top layer of soil is disappearing by the ton. In the north of the country it is carried away by the wind, in the center and south by the rain. Once the fertile top layer of soil has disappeared, it can no longer be replaced.

This is a worldwide phenomenon - the fertile soil disappears in the North American prairies and on the Chinese loess plateaus along the Yellow River, where rainfall washes away millions of tons of it every year. The earth is also disappearing in the steppes and savannahs of Africa, Australia and Central Asia. Almost eleven million square kilometers of land surface have already been damaged by erosion - an area almost three times the size of the European Union.

Even if the dust lands on another field, it is far from forming usable soil there. But it often ends up in cities, in the sea, on highways. Where soils are carried away, agriculture is at risk, and with it food production for the world's rapidly growing population.

With Rainer Duttmann, Professor of Physical Geography at Kiel University.

8 €/reduced 4 €

Tickets are available at the box office or at bundeskunsthalle.de/tickets.

Studio Bonn

In 2025, Studio Bonn is dedicated to the Bundeskunsthalle's program focus on ecological sustainability. The spotlight is on questions of change, innovation and transformation.

Tuesday, February 11, 7 p.m.

Trigger points vs. tipping points

Why change is difficult and still has to happen faster.

Tuesday, May 20, 7 p.m.

Climate change and natural disasters

How are climate risks connected and what can we do about them?

Saturday, May 31 and Sunday, June 1

Museum Mile Festival

The five museums on Bonn's Museum Mile celebrate a big family festival.

Admission to to all exhibitions is free!

The complete program from May at: www.museumsmeilebonn.de



Current and Upcoming Exhibitions

MARK DION
DELIRIOUS TOYS
until 9 February 2025

In the *Delirious Toys* exhibition, US artist Mark Dion, internationally renowned for his contemporary cabinets of curiosities, stages the world of play and fantasy and not only transcends space and time with hundreds of exhibits, but also takes a critical look at children's toys themselves.

For the exhibition, he spent months researching the Berlin City Museum's collection of around 70,000 objects, one of the largest in Germany. On this basis, he created a labyrinth of board games, a procession of animals, a circuit with an imaginary race between vehicles of all kinds, a giant chest full of teddy bears, a doll's cave and a war landscape. Historical doll's houses and a 'poison cabinet' with borderline and cross-border toys are also on display.

DANCE WORLDS
until 16 February 2025

The longing and desire to dance is deeply rooted in us humans. Dancing has always inspired human interaction and has been part of rituals, ceremonies, festivals and entertainment in early cultures. To this day, dancing is part of social and cultural life all over the world and reflects the spirit of the zeitgeist.

The exhibition presents dance as a global form of representation and expression and explores the intertwining stories between dance in its social functions and its role as art. With exhibits ranging from ancient artefacts depicting dance to examples from the visual arts and contemporary installations, it takes a look at the many different forms and styles of dance.

Dance Worlds invites visitors to experience and participate in dance: with videos and projections, live performances, dance workshops and dance evenings for everyone. Professional dancers rehearse and dance in the specially designed dance hall in the East Gallery and offer insights into choreographic processes. LET'S DANCE!

Save the date

SUSAN SONTAG
Seeing and Being Seen
14 March – 28. September 2025
Media conference: Wednesday, 12 March 2025, 11 a.m.

Subject to change
Status: December 2024