

## **Prospectus:**

Human society has a long and complex relationship with the concept of nature. Over the past several centuries the prevailing attitude is that nature and culture are essential counterparts, but ultimately separable. This attitude is becoming distant and strange given our increasing awareness of human impact on Earth's systems. The pressing ecological dilemmas of our Anthropocene epoch signal a paradigm shift in how we think about and design nature in the future. It is time to update to a new version of nature, one that is suited for the realities of the 21st century. In doing so, we must first ask the guestion "Where is Nature Now?"

The goal of this symposium is to initiate a conversation amongst writers, artists, designers and activists to consider what is the future of nature in the 21st century. The symposium is multi-disciplinary in its audience and breadth so as to consider how the complex global environmental issues of the Anthropocene now challenge our relationship with the environment. The symposium invites a broad audience of artists, writers, design professionals and others to speculate upon emerging ideas of nature in the Anthropocene. The work includes innovative topics such as post-industrial feral ecosystems, eco-toxic tourism, manufactured urban ecologies, post-natural disaster resiliency planning, hypernature and technology, and genetically modified environments

The Nature 3.x Symposium is co-convened by University of Minnesota Professor Matthew Tucker and Professor Christine Baeumler, with generous support by the University of Minnesota Department of Landscape Architecture, the Institute for Advanced Studies, and the Institute on the Environment. The symposium reception and Friday keynote lecture are co-hosted with the Minneapolis Parks Foundation as the first presentation of the 2015 Next Generation of Parks™ Lecture Series.

#### **Schedule**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15 - FRIDAY, APRIL 17 @ U of MN Travelers Innovation Lab

### "URBAN HEADWATERS" with BUSTER SIMPSON Artist-in-Residence

Pop-up project and charette with UMN River Life and UMN students (invitation only; limited to UMN students)

FRIDAY APRII 17

U of MN Northrop

6:00 PM

### NATURE3.x SYMPOSIUM OPENING RECEPTION

co-hosted by Minneapolis Parks Foundation and University of Minnesota featuring "Water Bar' by Works Progress Studio

7:00 PM

# MINNEAPOLIS PARKS FOUNDATION NEXT GENERATION OF PARKS™ LECTURE

Introductions: Matthew Tucker ASLA , Assistant Professor, UMN | LA Tom Evers, Executive Director, Minneapolis Parks Foundation

KATE ORFF, Founding Principal, SCAPE / LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PLLC

Kate Orff is an Associate Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at Columbia University. Her work on urban design for climate dynamics has been shared and developed in collaboration with a wide sector of arts institutions, governmental agencies, scientists and scholars. She is also a registered landscape architect and the founder of SCAPE, an award-winning 20 person design firm based in lower Manhattan. She was named a United States Artist in 2012 and inducted into the National Academy in 2013.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, U of MN Northrop Best Buy Theater

8.30-9 AM MORNING REFRESHMENTS- Northrop Gallery, 4th Floor outside Best Buy Theater

(Note: NO FOOD or BEVERAGES are allowed in the Best Buy Theater)

#### 9-10.00 MATTHEW TUCKER, "Nature 3.x?"

Matthew is a designer with nearly two decades of experience on complex projects focusing upon damaged, post-industrial urban sites, manufactured urban ecology+hydrology, and professional practice and construction. Professor Tucker's current research examines the emerging Anthropocene paradigm as a catalyst of 21st century design practice. His work speculates on a new lexicon of nature referred to as Nature 3.x. and corresponding themes of post-natural+prosthetic landscapes and genetically modified environments. He currently teaches the award-winning EverywhereNowhere graduate studio at the University of Minnesota Department of Landscape Architecture.

10-11.00 ANDREW BLACKWELL, "Visit Sunny Chernoby!"

Andrew is a journalist and filmmaker living in New York City. He is the author of Visit Sunny Chernobyl (Rodale 2012), which has been described as "A travel guide for the eco-apocalypse. An exploration of a nature-less world... a love letter to a polluted planetand an impassioned argument for the future of environmentalism." He is also a freelance documentary filmmaker and producer for the television program Dan Rather Reports on HDNet. He has been a featured guest on NPR's Science Friday, The Huffington Post and CBS News.

**11- Noon EMMA MARRIS** "Novel Ecosystems as Theaters for Adventure"

Emma is a writer based in Klamath Falls, Oregon whose work focuses on complex intersections between conservation, ecology, energy, agriculture, food, language, books and film. Her stories help us understand how to increase the flourishing of both humanity and the rest of the planet's species, and how to move towards a greener, wilder, happier and more equal future. Her work has appeared in Conservation, Slate, Discover, The New York Times and Nature, where she was on the staff for several years. Marris' first book, Rambunctious Garden: Saving Nature in a Post-Wild World (Bloomsbury, 2011) argues that we must give up our romantic notions of pristine wilderness and replace them with the concept of a global, half-wild rambunctious garden planet, tended by humans.

**1.30-2.30 PM KATE ORFF**, Associate Professor, Columbia University GSAPP Urban Landscape Lab Founding Principal. SCAPE / LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PLLC

2.30-3.30 WORKS PROGRESS STUDIO, Minneapolis, MN

Works Progress Studio is an artist-led LLC based in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota. Led by husband-wife Collaborative Directors Colin Kloecker and Shanai Matteson, Works Progress engages an expansive network of artists, designers, organizers, researchers, advocates and other creative people to realize imaginative public art and design projects rooted in place and purpose. Shanai Matteson is a writer, artist and arts organizer who leads and supports collaborative public art and design projects. She's interested in work at the margins of established fields and practices. Colin is an artist, designer and filmmaker who works at the intersection of civic engagement and public art-making. He loves projects that invite participation, inspire new connections, encourage self-reflection, and enable collaborative meaning-making.

**3.45-4.45 BUSTER SIMPSON**, Artist

Buster is an artist. For more than four decades, his work in the public realm has been engaging citizens in aesthetics, politics and the environment. His approach and work is known for specificity to context and a poetic and provocative distillation of contextual meaning. Buster's projects often highlight environmental issues, engage community and catalyze action. Simpson has completed numerous projects throughout the United States and abroad. His work includes such notable art as the performance eco-art of "Hudson River Purge" and the temporal beauty of "Host/Analog". He has exhibited extensively and has participated in international design competitions in Vienna, Austria and Liverpool, England. In 2013, Seattle's Frye Art Museum presented BUSTER SIMPSON // SURVEYOR, the first retrospective survey of his work.

**5.00-6.00 KOERT VANMENSVOORT**, Artist and Author "NextNature"

Koert is an artist and philosopher best known for his work on the concept of Next Nature. His work seeks to understand our co-evolutionary relationship with technology and help set out a track towards a future that is rewarding for both humankind and the planet at large. He is (co) author of numerous books and publications including NextNature: Nature Changes Along with Us (Actar, 2012) and The InVitro Meat Cookbook (BIS, 2014). Van Mensvoort is director of the Next Nature Network; an Amsterdam based think and design tank on the changing relation between people, nature and technology. Since 2003 he has led the Next Nature Lab at the Industrial Design Department of the Eindhoven University of Technology.

7pm- Discussion @ REPUBLIC 221 Cedar Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55454 (Heavy Appetizers with Cash Bar)