

Aronia m.BaBe: the morphing of the human with the chokeberry

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Abstract

Since 2009, Bartaku collaborates with *Aronia m.* or Black chokeberry: being incited to observe, harvest, weigh, scissor-cut, discuss, ritualize, taste and digest; administer to humans in public labs and performances; to seduce local and global life communities to collaborate so to jointly express the essence of Aronia m.

From 2010 till 2015 Aronia m. juices, silver, carbon, agar, salt and other entities intertwined with light, energy and human senses, tongues and *metabolistics*. As sun electric '**Digestopians**' these digestible solar cells inquired mankind's relation with energy.

The source and compass of the more recent artistic research **Aronia m.BaBe** is the 1Ha Aronia m. Power Plantation (1HAMP): a former sovkhos at the edge of a shrinking Midwest little town in Latvia. With hundreds of North-East American berry bushes imposed onto peripheral ideological lands. A monoculture plantation that became neglected with the dissolution of the Soviet-Union in 1991. As a result other **life companions** emerged, increasing the biodiversity. But after two decades of *humanlessness*, Aronia m. became marginalized, on the verge of disappearing. In 2016, a young man –once an artistic research volunteer- prevented 1HAMP being sold to an agro-industrial global entity and started a plantation **restoration**. With a sense of historical- and Aronia m. belonging he re-activates some sense of 1HAMP-belonging within the local human settlement.

In the coming years various Aronia m.BaBe scenarios will speculate on the **deepening of human/Aronian entanglement**. With the artist role being that of 'agent Aronia', servant and **medium of the berry**. This in full awareness of the complexity of (paradoxical) attempts to transcend anthropocentrism.

Through **multifarious artistic produce** an Aroniacentric stance is expressed, so that Aronia m.BaBe can belong to the local and global communities that re-think the categories -and hereby the constellation- of the world.

Art Master Morphing e.g. departs from the longing of 19th Century painter J.M.W. Turner (UK) to make his understanding of Sun energy tangible to future communities. It will be expressed via an Aronia-based solar panel that mimics the original painting that provides the energy that will highlight it, albeit for a little while.

In '**Nomenclatureal Morph**' the normative name-giving practice by the science community is questioned with Aronia's name change into *Baroa Belaobara*. By means of a formal writing the *longing to belong with a different ID* will be expressed using Aronia m. matter. Due to current nomenclatural regulation the request will be unsuccessful. Oh And: the chokeberry is not a berry. It belongs to the apples.

* from: *Everything is Waiting for You* > <http://www.davidwhyte.com/everything.html>