

# The Polliniferoused Container - World in a Shell

## Newsletter

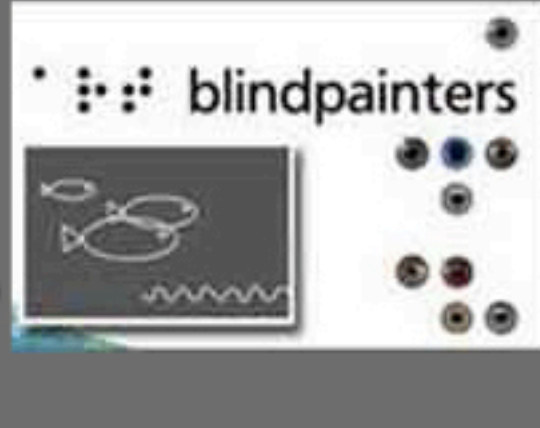
October 2008



### Message from the artist:

It is somewhat incredible that we seem to manage to live our life despite all the delays like the Airbus, the Amsterdam north-south subway line, the negotiation process of the Israelis with the Palestinians and the polliniferoused container project. It feels like one's life is being delayed. Who can possibly have the endurance and patience needed to stay on the ball in this seemingly never-ending story? Where to find this persistence and esteem to clear all the impossibilities and no's from the table. But make no mistake about it, all together the project stays extremely interesting to see how everything unfolds, becomes transparent and all pieces fit into place as if they where precision made. Keep on tuned in to see how the impossible materializes.

so long  
hans



### Friends, supporters and sponsors of the Polliniferoused Container.

The polliniferoused container is an art-science project that uses new media and sustainable technology as a tool for cultural exchange, cross-pollination and a more balanced appreciation of the arts of the different cultures of this world.

The project is initiated by artist Hans Kalliwoda and executed by the Blindpainters foundation. The project is supported by among others the UNESCO, TUDelft, V2, the Rotterdam based institute of unstable media, and the NAI (Dutch Architecture Institute). For more basics and general information on the project see below.

## The News

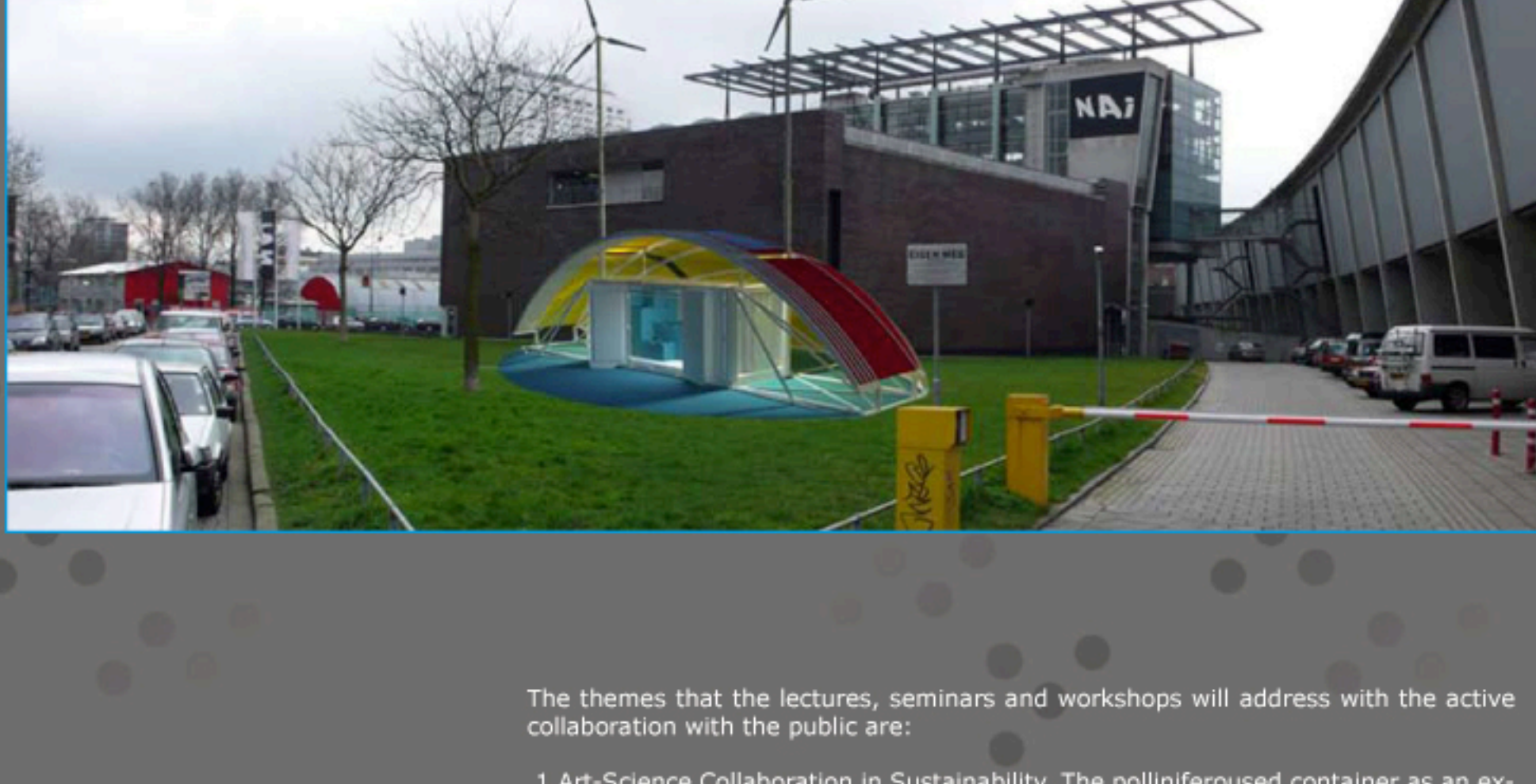
In the spring of this year the polliniferoused container was the focus of a successful educational programme developed by the Blind Painters in collaboration with the Wellant College, a Dutch secondary and vocational school, with support of the Amsterdam Fund for the Arts. The inspiration for the educational programme came from the experiences Hans Kalliwoda had when he was location hunting in Illulissat in Greenland where recent changes in the society have led to a high suicide rate among youngsters. So an educational programme was developed where students can deal with and express their frustration in a way that can be understood across cultural borders. Below you will find a Dutch article on the programme as published in the Well magazine.



Even more exiting is the upcoming

## World in a Shell exhibition

in Rotterdam, which is developed in collaboration with the NAI (the Dutch National Architecture Institute and Museum) and V2. (the world famous Institute for Unstable Media). It will be the first public presentation of the Polliniferoused Container after its building stage and before it starts on its 5-year journey around the world. The Polliniferoused Container will be exhibited in front of the NAI building in Rotterdam and will be open to the general public except during the workshops. Hans Kalliwoda will inhabit the container during the whole period of the exhibition. Special internet and media projects are planned to reach the (inter)national public that is not able to visit the exhibition in person. There will also be an extensive lecture, seminar and workshop programme with internationally renowned speakers not only from the western world but also from the east and the south.



The themes that the lectures, seminars and workshops will address with the active collaboration with the public are:

- 1 Art-Science Collaboration in Sustainability. The polliniferoused container as an example of collaboration between art and science and as a concept aimed at developing a technology that is multifunctional, durable, and environmentally balanced.
- 2 Modern Nomadism and the Affluent Society. Nomadism as a life style, which fits best with human nature and how it challenges the common definitions of a truly affluent society. Is it possible to develop a 21st century of nomadism? What can we learn from the few surviving hunter-gatherer societies? How to define civilisation and human evolution?
- 3 Exploration and Sustainable Tourism. The colonization of daily life and the exploration of space and mind. Dealing with questions as: Why we have leisure but no spare time. Why a tourist goes on a holiday but never leaves home and the mystery of the disappearance of the unexpected.

To be able to finish the building phase of the container and to kickstart the travelling period, two highly professional people have joined the Polliniferoused Container Team for funding and subsidies as well as for sponsoring.

The problem of an easy plug and play solar panel-cable integration has in principle been solved through the assistance and sponsorship of DRAKA. Last May, Hans Kalliwoda had a meeting at the Unesco headquarters with Maciej Nalez, director of the Division of Basic and Engineering Sciences, Osman Benchikh of the same department and W. Erdelen, the assistant director-general for natural sciences. They confirmed the continuing support of the Unesco for the project and also stated that they wanted to participate more actively by promoting the project with their counterparts in the member states. They also expressed their interest in the Polliniferoused Container as a tool for disaster and rescue management.

## The Project

Polliniferoused derives from the field of biology and means collecting and transporting of pollen. The project was initially implemented as an artist intervention into the research system of the University of Technology at Delft (TUDelft) in 2001 with the aim to cross-pollinate faculties within this institution. New, innovative ideas arose from this cross-pollination and the complex interactions between many individuals, students, engineers and professors under the direction of an artist. As a result a self-sufficient living and working unit able to fold out and function in any environment around the earth, containing the world's most mobile and compact mini-grid system powered by hybrid renewable energy, was developed.

Within the project, technology always remained a tool to cross borders in mobility and communication. It incorporates the philosophy of „reduce in order to expand“, combined with the Fluxus idea to compress an art studio into the size of a suitcase. In this case the aim is to develop and show the practical use of a container designed to function in different settings and circumstances as an art laboratory to explore and inspire with. In fact the concept of home and all its facets identity, autonomy, hospitality, security and warmth is put into a new light fitting into a modern nomadic lifestyle. In addition it is the creation of a temporary autonomous space, where a healthy portion of anarchy can take its course and artists, scientists, entrepreneurs and people of different cultures can meet and inspire each other. In doing that the container can contribute to redressing the imbalance between cultures, and finding a way to combine technological development with care for the environment and forms of social cohesion which are desperately lacking in the developed world.

V2 and the NAI will host in 2009 an exhibition of the project in Rotterdam with workshops and seminars on the themes the project is addressing. These events will be taking place after completing the building phase of the unit and before it will start its journey to the UNESCO locations around the world.

Under the patronage of Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, General Director of UNESCO, the Polliniferoused Container will travel to eleven remote locations for a period of four months each, followed by exhibitions in between at museums, biennales and other special occasions. In addition it will function as an interactive platform, providing worldwide interpersonal connections and transfer of knowledge to break down prejudices and intercultural barriers. It will act as a catalyst to question and compare specific cultural directives. The activities within and around the container on each location will highlight and draw attention to those worlds which continue to gravitate outside of „global modernity“, drawing attention to local knowledge, stimulating cultural dialogues and strengthening the UNESCO Convention on Protection of Cultural Diversity.

Another aspect of the Polliniferoused Container is its revolutionary use of energy saving and pollution minimizing technologies. Its compact and highly functional design makes it possible for the container to function independently as an autonomous living and working unit in all climate and geographical areas. This means that the container is multi-functional and can be used for all kinds of purposes. Especially in the field of disaster management and rescue or aid operations, the concept and design of the container is seen as a promising new tool.

See:

<http://www.iscram.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=1965&Itemid=2>

[http://www.iscram.org/dmdocuments/ISCRAM2007/ISCRAM\\_invite.pdf](http://www.iscram.org/dmdocuments/ISCRAM2007/ISCRAM_invite.pdf)

At the moment the container is at the last stage of the construction phase. Financially speaking this means that 80% of the research, design and manufacturing budget of euro 1.400.000 has been raised till now.

To give an idea about the wide media coverage the project already attracted, please have a look at the „press“ section on the website [www.blindpainters.org/polliniferoused](http://www.blindpainters.org/polliniferoused)

The Blindpainters Foundation

Post Box 1136  
1000 BC Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
+31 20 419 49 49  
[info@blindpainters.org](mailto:info@blindpainters.org)  
[www.blindpainters.org/polliniferoused/index.htm](http://www.blindpainters.org/polliniferoused/index.htm)

Your e-mail address is listed in the Blindpainters address book.

If you don't wish to receive news about

The Polliniferoused Container - World in a Shell

email NO to [info@blindpainters.org](mailto:info@blindpainters.org)

## Our Sponsors

