

**OLAFUR ELIASSON
GREEN LIGHT – AN ARTISTIC WORKSHOP
15 ACTS OF PARTICIPATION**

APRIL 7, 2016, 12 Noon–12 Midnight

Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary–Augarten, Vienna

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Olafur Eliasson
*Green light – An artistic
workshop*, 2016
Photo: Sandro Zanzinger /
TBA21

15 Acts of Participation is a public gathering partially inaugurating, partially celebrating, partially sharing, **Olafur Eliasson – Green light | An artistic workshop**. Hosted at TBA21–Augarten, this event pulls together speakers, artists, thinkers, and performers in a diverse program that lasts from noon until midnight. **Olafur Eliasson** and **Francesca von Habsburg** are joined by **Atif Akin, Gina Brandlmayr, Damian Christinger, Alexander Ehrmann, Paul Feigelfeld, Rasmus Nielsen/SUPERFLEX, Sandra Noeth, Ben Paine, Johannes Porsch, Andreas Roepstorff, Zavoloka, Daniela Zyman, members of Studio Olafur Eliasson, and the Green light participants** in creating a day of events that mirrors the dynamic flows and components inherent to the *Green light* project itself.

During the three-month *Green light* project participants and members of the general public engage in **Shared Learning**, a changing multidirectional weekly program of creative activities and critical discourse at TBA21–Augarten. **15 Acts of Participation** offers the public a concentrated version of this vibrant project. Please join us and become a part of the *Green light* community!

Act 1: 12 noon

Olafur Eliasson and Francesca Habsburg: **Welcoming and Green light Installation Action**

Members of Studio Olafur Eliasson and the *Green light* participants give instructions and demonstrate the process of assembling a *Green light* lamp, followed by a collaborative action where a large sculptural ensemble is being created with the *Green light* modules with Olafur Eliasson and the general public.

Screening: 1–5 pm

Neil Beloufa: ***Kempinski***

Kempinski (2007, 14 min.), a video work by artist Neil Beloufa, explores ideas of the future through a series of interviews conducted on the periphery of Mali's capital Bamako. The interviewees are dramatically illuminated in the dark night by handheld neon lights, while standing in lush foliage, or amongst clusters of animals. They speculate on numerous possibilities that may lie ahead, dreams like living as the only man among hundreds of oxen, speaking cars, and mobile houses.

Act 2: 1 pm

Testimonies and Memories

To inaugurate the *Green light*—*Shared Learning* platform, Shuddhabrata Sengupta of Raqs Media Collective staged a two-day workshop with participants called “Memory and Mobility: On What It Means to Get Up and Go.” Here the results of the workshop are introduced and discussed by the *Green light* participants, who explore themes of memory, mobility, and the migration of dreams, ideas, stories, and concepts.

Act 3: 2 pm

Communal Lunch designed and prepared by *Green light* participants.

This communal lunch is composed as a participatory process between *Green light* participants and some Austrian chefs, orchestrated by the experimental pharmacist Alexander Ehrmann of Saint Charles Apotheke, Vienna and culinary free spirit Gina Brandlmayr.

Act 4: 3:30 pm

Johannes Porsch & *Green light* participants: **What Acts Upon Us When We Are Acting?**

This act is part of Johannes Porsch's 10-week long seminar; which engages with a theatrical setting before the performance has even begun, which rehearses the plot of a play that has not been written yet, but is written through the process of rehearsing. How does acting in concert begin? How does beginning work? What is always already acting while a beginning unfolds?

Act 5: 4 pm

Ben Paine: **Public Participation in Crises—Applying Compassion with Wisdom**

Drawing on experiences across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East Ben Paine, from the humanitarian NGO Medair, speaks on the (un)wise application of compassion and generosity, and the necessity to avoid pitfalls and harnessing emerging trends and technologies.

Act 6: 4:30 pm

Green light Soccer Tournament choreographed by TBA21

TBA21 and the *Green light* team invite you to a playful and participatory soccer match located at Augarten park. Please register at augarten@tba21.org

Screening: 5–10 pm

SUPERFLEX: **Kwassa Kwassa**

SUPERFLEX: *Kwassa Kwassa* (2015, 18:50 min.) documents the current political situation in the Comoro Islands, located between Mozambique and Madagascar. The film portrays a boat builder on the island of Anjouan, whose boats are used both for fishing and to transport migrants to the neighboring island of Mayotte, a French overseas territory that recently became the outermost region of the EU.

Act 7: 5 pm

Damian Christinger: **Eye to Eye—Paulo Freire's Legacy in the Context of Shared Learning**

Following the critical pedagogy of the fabled Brazilian educator Paulo Freire, Swiss curator Damian Christinger, discusses Freire's ideas of the "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" and education as practice of freedom, originally explored during Latin American dictatorships in the 1960s. Christinger asks how Freire's approaches are implemented in the democratic European contemporary condition and discusses participation and education with *Green light* participants Kelvin Osazuwa and Milad Amiry contextualizing Freire's ideas in practice.

Act 8: 5:30 pm

Atif Akin: ***On Modularity and Code in the Context of Mobility***

The animated presentation by the artist, designer, and curator Atif Akin reflects on the contemporary condition of mobility through the lens of architecture, museology, genealogy, genetics, and code. Contemplating spatiotemporal specificities, the intention here is to try to establish a framework in the context of contemporary art that can be used to reevaluate the current perspective and shift it toward a point of anti-crisis.



Olafur Eliasson – Green light / An artistic workshop, 2016. Thilo Frank & David de Larrea Remiro / Studio Olafur Eliasson, Courtesy of the artist and Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary.

Intermezzo: 6 pm

Olafur Eliasson: ***Baroque Baroque Book Presentation and Signing***

Act 9: 6 pm

Sandra Noeth: ***Bodies of Evidence***

The dramaturge and researcher Sandra Noeth presents *Bodies of Evidence*. “Borders are many things. Material, architectural, constructed, symbolic, felt, fictional and memorized, embodied, lived, always already there—always yet to come. And still: *it always starts in the body*. This act is dedicated to all bodies *in, as, of evidence*.”

Act 10: 6:30 pm

Olafur Eliasson and Andreas Roepstorff: ***In Conversation***

Olafur Eliasson and the Danish anthropologist and scientist Andreas Roepstorff discuss the social conditions of our particular time and investigate the *Green light* platform as an experimental form, a site creating new spaces for human interaction.

Act 11: 7 pm

Rasmus Nielsen/SUPERFLEX: ***Rock the Boat***

Was Zeus the first human smuggler and where would we all be if the border police had caught his first passenger Europa who came from modern day Lebanon and ended up on the shores of the Greek Island of Crete. And why do we need to go to the Indian Ocean – a question explored in the film *Kwassa Kwassa*, on view in the screening room – to explore this question further? Straight and seasick answers presented by Rasmus Nielsen of SUPERFLEX in the form of words and moving images.

Act 12: 7:30 pm

Olafur Eliasson and Francesca Habsburg: ***The Will to Act is a Renewable Resource!***

In a conversation, Olafur Eliasson and Francesca Habsburg discuss how art and artists can respond to ecological and social issues, taking as examples TBA21's general focus on sustainability and the *Green light* project's commitment to bringing attention to contemporary political struggles and to the state of the environment.

Act 13: 8:30 pm***Communal Dinner***

The second act of communal dining consists of oriental and local foods offered from various food stands in Augarten, under the direction of Alexander Ehrmann and Gina Brandlmayr.

Act 14: 9:30 pm

Paul Feigelfeld: ***Whose Crisis? / Refugee Phrasebook***

The media theorist and curator Paul Feigelfeld discusses – in light of the prevailing rhetorics of “crisis” – the *Refugee Phrasebook*, an open collaborative project providing important vocabulary to refugees, helpers, and citizens everywhere. The materials are adaptable for local needs and distributed with open licenses to foster communication between refugees, citizens, and helpers all over Europe and the world.

Act 15: 10 pm

Zavoloka: ***Euromaidan Revolution***

Sound artist Zavoloka plays live a set from her album *Volya*, dedicated to her home in the Ukraine. The word *volya* means freedom and will. Inspired by the Ukrainian winter revolution (2014–15), the album is blood and fire. The set is based on field recordings of metal rhythms from the riot-torn streets—the sounds of burning police cars, gas grenade explosions, and a Molotov cocktail symphony—the liberty napalm of transformation.

*All talks will be held in English with translations into Arabic and Farsi.

Support the Green light project by purchasing a lamp

Green light is an attractive sustainable LED lamp produced in a collaborative three-month artistic workshop by refugees and visitors at TBA21–Augarten.

Each **Green light** consists of a wooden frame made from certified ash, nodes of 100% recycled PLA, twine made from used plastic bags, cable ties of 100% recycled nylon, and a green LED.

The lamps come in eco-friendly packaging.

Proceeds from sales will support the **Green light** project, TBA21's partner organizations Red Cross Vienna, Caritas, and Georg Danzer Haus, as well as other initiatives helping refugees in Austria.

The **Green light** lamp can be pre-ordered through the TBA21 web shop and selected partners or directly at TBA21 for €250 (€300 after March 12, 2016).

The mail order edition comes in partly prefabricated flat-packs.

INFORMATION

Exhibition

Olafur Eliasson

Green light – An artistic workshop

TBA21–Augarten, Vienna

March 12–June 5, 2016

15 Acts Of Participation

Thursday, April 7, 12 Noon–12Midnight

Location

TBA21–Augarten, Scherzergasse 1a, 1020 Vienna, Austria

Free admission

Visitor Information

Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary–Augarten

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www.tba21.org/greenlight

www.facebook.com/tba21, www.twitter.com/tba21, instagram.com/tba_21

For further information regarding *Green light* sales:

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Supported by

As one of the leading insurance groups in Central and Eastern Europe, the Vienna Insurance Group and its main share holder clearly perceive its social responsibilities and have been reliable sponsoring partners for Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary and other cultural projects for many years. Numerous museums and galleries have insured their collections with Vienna Insurance Group. The main objective for cooperating with cultural institutions is to promote the international exchange in the field of arts and culture.



Project Partners

Georg Danzer Haus Vienna is a small humanitarian initiative accomodating and taking care of unaccompanied young refugees from 14–18 years, mainly from Afghanistan and Syria. Through cooperations with cultural initiatives such as **Green light** the Georg Danzer Haus aims to integrate these young people into the social and cultural matrices of their new homes and to offer future perspectives.

Caritas Vienna acts as the mediator between Green light and two full-time project coordinators, project mentors and translators. In addition, ***peppa** is an ongoing project offered by Caritas focusing on the supervision and mentoring of girls and young women participating in the **Green light** project.

Red Cross Vienna is responsible for recruiting a group of young asylum seekers, fully enrolled in the **Green light** project Shared Learning.

