

Giving Earth & Dividing Waters ***The last cup of Earth / Atlas & Calypso***

11th & 12th December, 2 - 6 PM

Workshop led by Abdellah Hassak, Edouard Sors and Amine Lahrache

With this opening workshop, contributors shall be invited to discover the “elemental status” of human settlements and reflect about the transition of two case studies : on one side, Marrakech, a semi-arid city with a *Water-under-land* status subject to hydric stress, and on the other side Utrecht, an urban fabric woven by canals with a *Land-under-water* status subject to submersion.

During the two sessions of *Giving Earth & Dividing Water*, trainers shall guide trainees to place themselves in a *not-yet* condition - and yet times not so far - characterised by surface water droughts and groundwater depletion on one hand, and the rise of sea level and channel overflow on the other.

Within BAK spaces and outdoors, via the use of various media, artists and participants shall proceed to the “gift” of the *Last Cup of Earth* - offered by a Moroccan whose visa was refused - to a city at risk of flooding, to carrying this earth on specific grounds replacing *Atlas*’s role, to a cartography of wishes within a public space in the city of Utrecht. Then they shall attempt a “divide” of Dutch water in order to share its excess and offer some in return to Marrakech’s dried lands, replacing *Calypso*’s role and setting man free from water.

The actions undertaken and reflections captured over these two afternoons set the basis for exchange of ideas and discussions over opinions : about the values of commons - rights to water and to land -, about transnational mobility - regulated and under-cover - of systems, of raw materials and of human matters....

Keywords: Creative writing, sound mappings/soundscapes, photography, water poetics and the urban.

11th December - Session #1 ATLASPECULATOR - a range of impression beholders

During this first afternoon of **Giving Earth & Dividing Waters**, some samples of earth shall be presented live by Amine Lahrach who shall invite trainees to reflect about the qualities of this earth as if it were the last. They shall then be invited by Edouard Sors to carry this earth to a location close to BAK where he and Abdellah shall photograph and map its offering to the local soil as well as the sampling of water destined to Morocco in return. Doing so, trainees shall embody and substitute Atlas the titan and the nymph Calypso and hence enunciate, record and archive a ‘not-yet’ narrative.

12th December - Session #2 CALYPSASUNDER - an archipelago of expressions

This second training will partly be destined to some extra collection, qualification and narration of Water and mainly dedicated to collective discussion. The reflections and narrations collected by trainees on day 1 shall be played back by Abdellah Hassak ; points of views shall be spoken out and the narrative will be read out, and all contributions shall brush a collective mindscape and a renewed ‘status’ for Utrecht or Marrakech as promised lands. Session 2 of **Giving Earth & Dividing Waters** shall hence resume the 2 days’ dialog between cultures and put in perspective the question of material and cultural exchange.