



30-03-2012, 10.00-17.00 hrs

# SYMPOSIUM                      RETHINKING                      ROBERT SMITHSON

Following the release of the publication *Robert Smithson: Art in Continual Movement* [Alauda Publications](#) proudly presents the symposium *Rethinking Robert Smithson* about the legacy of the artist Robert Smithson (1938–1973) and its relevance for contemporary artistic practices. In many ways, the artistic debates prevalent in the 1970s are recurring in our time: the relation between art and ecology, the position of the artist within a growing information and media society and the crisis of (neo)liberalism.

Along the line of two thematic approaches related to Smithson's practice, [Art and Ecology](#) and [The Cinematic Condition](#), topical concerns in artistic practice of the 1970s and today are reconsidered by internationally renowned theorists and artists.

Organised by [Alauda Publications](#) ([Ingrid Commandeur](#)) in cooperation with [Leiden University Institute for Cultural Disciplines](#) (LUICD)

Partners: [Department of Artists' Theories and Artistic Practice, Royal Academy of Art](#) (KABK); [Lectoraat Art & Public Space](#) (LAPS), [Gerrit Rietveld Academie](#)

Contributors: [Ann Reynolds](#) (Associate Professor, Department of Art and Art History, University of Texas, Austin, author of *Robert Smithson: Learning from New Jersey and Elsewhere*, 2003), [T.J. Demos](#) (art historian, UCL, London), [Sabeth Buchmann](#) (Professor of the History of Modern and Postmodern Art, Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna), [Ian White](#) (curator and artist, London), [Nils Norman](#) (artist, London), [Maja and Reuben Fowkes](#) (curators and art historians, Budapest/London), and [Gail Whiteman](#) (Professor of Sustainability, Management and Climate Change, Erasmus University, Rotterdam), among others.

Registration is required.

Admittance: € 15,-

Students: € 7,50

For the complete program and registration, please visit [www.alaudapublications.nl](http://www.alaudapublications.nl)

The symposium is generously supported by Leiden University Institute for Cultural Disciplines (LUICD), [Leiden University Fund \(LUF\)](#), and [Mondriaan Fund](#).

Location:

[Royal Academy of Art \(KABK\)](#),

Prinsessegracht 4, Den Haag

Book launch Robert Smithson: Art in Continual Movement

Friday 30 March 2012, at the symposium

This book deals with the contemporary relevance of Robert Smithson's oeuvre. His seminal Land Art work *Broken Circle/Spiral Hill* (Emmen, The Netherlands, 1971) is treated as a case study which opens up to a number of topics, still relevant in contemporary art: 'Models of Spectatorship', 'Art and Ecology', 'Documentation', 'Museum, Media, Society' and 'The Cinematic'. The theoretical part is being completed with 'A Living Archive', which brings together for the first time a complete selection of archival material related to the work – ranging from photographs, film scripts and drawings to original manuscripts and letters – spread over different archives in the Netherlands and the US.

Edited by Ingrid Commandeur and Trudy van Riemsdijk-Zandee

Authors: Max Andrews, Eric C.H. de Bruyn, Stefan Heidenreich, Sven Lütticken, Anja Novak, Vivian van Saaze

Design: Esther Krop

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Available in bookshops or order online at [www.alaudapublications.nl](http://www.alaudapublications.nl)

Partners: [SKOR](#) | Foundation for Art and Public Space, [Land Art Contemporary](#)

*Robert Smithson: Art in Continual Movement* is part of the programme Land Art Contemporary

Programme symposium Rethinking Robert Smithson

09.30: Doors open

10.00 – 10.15: Opening Symposium: Ingrid Commandeur and Anja Novak

10.15 – 10.30: Book review *Robert Smithson: Art in Continual Movement*  
Presentation of the first copy of the book

### I Art and Ecology

10.30 – 11.15: Lecture: T.J. Demos

11.15 – 12.00: Lecture: Nils Norman

12.00 – 12.15: Short break

12.15 – 12.30: Statement: Gail Whiteman

12.30 – 13.15: Discussion panel with T.J. Demos, Nils Norman, Maja and Reuben Fowkes  
Moderator: Sven Lütticken

13.15 – 14.00: Lunch

14.00 – 14.15: Short presentation Land Art Contemporary

### II The Cinematic Condition

14.15 – 15.00: Lecture: Ann Reynolds

15.00 – 15.45: Lecture: Sabeth Buchmann

15.45 – 16.00: Short break

16.00 – 16.15: Statement: Ian White

16.15 – 17.00: Discussion panel with Ann Reynolds, Sabeth Buchmann, Ian White  
Moderator: Eric C.H. de Bruyn

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