

OPEN-ISLAND *Bangalore*

„Open-Island Bangalore“

Application for the

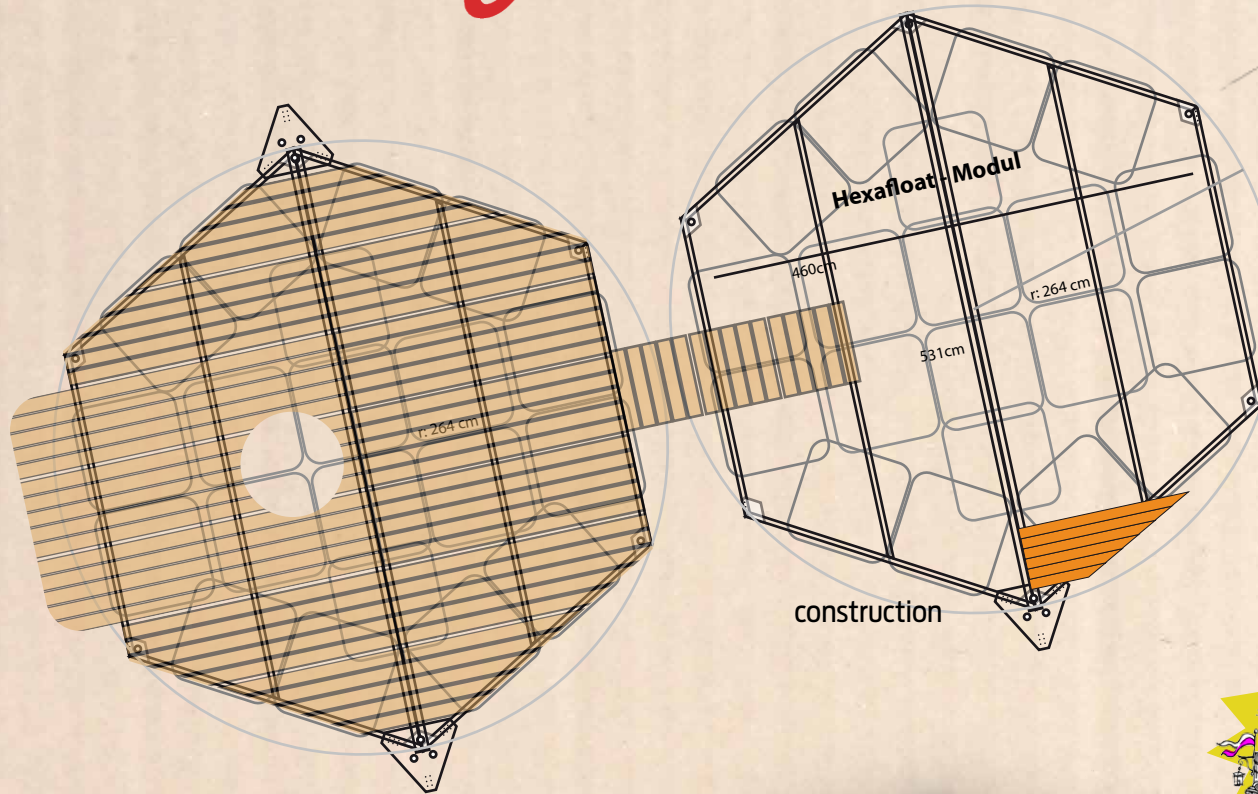
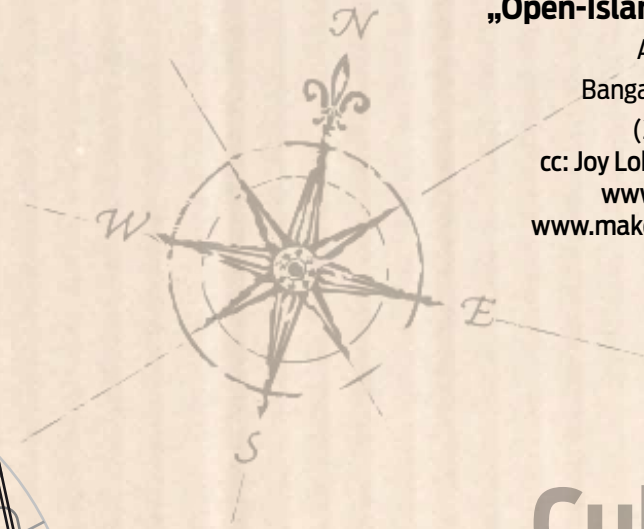
BangaloREsidency 2018

(28.10.-20.12.2018)

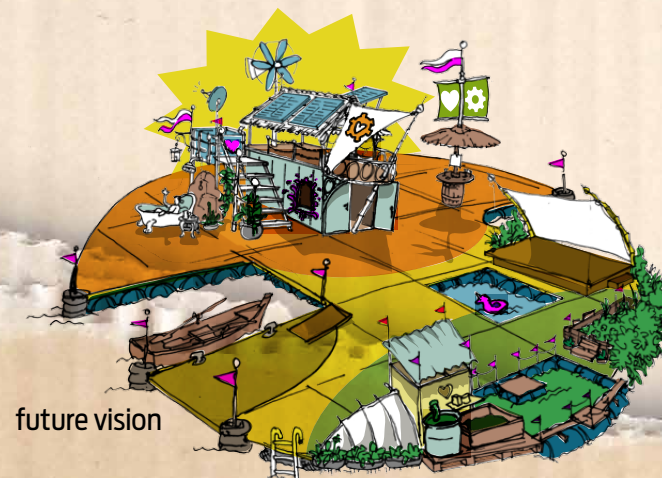
cc: Joy Lohmann, joy-art.de

www.open-island.org

www.makers4humanity.org



Art
Culture
Education
Innovation
Ecology
Future



„Open-Island Bangalore“

cc2018 by Joy Lohmann | Application for the BangaloREsidency

makers for



humanity

OPEN-ISLAND *Bangalore*

„Open-Island Bangalore“ by Joy Lohmann & makers4humanity

> Resumé, Open-Island Bangalore

Open-Island is a modular floating island, which will be manufactured within an interdisciplinary, participative process on a selected historic water tank in Bangalore. The project can be seen as a temporary floating art installation as well as a meaningful social sculpture, which honours water as the source of all life and raises interest, passion, visions and interdisciplinary action in regard of the decline and ecological restoration of the historic Bangalore water tanks.

> The construction, purpose and strategy of Open-Island, Bangalore

Open-Island floats on thousands of collected plastic bottles, that will be contributed as „messages in the bottle“ by school children of the neighbourhood. Within a clean-up campaign, appropriate partners and the media will be involved in the project and a design thinking process on the potential of the tanks for local residents and the city climate. Based on various former projects in Germany, India and other countries, there is a huge repertoire of possible utilisations for floating islands, that comes with references, manuals and experiences. Parallel to the construction process, which includes a hexagonal wooden 20 square meter platform, a clean water pool in the middle and floating gardens around the island, a local participatory maker team develops artistic superstructures and builds them according to the available (upcycled) materials and the envisioned usage of this specific Open-Island. This could be a solar-powered lighthouse installation, an open-stage and bar as a cultural venue, an experiential learning space for environmental issues or a holistic biotope for microbes, fish, birds and other animals. It could even come with a biological filter system and artificial ventilation, designed to clean the water in the long term. Although there is a specific long-term vision for the Open-Island system in India, the project starts in Bangalore as a participatory change-maker camp and therefore has no determined function yet. Open-Island Bangalore will be co-created with local stakeholders and volunteers for their local demands.



future-Islands, Germany 2009



SeeFarben, Germany 2013



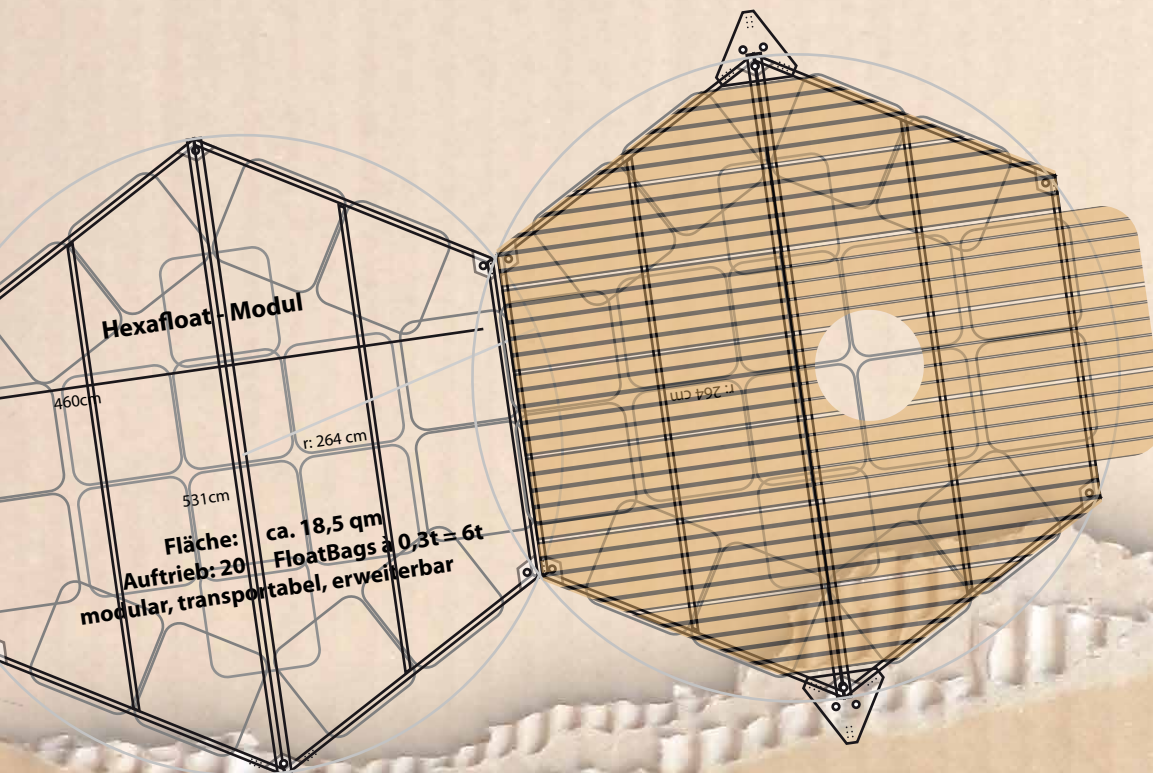
OPEN-ISLAND *Bangalore*

Originally conceptualized as a temporary installation, Open-Island Bangalore directs public attention to the historic water bodies and their poor condition and inspires or networks an interdisciplinary action team through this cultural intervention. With its 6 weeks long social lab, a cultural event for the closure ceremony and medial coverage, the experience of an urban quarter biotope, floating cultural venue and/or local recreation area will have changed the perception of this tank forever. Open-Island is a symbol and proof-of-concept to inspire and network likeminded stakeholders to take care for their tanks and cultural heritage and transform it through the Arts into a treasured cultural and sacred urban space.

In case, that the presentation period can be extended or that a trustful Open-Island team comes up with an approvable operating concept, the floating platform and its gardens will be designed to last at least 3 years through all seasons with minimum maintenance efforts. The island can also be easily dismantled, transported and remounted on many other water bodies throughout India, which in fact is the bigger picture for this cross-cultural project.

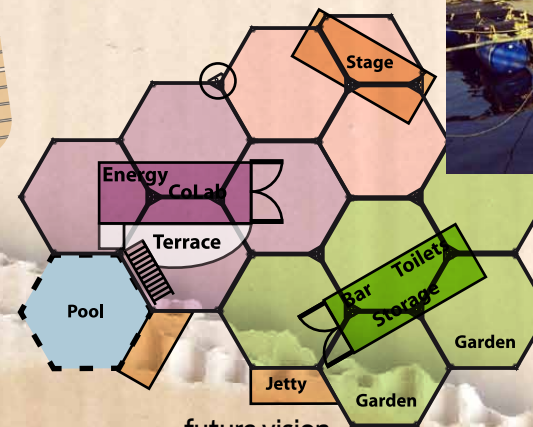


DIY-construction kit „Open-Island“, 2014



„Open-Island Bangalore“

cc2018 by Joy Lohmann | Application for the BangaloRESidency



„Open-Island 2.0“, 2018:
Hexagonal modules float on BigBags, stuffed with plastic bottles and non-toxic foam material.



OPEN-ISLAND *Bangalore*

> Information on previous artistic projects

Joy Lohmann started his artistic career as a graffiti writer and street artist, reclaiming the streets and adding meaningful artistic layers to the town and society, he lived in. While studying „Visual communication“, he published handdrawn books and staged early multimedia performances. After learning classical photography from Heinrich Riebesehl (1938-2010) and exhibiting at the BAUHAUS Dessau, he extended the technique, adding analog layers on the slides and negatives before developing the art-prints. This travelling exhibition was shown in Mumbai, New Delhi and Bengaluru through Max-Muller Bhavan in 1996, where it inspired controversial discussions between classic photographers and the contemporary art-scene. Joy Lohmann staged installations and interventions in public spaces worldwide and became curator of the smallest gallery of his hometown Hanover. Since 1995, he uses the 7m tall historic clocktower, the most central landmark of his city as an exhibition space for regional arts and culture. Within an interdisciplinary art group, he even cofounded worlds first art stock corporation „Integrated Art Holding AG“, designed the shares and became chairman of the advisory board.

He skipped all these techniques and topics after having built his first floating island at the world exhibition EXPO2000 in Hanover. The „future-raft“ was a 70 square meter floating platform, totally made of upcycled waste materials, which served as a cultural venue and open discussion space for global dialogues on the future of mankind and our planet. It became a symbol for societal transformation and changed the artistic strategy and production of Joy Lohmann fundamentally. From then on, he has described himself as a „social sculpturer“ (after J.Beuyss) and „Artist“ in the fields of Urban Transition and societal change (Transition Towns movement).

In 2002, he launched a roadshow for the global ecological manifesto „Agenda21“ on waterways from Hanover to Berlin under the patronage of the German environment minister Jürgen Trittin.



Kröpcke-Uhr,
Hannover



photo exhibition, India

„Open-Island Bangalore“

cc2018 by Joy Lohmann | Application for the BangaloREsidency

OPEN-ISLAND *Bangalore*

In 2009, Joy Lohmann developed a self-watering system for floating gardens within his „future-islands“, whose illumination was powered by a floating energy-platform. Having proven the feasibility of all relevant elements for autarkic and sustainable floating islands, he went to India (Goa) in 2012 to develop a design principle for recycling-islands, addressing the topic of climate change and its consequences for the vulnerable people worldwide.

As „the demand for floating islands rises proportionally to the sea-levels“, his emerging German-Indian maker collective released the open-source construction kit 2015 in Ahmedabad and Berlin.

Such Open-Islands were built in Chiang-Mai/Thailand and Ferropolis/Germany, 2016 and in Varanasi/India 2017, where the „Makers4Humanity“, how they started to call themselves, launched a design thinking process for an „Impact Kiosk“. The idea was to develop an entrepreneurial concept for the decentral dissemination of traditional wisdom, open-source knowledge and appropriate DIY-manuals for humanitarian solutions.

Joy Lohmann perceives the arts and culture as the leading open-space for innovation and societal change.

Therefore he creates experiential installations, that visualize contemporary discourses and provide symbols and spaces for discussion, co-creation and dissemination on local and global levels.

> Personal statement with reasons for applying for the bangaloREsidency

Since my first, 5-months journey across India in 1992, I have been fascinated with the multisensual richness of this multiethnic country and its warmhearted population. In several co-productions with Indian artists and makers, I have also learned to love the mutual inspiration and effective cocreation, that comes with the different working mindsets, cultural backgrounds and management strategies in mixed Indian-German teams. Last but not least, the very different daily routines and mindsets in Indian society have become an invaluable source for my personal world focus and artistic methodology.



OPEN-ISLAND *Bangalore*

The proposed project „Open-Island, Bangalore“ is not an occasional art-installation, but a mayor step within the floating island vision and maybe even the start of an Indian roadshow for humanitarian innovation and open-knowledge dissemination throughout the arts. Although it is conceptualized as a feasible temporary art project with its own narrative, dramaturgy and visual/societal outcome for Bangalore, it is embedded in the broader „makers4humanity“-scene and will act as a symbol and platform for collaborative cocreation and international open-knowledge transfer.

Bangalore is the leading Indian metropolis for entrepreneurial innovation, societal transformation and the global economy. It therefore is my first choice to introduce „Open-Island“ to the Indian civil society together with likeminded partners on-site. And your BangaloREsidency is the very best opportunity to develop and present these cultural positions within the open-minded community of the MaxMuller-Bhavan & friends. I can assure, that „Open-Island Bangalore“ will become an inspiring temporary art-project and -process, which convinces on all levels (aesthetic, conceptual, experiential and strategic).

> For the Social Sculpture Art project „Open-Island“, I´ve choosen the JAAGA community as favourite partner. Not only provides Jaaga a likeminded community and coworking space, Jaaga with their LAB and DNA can also benefit from the Open-Island network activities and results. Eventually, Open-Island could even be continued by/with Jaaga as a Social Entrepreneurship on location (or on tour across India together with the makers4humanity collective).



Riverboat Saly, Goa 2013



Insula Communis, Germany 2016



Joy Lohmann

Open-Island proposal by Joy Lohmann,
Ferropolis/Germany, April 2018

Skype-contact: joy.lohmann

Tel. 0049-(0)172-5146421

Mail: joy@joy-art.de | Web: www.joy-art.de

Address: Joy Lohmann, Limmerstr. 57, 30451 Hannover

