

# Be(e) visible

Aleksandra Trojanowska and Sarah Epping

[www.bee-visible.pl](http://www.bee-visible.pl)

This is not an art project, it is movement,

This is not a storybook, it is a recording,

This is a call for urgent action, we are a broken record.

Let's perform, let's combine ancient and modern forms of communication. A book is stitched by hand, a string is coated in beeswax, pages filled with words that are barely legible. The object, as well as the content inside of it are ancient forms of communication, disappearing under the inertia of progress around it. Connect the viewers, through the most powerful tool created by man - the website, images of gardens may be uploaded. All the while growth is an invisible process, a step backwards to our original nature is sometimes a step forward.

We believe the world is struggling, we know that numbers are dwindling. It's easy to feel small in the midst of everything, to believe in insignificance. Yes, everyone is tiny, your dreams and thoughts are a grain of dust in the universe. We can head down this path and can believe that maybe it means nothing, but instead lets believe our thoughts are like seeds. Miniscule, but they grow, and spread, then become a garden, then an entire ecosystem.

Eventually, this force of the state of everything plummeting downhill might stop, freeze and begin to move upwards again, defying gravity just as a bee does each time it flies.

## The Project

Despite their crucial role in keeping ecosystems healthy and pollinating crops that are vital for human consumption, bees numbers around the world are dwindling with many people turning a blind eye to their disappearance. Their pollen sources are decimated by metropolitan sprawl and the use of pesticides making it inevitable that their numbers will continue to drop off unless immediate action is taken. Many governments have acknowledged this urgent issue, yet have not acted. This project is an active protest, a change not possible to make by one but as many.

"Be(e)" is an initiative where participants are asked to fill a small package with seeds of wild flower species which they can use to plant their own bee garden. When the garden is planted - a participant can upload their data to be part of the map of bee gardens on our webpage which can be seen online as they are planted.

Included in the installation are prints, which cover detailed drawings. The book, is filled with illustrations of flowers that are preferred food for bees. Illustrations are printed white on white, barely visible. The biological elements are arranged around as if pieces in a museum, reminding us all of the disappearance not only of bees, but of all aspects of nature.

## Aleksandra Trojanowska

academic teacher on media art + biology  
student

recent activities (2019/18):

- International Survival Festival (PL)
- Emerging Lines #1 (FR)
- Conference: Dynamic Systems (PL)
- Ritual Festival: Casus belli (PL)
- International Punto y Raya Festival (ESP)
- Individual „ONLY ME“ exhibition (PL)
- Grotowski Art Scholarship (PL)

Born in 1992 in Wroclaw, Poland. First of all a nature lover, then artist and finally traveler. Connection of her art skills and knowledge from biology degree opened a new meanings of expression to her. In her PhD she conducts research on biocentrism in art. She is also academic teacher at The Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design (Time-Based Media Studio, Faculty of Media Art).

## Sarah Epping

CRTL Studio and Gallery owner + art event  
organizer

recent activities (2019/18):

- Guanlan Print Biennial (CHN)
- Bentaray Busan Biennale (IDN)
- Osten Biennial of Drawing (MKD)
- Transgrafia (PL)
- India International Print Exchange (PL)
- Brita Print Exhibition (ESP)
- Litho-Tage Münchner Künstlerhaus (DE)

Sarah Epping was born in 1990 in the USA where she graduated from the University of Nebraska at Kearney with honors in 2012 and went on to work as a designer and translator in Munich Germany and Mumbai India for the following years. In 2015 she started her masters in printmaking at the Academy of Fine Arts in Wroclaw, Poland and began working upon graduation in 2017. She focuses on mixing techniques of drawing, digital, screenprint and intaglio and is currently working on her doctoral degree at the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Fine Art and Design in Wroclaw. Her works have been shown in many exhibitions, triennalles and bienalles across the Americas, Europe and Asia.