

## **F.C.F**

### **Functional Collaborative Futures**

F.C.F. is an art research-collaboration exploring issues around energy supply, ecology, hydrology, pollution, human influenced global warming, and tensions between national and local politics and between local democracy and multi-national business. This project began in 2013 by Seila Fernández Arconada and Bernard Fairhurst in the UK, further developed internationally. This collaboration is still ongoing.

[www.f-c-f.net](http://www.f-c-f.net)

## **MANIFESTO**

### **FUNCTIONAL**

1.1 FCF sets out to explore, illuminate and to challenge, believing that the role of the artist is to apply contemporary artistic practice in response to current issues.

1.2 FCF seeks to liberate art from the art market and to reach new audiences, enhancing public space as a place for art.

1.3 For FCF the artistic role is developed with the understanding that art can have a unique contribution to social understanding of contemporary concerns. Art represents and translates meaning and so we aim to facilitate reflection and understanding. Art operates as a language enabling an open dialogue rather than limiting thinking, generating dynamic relations and unfolding layers of coding.

1.4 FCF sees the formation of artistic works of all kinds as EXPERIMENTS, both as a response to our research and to stimulate an emotional and rational engagement by the viewer or participant.

1.5 FCF believes that as a consequence of artistic research based practice, a clear PERSPECTIVE or ideology can be established regarding social, cultural and industrial interaction with the environment. Artists operate within the context of the current global system and their work should address this.

1.6 FCF seeks to show through contemporary artwork, contrasting local and global issues; the social, economic and environmental implications of the current economic system, and the way power is maintained through the manipulation of information.

### **COLLABORATIVE**

2.1 FCF's artwork is produced through collaboration. This is built on the formulation of ideas through a collaborative research methodology, respecting transdisciplinary approaches and ideas. We recognise the need of rigour, playfulness and spontaneity in the making process with due consideration for aesthetics as part of communication.

2.2 FCF sees art acting as the focus of DIALOGUE and interaction between FCF and the audience, and between workers in different disciplines and policy makers. This process of collaboration is offered as a model for action in society in order to improve communication.

2.3 FCF has set out to be provocative, seeking to elicit an engagement by the viewer. The intention is to establish opportunities for active participation.

2.4 The FCF PROCESS is influenced and determined by the context of the work using site specific responses that resonate with global statements, seeking to enhance awareness of the impact of local issues on global consequences; at the same time as challenging cultural myths and traditions.

2.5 FCF believes in the vital role of active communication in order to question the myth of a freely accessible wide range of information. Although information is available, engagement is limited. FCF want to subvert the resulting self-delusion, acceptance and complacency.

## **FUTURES**

3.1 FCF believes that artistic endeavour is a constant theme in human culture and will continue to shape and influence society.

3.2 FCF seeks to defend art in a time of crisis, when precariousness is predominant within the arts. FCF believe that artists have to meet the challenges of economic austerity in a time of transition.

3.3 FCF believes that for an active involvement in developing a positive FUTURE, there is a need for a clear awareness of the HERE-and-NOW, with an understanding of the contribution of traditions and history. We want to use research and develop artwork to generate visions for possible futures while learning from past mistakes.

3.4 FCF believes that working for a better future means doing something in the present. FCF proposes through its artwork to develop a sense of participation with an awareness of the impact of global issues on the individual and how individual action impacts on global effects. This response to Environmental Uncertainty is a way to encourage sustainable development as a core principle for human life on a finite planet.

3.5 FCF is an independent collaboration that aims through art to build awareness, understanding and new possibilities. We offer a way of thinking creatively to develop creative solutions for creative futures.