

# DECOMPRESSION GATHERING SUMMER CAMP 2014

Can the act of gathering contribute to novel articulations for mutual learning, communal living, and group working? Does experiencing communal life create different social and personal relationships between participants? Can the experience of isolation from urban life be a generative process? These are some of the questions Radical Intention addresses and discusses through **Decompression Gathering Summer Camp. A week of decompression**, communal living and group working at the end of the summer, before the business of work pick up. D\_Camp intends to rethinking processes of knowledge production and transmission challenging the boundary of traditional art residencies and workshops.

The starting point of our artistic experience is Mugello Valley, a wide area of natural and rural interest, part of the Florentine province. During the week participants will experience theoretical reflections and discussions by taking part in daily excursions, situations of conviviality and sociability, and take care of everyday group life through collective tasks. D\_Camp 2014 visiting artist is **Amy Franceschini. Working on the boundaries between art, activism and community organizing**, Franceschini proposes a special program for D\_Camp 2014. **Bread Kneads Hands** (scroll down for the program) takes rural rituals specifically connected with bread production, as a focus and a starting point to debate such notions as collectivity and communality.

In 1995, Amy founded **Futurefarmers**, an international collective of artists, activists, researchers, farmers and architects who work together to propose alternatives to the social, political and environmental organization of space. Their design studio serves as a platform to support art projects, an artist in residence program and their research interests. Futurefarmers use various media to deconstruct systems to visualize and understand their intrinsic logics; food systems, public transportation, education. Through this disassembly they find new narratives and reconfigurations that form alternatives to the principles that once dominated these systems. They have created temporary schools, books, bus tours, and large-scale exhibitions internationally. Amy's solo and collaborative works have been included in exhibitions internationally including the Walker Art Center, ZKM, Whitney Museum, Museum of Modern Art, and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco. She is the recipient of Guggenheim Fellowship 2010

## BREAD KNEADS HANDS

*"Far from being simply an object, the bread oven reflects a technique, a physical environment, a standard of living, a spatial organization, indeed a whole a way of life. It reveals a great deal about the perceptual and conceptual schemes of the people using it. The oven may therefore be considered a total cultural fact."*

- Jean Francois Blanchette

Host artist, Amy Franceschini will be decompressing from an intensive session of production on her project Flatbread Society, a public bakehouse and farm in Oslo, Norway and a Site for Rural Regeneration, a tree house meeting space and exchange radio station at Pollinaria in Aburzzo, Italy. Both of these durational projects draw from fading agrarian practices and as a means to create new spatial and social engagements. Embedded in this current work is an inquiry into the rituals and lore connected to rural life and the conundrum of preservation vs. practice. Amy will share her experiences of each of these projects as they relate to an ethos of what she terms *Prototype as Practice*.

This week together will use the ancient craft of baking bread and its ecology of practices; baking, farming, milling, oven building, forestry... as a focal point to research notions of communing, convening, collectivity, ritual, everyday and tradition. Participants will explore their own work through tactile forms inquiry, readings, excursions and performative actions. Excursions may include visits to ethnographic museums, a search for traces of community ovens / home baking and grain production/ milling. We may create a temporary compendium of locally produced goods.

Raccomanded Reading:

<http://heatkit.com/docs/Bread%20Ovens%20of%20Quebec.pdf>

## **Application form**

The call is open to all cultural workers (visual arts, architecture, graphic design, etc.) The workshop/residency will be held in English.

The deadline for applying is April 1th 2014.

To apply for the workshop/residency please send the following materials to [radicalintention@gmail.com](mailto:radicalintention@gmail.com) by naming your email "Application Decompression Gathering Camp 2014"

- \_ CV with name, age and contacts (no more than two pages)
- \_ Documentation of one artwork or project that majorly represents the candidate's practice (it can be simply a link to the project)
- \_ Motivational Letter (Max 500 words). The letter should include reasons for participating, interests in group working, and should explain how the workshop could influence the candidate's practice.

## **Fee**

The registration fee is 400 euro. In order to secure your place, we will need a 100 euro deposit.

The fee covers enrollment, accommodation (7 nights), and three meals a day. Travel expenses are not covered. On request, the organization will provide candidates with invitation letters for external funding.

Radical Intention is a not-for-profit organisation and the money generated from the fees for the D-Camp 2014 go directly back into the running costs for the camp (visiting artist fee, studio space, food and travels).

## **Conditions**

The maximum number of participants is 8.

This residency is a community experience. Meals are prepared and eaten together. Accommodation is in shared rooms (two triples and one double), divided between female and male. Bathrooms are shared.

Single rooms are not provided.

## **Info**

For information on Decompression Gathering Summer Camps' previous editions, visit **[www.cornioloartplatform.net](http://www.cornioloartplatform.net)** or **[www.radicalintention.word-press.com](http://www.radicalintention.wordpress.com)**

For info on the call for participation or any other questions please contact Valerio Del Baglivo or Aria Spinelli at:  
**[radicalintention@gmail.com](mailto:radicalintention@gmail.com)**

## **Corniolo Art Platform**

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