

**PRESS RELEASE**



**Antoinette de Jong & Robert Knoth**  
from the series: *Tree and Soil*  
© Antoinette de Jong & Robert Knoth



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***Tree and Soil. Antoinette de Jong & Robert Knoth***

20 October 2021 – 13 February 2022

Press talk: Tue 19 October 2021, 7.00 pm

Artist Talk: Tue 19 October 2021, 7.30 pm

The dutch artist duo photographs and films the natural environment surrounding Fukushima, Japan, in the wake of the nuclear disaster. Ten years ago, considerable amounts of radioactive material were released there from the damaged nuclear power plant following a tsunami. The work entitled *Tree and Soil* illustrates in stunning images how the environment has slowly changed and evolved over the years. The exhibition at the KUNST HAUS WIEN Garage features photographic works, a video installation, interviews, and illustrations. Material from naturalist Philipp Franz Siebold's collection is used as well as woodblock prints made by Japanese artist Kawahara Keiga.

*'With Tree and Soil we underline the intrinsic beauty and value of nature. Connecting past and present, we examine the relationship people have with their natural surroundings. Following the radical transformation of the deserted landscapes around Fukushima, we often felt like archaeologists of the future, trying to understand what had happened in a distant past.'* – Antoinette de Jong & Robert Knoth

The artists were inspired by the Japanese concept of landscape known as *Fukei*, which combines the characters for wind and light, two elements subject to change in a continuous play of light and dark. Poetic panoramic pictures show evacuated villages, fields, agricultural grounds as well as forests and mountains. Audio recordings create a soundscape of birdsong and running water, with lengthy video shots reflecting the process of slow marginal changes to the landscapes.



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Antoinette de Jong and Robert Knoth work and live as an artist duo in Amsterdam. Using the medium of film, photography, and installations, they address complex social, economic, and political issues. Their works are exhibited worldwide, most recently at the Photo Festival in Lianzhou, China and at the Manggha Museum of Japanese Art and Technology in Krakow, Poland. De Jong and Knoth's works have been commended with numerous awards. In 2018, they were nominated for the Prix Europa and the Prix Ars Electronica, among others. Their 2020 publication *Tree and Soil* was shortlisted for the Les Rencontres d'Arles Book Award 2020.

## EXHIBITION DETAILS

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Exhibition venue | KUNST HAUS WIEN<br>Untere Weissgerberstrasse 13<br>1030 Vienna   |
| Curators         | Iris Sikking   |
| Exhibition run   | 20 October 2021 – 13 February 2022   |
| Press talk       | Tue 19 October 2021, 7.00 pm<br>Registration required at<br><a href="mailto:presse@kunsthauswien.com">presse@kunsthauswien.com</a>   |
| Artist Talk      | Tue 19 October 2021, 7.30 pm<br>Curator Iris Sikking in conversation with<br>Antoinette de Jong & Robert Knoth<br>Limited number of participants; registration<br>required at <a href="mailto:anmeldung@kunsthauswien.com">anmeldung@kunsthauswien.com</a> in<br>accordance with current Covid-19 protection<br>measures |
| Future Talk      | Mon 15 November 2021, 6.00 pm<br>Climate, Art and Nuclear Power<br>Moderator: Michael Huber, <i>Kurier</i><br>Limited number of participants; registration<br>required at <a href="mailto:anmeldung@kunsthauswien.com">anmeldung@kunsthauswien.com</a> in<br>accordance with current Covid-19 protection<br>measures     |

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| Opening hours | Daily from 10 am to 6 pm  |
| Admissions    | Hundertwasser Museum EUR 11.-<br>Susan Meiselas. Mediations EUR 9.-<br>Combined ticket EUR 12.-<br>Annual ticket EUR 22.-<br>Annual ticket for two EUR 42.-<br>Adolescents aged 11 to 18,<br>Students & apprentices up to age 26<br>EUR 5.-<br>Free for children under 10<br>Free admission to the Garage venue |

## CONTACT

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