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A Curious Choreography: for Pigments on Paper, Forty People Paired and Aalto University Campus

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Art is an essential aspect of future transformations of people and societies. As we are in an intensely digital era, we need to anchor our biological entities with activated bodies and brains. This workshop will re-engage with time, place, materials, bodies, imaginations and physical realities. This is where new approaches will be born. The workshop aims to collaboratively create, collect and share visions and teachings of a future ecological art education. What will matter in art education in our posthuman world? The workshop foregrounds taking turns in an intra-active material-discursive dance that doesn’t stop at dichotomies such as practice and theory. Instead, in every turn of the dance and especially the “re-turning” making and talking together breathes more and more life into the processes of an ethical art education that matters (Barad, 2014). For an outdoor session, we will entangle body-memory, body-sensations and intellectual thoughts on the question of an art education of ecology awareness. This is done through frottage, an ancient art technique of rubbing to create a ghost of surface texture on a matrix. The Curious Choreography emphasizes taking turns; paired people discuss and make frottage together, and then re-turn to it again and again. This layered and embodied interaction is presented as a material itself, and as a dance. The iterative process will be shared with others at the conference. The workshop has the overall aim of energizing people into a state of hope and action towards an Ecological Art Education for a sustainable future.