

## RIFS-Blogpost

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Exhibitor

# Global Explorations in Aesthetics and Sustainability

**The international exhibition “Examples to follow! – Expeditions in aesthetics and sustainability” has returned to its initial station in Berlin after 13 years on the road. The exhibition has been shown in Addis Ababa, Lima and Beijing, Mumbai, Sao Paulo, Puebla, Haifa and Jerusalem, as well as in Bonn, Bremen, Essen, and Hamburg.**

On 3 September 2010, the exhibition first opened in Berlin's Uferhallen cultural centre in Wedding, where it is now making its twentieth and final stop. A former fellow and now affiliate scholar of the institute – [Adrienne Goehler](#) played a crucial role in setting the exhibition on its way around the world. It was Goehler's belief that art and science can both contribute to finding solutions as art lends itself to exploring questions in a direct and unadulterated manner, paving the way for shifts in thinking that can improve sustainability and preserve nature.

**! Zum Aktualisieren der Textelemente, Zitation markieren und dann F9 drücken !**

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128 artists from 27 countries contributed to the exhibition in the course of its journey. 70 works will be presented at the final show in Berlin's Uferhallen through to 16 July 2023. RIFS/ S. Letz

**In her invitation to our institute, Goehler wrote:**

"This journey spans thirteen years, many thousands of nautical miles and kilometres on land, four continents and countless anxious hours at ports dealing with corrupt customs officials and delays in the arrival of vessels. Over this time, we have gathered together works from 128 artists and experimenters from 27 countries. In Berlin, we will show 70 pieces from this rich treasure trove."

*Adrienne Goehler*

Over the years, the wordy German title has been abbreviated to the acronym "[ZNE!](#)". 225,000 people have seen this extensive show at 29 venues worldwide. New works from the fields of science, the arts, or environmental activism are added to the show at each venue and region.



A work by Pedro Reyes: "Palas por Pistolas" (Turning weapons into spades). A tree is planted for every weapon destroyed. Each exhibition is preceded by a tree-planting campaign. RIFS/ S. Letz ZNE! broke new ground in artistic practice by introducing new expertise and works by local artists to the show at each station of its journey around the globe.



"The End of the Forest" is made from latex foam sourced from military mattresses. The title refers to the olive groves destroyed to make way for fortified structures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. RIFS/  
S. Letz

And so it is with the final show in Berlin, which will feature a dozen new works.



New in Berlin: A work by our RIFS Fellow and artist Susanne Schmitt - read about it in our Berlin Science Week blog "Haptic Hortus in Berlin". RIFS/ S. Letz



UN. Unfair? RIFS/ S. Letz



Fly away little birdie... RIFS/ S. Letz



Drawings from field studies around Chernobyl power plant by scientist Cornelia Hesse-Honegger.  
RIFS/ S. Letz

The show will present works that feature renewable building materials such as hemp, sheep's wool and bark, the widespread adoption of which could improve the construction industry's poor carbon footprint. Other works examine the colonial history of rubber and nutmeg. Another new work casts a spotlight on the use of mushrooms to decompose human remains, providing an alternative to energy-intensive burial practices such as cremation. The works on display often blur the lines between scientific evidence and artistic visions as they invite visitors to explore possible sustainable futures.



When research and art combine: What alternatives to conventional burial practices exist? Could the energy stored in corpses be harnessed with the help of fungi? RIFS/ S. Letz



