

SILLE KIMA

is an artist, performer and a musician whose work is rooted in the haptics of the sonic. Ascribing to the poethics of the oral traditions from her native east coast of the Baltic Sea, she works with her vocal as her main instrument and spatiotemporally located sound installations, radio plays, moving image in support of a work of nonlinear and speculative worldbuilding towards reinscribing the crooked grammars of affection formed by ongoing legacies of exploitation.

She has played live shows at 90mil Berlin, UNM festival and Daylight Project and collaborated for radio shows on Lyl radio, Dublab LA, Montez Press New York and radio Alhara. Her performances and installative work have been shown at Kanal, Centrale di Fies, NIDA Art Colony and Amanei Salina, and they have been to residencies at Mustarinda, PaIR, Kordon and NART. She also occasionally teaches at the intersection of land justice and solidarity at the Estonian Academy of Arts and is one of the founders of Kreenholm Plants in the border town of Narva.

sille.kima@gmail.com
@silleki

RECENT WORKS, COLLABORATIONS & EXHIBITIONS

2024

BRILLIANCE, artist film. *(in post-production)*

ASSEMBLING LAND, collaborative event and publication based on "Learning Palestine" format in CAFE ESSAQUIRA, Morocco. In collaboration with DE APPEL, Amsterdam.

ALL LIGHT PASS THROUGH YOU, ALL SUN QUIET DOWN, performances at CENTRALE FIES, Italy & DAMMWEG, Berlin.

SOLO PROJECT live concert at 90mil for SABBATH BERLIN.

A DARK LIGHT, performative reading with soundscapes at DAYLIGHT, Tallinn.

HOME IS A CLOUD by Therese Westin and Amanda Camenish, in collaboration with Hackney Migrants Center. Performer & sound engineer, mixing and mastering artist for a vinyl release in collaboration with MONTEZ PRESS RADIO, New York/London.

2023

ANCESTRAL CLOUDS ANCESTRAL CLAIMS by Arjuna Neuman and Denise Ferreira da Silva. Sound engineer and 2nd camera operator, original score composer and performer. Commissioned and first presented by KUNSTHALLE WIEN, Austria.

(WHY) CAN'T WE JUST CHILL?, performative reading at CENTRALE FIES, Italy.

PLAIN GROUND SONGS, live sound performance at group exhibition TIT for TAT, with Dalia Maini, Twins Corporated, Lena Pfäffli. Curated by Julia von Schanz Josefin Granetoft for PARA/TEXT project space, Berlin, Germany.

MORE BRILLIANT THAN LIGHT, MORE LUMINOUS THAN BRIGHT, exhibition and performance LIGHT SHARDS with Karolina Januleviciute and Weronika Zalewska at KANAL GALERII, curated by Mari Škerin, Võru, Estonia.

NIGHTTIME SCREAMING DAYTIME WHISPERING, a creational story in 4 acts. NIDA ART COLONY, Lithuania. In collaboration with ARCHIVE BOOKS (Milan/Dakar/Berlin).

WHO OWNS LIGHT?, music performance with live sonic landscapes, dramaturgy and language of cinema at AMANEI, Italy.

2022

KREENHOLM BUZZ, communally gathered durational sound installation playing outdoors every day between two summers of soil work, with folks from the Narva Social Care Centre, NART, Estonia.

SILLY LOVE SONGS, EP concert at UNG NORDISK MUSIK FESTIVAL, Frikirjkjan Reykjavik, Iceland.

SYNCPATED GREEN artist film by Arjuna Neuman, sound recordist and 2nd camera operator. Commissioned by LUX UK for BFI film programme 'Right of Way'. Various locations, UK.

WAR CRIMES // BRILLIANCE, 4-channel ambisonic installation, DYNJANDI, Reykjavik, Iceland.

2021

HOLDING THE LAVENDER TWILIGHT, sound performance, PAVILOSTA, Latvia.

SKIN HUNGER, solo exhibition and artist film, VILJANDI WATER TOWER, Estonia.

2020

'Kreenholm Plants', co-initiator of open garden and garden residency, with Sandra Kosorotova, Narva Art Residency (NART), Estonia.

[nart.ee](#)

A MOMMY DOG'S HEART, hand-etched poem for the solo exhibition of Angela Geisenhofer, LOTHRINGER FLORIDA, Munich.

RECENT WORKSHOPS & study courses led

2024 'Non-capitalist creativity' MA course at Estonian Academy of Arts. Tallinn, Estonia.

2022 'SONIC FORANGING', for Kreenholm Plants open garden at NART, Narva, Estonia.

2021 'Reconfiguring Territories: Obschenie', co-led with Sandra Kosorotova. NART, Estonia.

RADIO SHOWS, PUBLICATIONS, PRESS & public talks

2024

ASSEMBLING LAND, REHEARSING BELONGING, series of 5 radio broadcasts for RADIO ALHARA, (Bethlehem) in collaboration with DE APPEL Amsterdam. Apr - Nov, *(ongoing)*

'Blue Moon' on 'Tremble Lands' for DUBLAB RADIO. [Aired 12.03.2024](#). Los Angeles.

SLOW FIRE, music and spoken word commissioned for 'Elemental Sounds' at MONTEZ PRESS RADIO, [aired 25.01.2024](#). New York/London.

2023

'Silly Love Songs' on "Comme a la radio" on LYL.RADIO, aired 14.02.2023.

Review of "Silly Love Songs" for THE BURNER magazine by Sophie Barshall. Summer 2022 issue. Oxford.

2022

'On accidentally roaming gardening', talk for FESTIVAL OF INVITATIONS, Narva, Estonia.

'Diary of Kreenholm open garden', essay-diary about roaming gardening and belonging, with Sandra Kosorotova, for VÄRSKE RÕHK magazine.

RESIDENCIES

Mar 2022 UNG Nordisk Musik Festival residency. Reykjavik, Iceland.

Nov-Dec 2021 PaIR, Paviļosta, Latvia. In collaboration with curator João Laia.

Sep-Oct 2021 MUSTARINDA, Hyyrnsalmi, Finland.

Aug 2021 NARVA ART RESIDENCY, Narva, Estonia.

Nov 2019 KORDON_ air. Hiiumaa, Estonia.

RELEVANT EDUCATION

2022 – 2024 DAI ROAMING ACADEMY, Master of Arts in Art Praxis, various locations.

2021 & 2022 ASHKAL ALWAN Home Workspace Programme. Beirut, Lebanon.

2020 – 2021 Proloogkool alternative art education programme, Tallinn, Estonia. [proloogkool.eu](#)

ALL LIGHT PASS THROUGH YOU, ALL SUN QUIET DOWN

2024

BRILLIANCE

2024 (upcoming)

MORE BRILLIANT THAN LIGHT, MORE LUMINOUS THAN BRIGHT

2023

SILLY LOVE SONGS

2022

Kreenholm Buzz

SKIN HUNGER

2021

ALL LIGHT PASS THROUGH YOU, ALL SUN QUIET DOWN



is a (stage) play on words, light and who owns it. A performance about the past and future ruins of empires - and remnants of memories from the bloc house yards in 90s Estonia.

Entangling around the question of finding points of convergence with that which instills fear, the characters and scenes of the play scrunch up time and travel the affective landscapes of physically manifested fear. Melting it at its sources and edges, the play asks - what would become of relationalities between people, if fear ceased to control us?



BRILLIANCE

[SEE THE 1st CUT OF THE FILM \(jan 2024\)](#)

‘Brilliance’ is an experimental essay-film where both archival and newly gathered images and sounds from places across Eastern Europe and the world, conjured by light, are threaded together by a voice-over combining poetry, song, autofiction and interview.

With the ongoing legacies of Enlightenment and imperialism in mind, the film investigates the the capacity of light to hold both the warmth we all need and yearn for to nourish us, and at the same time, the possibility for total violence.

With the image of joy, play – a warm and nourishing brilliance that undoubtedly always persists through even the most blinding times – archival images from the artists’ grandfathers amateur film archive spanning 1960-90s will tie together the eyewateringly bright, invisible yet tactile, epileptic brilliances characterizing the becoming of the lands and modes of belonging on the Eastern shores of the Baltic sea.

Stills from BRILLIANCE. Artist film, (work in progress) by Sille Kima.



MORE BRILLIANT THAN LIGHT MORE LUMINOUS THAN BRIGHT

The exhibition uses the motif of light to tell the story of the contemporary condition of the post soviet experience. It is a bright, scattering dream of a coming-of-age among the ruins of an empire, a firing of synapses, a remembrance song and the moment when you close your eyes in the warmth of the sun.

‘I turn to the phenomenon of light – brilliance, sun, searing power, the touch of radioactive photons, to help tell the story of the contemporary moment of the Baltics.

I speak about what it means to grow up here in the baltics, being the first children of the great rupture, the seeming freedom. Where do the silent brilliances – from the threat of invasion to the sunwarm memories of the dreams for future, progress, nationhood and its autopoiesis – the capitalist dream and the communist dream – blend muddy, and melt.

On the backdrop of these legacies, I ask – how can light be unchained from the lethally abtacting violences conjured by the enlightenment and alive and well still today (Denise Ferreira da Silva)?

Installation view from MORE BRILLIANT THAN LIGHT MORE LUMINOUS THAN BRIGHT, Kanal Galerii (2023).

2-channel video and fabric installation, 4-channel ambisonic audio installation

by Sille Kima, reworked encyclopedias by Weronika Zalewska. Hand sewn blouse with UV-sensitive print by Karolina Januleviciute. Image: Kristjan Loigu.



How can the touch of a song break the searing gaze of the eye-watering, bone aching light?’

Do you remember the moment when you closed your eyes in the warm afternoon sun, and nothing seemed impossible?

Do you remember a brilliance so bright that it annihilates all inclarities, opacities?

Whose violence,
whose love?

Who owns light?



Sille Kima singing as part of the performance LIGHT SHARDS at the exhibition MORE BRILLIANT THAN LIGHT MORE LUMINOUS THAN BRIGHT at Kanal Galerii (2023). Image: Kristjan Loigu.



Installation view from MORE BRILLIANT THAN LIGHT MORE LUMINOUS THAN BRIGHT, Kanal Galerii (2023). Image: Kristjan Loigu.

SILLY LOVE SONGS

- * tender live vocals, sonic phantasmagoria, affectual soundscapes
- * making the room an instrument, live sampling of space and voice
- * computer w/o screen or tablet used as synth host
- * lenght of set 30 - 60 min

HEAR

SEE



Meandering themes of love, exploitation, grief and connection on a planet where the primary accepted mode of being is to negate the enmeshedness that we all navigate,
SILLY LOVE SONGS
are a reminder that love songs, especially the silly ones, are always dead serious.

Performed at Frikirjkjan, on vocals and live MIDI sampling of the organ.

Produced for and performed at Ung Nordisk Musik Festival (UNM). Reykjavik, Iceland, 2022.

Live at 90mil, Berlin (2024). Image by venue.

Live at UNM Festival, Reykjavik, Iceland (2022). Image by Christina Raytzis & UNM Iceland.

KREENHOLM PLANTS



Participants of the workshop
'Sonic Foraging' (2022).

Garden in season 2022.

is an **open garden and a garden residency** in the border town of Narva – a stones' throw away from Narva Art Residency and a crows' flight from the eastern border of the European Union and the western border of Russia.

From 2021 - ... the Kreenholm Plants communal bed is being planted and taken care of by the folks of Narva Social Care Center. Since 2023, Narva local Maria Koputova has taken over the day-to-day workings.

LISTEN

Kreenholm Buzz' is a piece of music made from collectively gathered sounds from the end-of-summer, abundant garden. The participants explored how to listen, walk, and move their bodies while recording tender sounds. By listening fully to ones' surroundings, we might be brought us to deeper enmeshment with ourselves, each other and the place, much like picking wild raspberries makes one supple around the prickliness of its thorns.

The workshop **'Sonic Foraging'** was led by and the final tracks assembled by Silje Kima. The finished track was played in the yard of NART at sunset every day through the dark winter months between growth seasons of '22 and '23.

SKIN HUNGER

SEE FULL FILM

PASSWORD : hunger2021

[LINK to the soundtrack of the exhibition in collaboration with Arjuna Neuman](#)

Inviting the viewer into a space of intention and slowness, **SKIN HUNGER** explores the nuances of **benevolent boredom**.

Learning **modes of dissolution into the communal from techno, rave culture and ASMR**, the film explores the interplay of hyper/desensitisation within the relationships of humans and the Earth today, governed by colonial, cis-heteronormative and capitalist power structure.

Departing from these legacies, the film looks at how the **luminosity of joy, care and tenderness of love** has been subsumed under the ever intense, eyewateringly bright (data centers, high-speed optical cables and lightning speeds), **unwavering beat of productivity/wellness culture**.



Stills from SKIN HUNGER, single channel video, 5.1 audio, (2021).