erin elder

she/her // erinelder.com // @erinelder505 Albuquerque, New Mexico // ancestral Tiwa lands

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TBD PhD in Geography

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

2007 MA in Curatorial Practice

California College of the Arts, San Francisco, CA

2001 BA in Political Thought & Peace Studies and Contemporary Visual Arts

Prescott College, Prescott, AZ

professional experience

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2015 - present	director, founder, support for artists, Gibbous Creative
2020 - present	creative council/coach, Lincoln City Fellowship, Speranza Foundation, USA
2007 - 2025	independent curator, various locations
2024	mentor, Investing in Wyoming's Creative Economy program
2020	entrepreneur business coach, Ignite Program, Central New Mexico University,
	Albuquerque, NM
2019 - 2020	professional development coach, Tipping Points Program, City of Albuquerque, NM
2012 - 2015	visual arts director, Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, NM
2009 - 2014	co-founder/co-director, PLAND: Practice Liberating Art through Necessary Dislocation,
	Tres Piedras, NM
2011 - 2012	gallery director, Tamarind Institute, Albuquerque, NM
2009 - 2010	exhibition development research assistant, Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver, CO
2007	curatorial consultant, Pilara Family Foundation, San Francisco, CA
2006	curatorial intern, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
2004 - 2005	assistant director, Richard Levy Gallery, Albuquerque, NM
2003 - 2004	program & volunteer coordinator, Magnifico, Albuquerque, NM
2002	production assistant, Creative Time, New York, NY

select exhibitions, as artist

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2025	Seeing What's There, El Morro Area Arts Council Gallery, El Morro, NM
2023	From Source to Mouth: a creative survey of Monument Creek, Fine Arts Center at Colorado
	College, Colorado Springs, CO (solo)
2023	The Big Energy Report, Zendo, Albuquerque, NM (solo)
2022	From Remote Stars: Buckminster Fuller, London, and Speculative Futures, Museum London,
	London, ON (group)
2021	VATA! Bhava Yoga Studio, Albuquerque, NM (solo mural commission)
2020	Trails Across the Bighorns, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM (solo)
2019	Regalos, Hecho a Mano, Santa Fe, NM (group)
2018	The Rites of Land, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM (solo)
	Shifting Fields and Dying Stars, Orpheum Community Hub, Albuquerque, NM (solo)
	Albuquerque Shambhala Center, Albuquerque, NM (solo)
	Phone Zome, Mariposa, Amarillo, TX (group)
	Radical: 50 Years of Libre Intentional Artist Community, Galleries for Contemporary Art,
	University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO (group)
	12 x 12, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM (group)
2017	The Colour & the Shape curated by Jon Revett, West Texas A&M University, Amarillo, TX (group)
2016	The World is Flat Not Round curated by Tim, Iag. Phil Space, Santa Fe, NM (group)

The World is Flat Not Round curated by Tim Jag, Phil Space, Santa Fe, NM (group) 2016

Transmission Lines, Mountain Fold Books, Colorado Springs, CO (solo)

Santa Fe Collective, Santa Fe, NM (group)

- Caldera Gallery, Santa Fe, NM (group)
- 2014 Everything, Everything curated by Niomi Fawn, Iconik, Santa Fe, NM (group)
- 2010 All That is Solid Melts into Air curated by Zoe Taleporos, Queens Nails Projects, San Francisco, CA (group)

Each Campfire Lights Anew, curated by Sasha Dela at Skydive Office of Cultural Affairs, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX and University of Houston (group/commissioned project)

Adobe, Gallery of Contemporary Art, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO (group)

Fire Shelter, Caldera Arts, Sisters, OR (solo project)

independent curatorial projects

- * does not include exhibitions implemented as visual arts director at CCA, 2012-2015
- 2024 present site & scene, Substack
 - a collection of illustrated essays about places and placeness
- 2021 2023 From Source to Mouth, Colorado Springs, CO a community-sourced create research project that explores Monument Creek from a variety of perspectives
- 2018 2020 The Rites of Land, various locations a framework for creative research that explores the legacies of land and ownership
- 2023 care + curiosity, Santa Fe Art Institute, NM guest curated the thesis exhibition for University of New Mexico's Confluence MFA program
- 2019 City Bright, City of Albuquerque, NM organized five artists who created light-based installations in vacant downtown spaces
- 2017 2019, 2024 South Valley Studio Tour, Albuquerque, NM co-founded and organized an annual, weekend neighborhood tour of visual artists' studios
- 2018 We Are All Space in Time, The PASEO Festival, Taos, NM curated group exhibition of temporary, site-specific projects in new media arts festival
- 2017 *American Domain,* Museum of Capitalism, Oakland, CA curated group exhibition in a temporary site-specific museum
- 2016 *LOT*, various locations, Miami, FL curated, site-specific events and group research project
- 2012 International Symposium of Electronic Art (ISEA), 2012, New Mexico conference co-organizer
- 2011 *Worlds Outside This One*, 516 ARTS, Albuquerque, NM curated group exhibition
- 2009 2010 Red Legacy <u>www.red-legacy.blogspot.com</u>
- 2009 Becoming Commons/Become Common, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA and various locations, Bolinas, CA curated event series
- The Institute for Social Research and The Discovery of Art God, Württembergischer Kunstverein, Stuttgart, Germany and The Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA curated group traveling exhibition involving site-responsive artworks

 In Situ: Richmond, Bay Area Now 5, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA co-curated site-responsive project and event series
- 2007 The San Francisco World's Fair of 2007, various venues, San Francisco, CA co-curated series of temporary, site-responsive projects
- 2006 *The Mississippi: All the Way Down,* with the Center for Land Use Interpretation, California College of the Arts, San Francisco, CA co-curated travel-research trip and exhibition

awards & residencies

* does not include o	grants received as	visual arts director	at CCA	, 2012-2015
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- 2025 Artist-in-residence, Ucross, Clearmont, WY
- 2025 Artist-in-residence, PLAYA, Summer Lake, OR
- 2024 Grant recipient, New Mexico Writers
- 2024 Artist-in-residence, High Desert Test Sites, Joshua Tree, CA
- 2024 Writer-in-residence, Writing Space, Chicago/virtual
- 2021 2023 Innovator in Residence, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2023 Grant recipient for From Source to Mouth, Cultural Attractions Fund, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2020 2021 Frontier Fellow, Epicenter, Green River, UT
- 2019 Artist-in-residence, Jentel Arts, Banner, WY
- 2018 Artist-in-residence, North Street Collective, Willits, CA
- 2017 2019 Research fellow, Center for Art + Environment, Nevada Art Museum, Reno
- 2016 Implementation grant recipient, Wave Maker Grants, Miami, FL
- 2015 Artist-in-residence, Libre, Gardner, CO
 - Research & Development grant recipient, Wave Maker Grants, Miami, FL
- 2014 Artist-in-residence, Cannonball, Miami, FL
- 2012 Grantee finalist for PLAND, Creative Capital
 - Grant recipient, Graham Foundation for the Advanced Studies of Fine Arts
- 2011 Grant recipient, Edwards Mother Earth Foundation
 - Discretionary funds grant recipient, McCune Charitable Foundation, Albuquerque, NM
- 2010 Project grant recipient, IDEA Fund, Houston, TX
 - Artist-in-residence, Caldera Arts, Sisters, OR
 - Grantee semi-finalist for PLAND, Creative Capital
- 2008 Grantee semi-finalist for In Situ, Creative Capital
- 2007 Project and travel grants recipient, DAAD German Academic Exchange Service, Germany Visiting curator-in-residence, Center for Land Use Interpretation, Wendover, Utah

collections

Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum

select publications

* does not include publications via CCA, 2012-2015

- "Drinking Water in Albuquerque: a tour from river to tap," *Edible New Mexico*, May 2025 (illustrated essay).
- Taos Portraits II: Photos by Paul O'Connor, Hondo Mesa Press, 2024 (two artist profiles)
- site & scene, bi-monthly Substack, March 2024 ongoing
- Resilience: A Voice of the New Agrarianism, Regenerate, February 2023 (illustrations, 4-page spread)
- "Becoming More Cottonwood," Southwest Contemporary, Rooted: Poetics of Place, Fall 2022 (essay and illustrations)
- "Seeing New Mountains," Lee Saloutos, Churchill Arts Council, Summer 2022.
- Trails Across the Bighorns, self-published, edition of 100, 2020.
- "Void with a View: a visit with Paul O'Connor," *Paul O'Connor Sculpture 2017-2019*, Hondo Mesa Press, 2020.
- "How to See the Unseen," Mokha Laget: Spatial Luminescence, Apache Plume Press, 2019.
- The Rites of Land: Willits Edition, self-published, edition of 100, 2018.
- "Sharing Places, Building Dreams: How One Commune Led to Another (and Another,)" Radical: 50 Years of Libre Intentional Artist Community, Gallery of Contemporary Art, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Fall 2018.
- "Golden Moments: A Visit with Artist Alexis Elton," Edible, Santa Fe, February 2016.

- "Architecture on Film: Drop City (programme notes)," The Architecture Foundation, London, July 2013.
- "A Place to Eat Together," Edible, Santa Fe, Summer 2013.
- Sbarge, Suzanne and Andrea Polli, eds. "Power: Gridlocked," <u>Machine Wilderness: 18th International Symposium on Electronic Arts.</u> Santa Fe: Radius Books, 2012.
- Auther, Elissa and Adam Lerner, eds. "How to Build a Commune: Drop City's Influence on the Southwestern Commune Movement," <u>West of Center: Art and the Counterculture Experiment in America, 1965–1977</u>, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2012.
- 516 ARTS, ed. "Fort-Building or the Path to Radical Change," <u>Worlds Outside This One exhibition catalog.</u> Albuquerque: 516 ARTS, 2011.
- Dwyer, Bryce, ed. "How to Start with Nothing," Phonebook3. Chicago: InCubate, 2011.
- "The Teacher Was the Sixties: Learning from Pacific High School," *Proximity,* Chicago, vol. 8, Fall 2010.
- Red Legacy Blog, blogspot.com, 2009-2010
- Skydive Office of Cultural Affairs, ed. "What is a Campfire?" <u>Proposals for a Socialist Colony.</u> Houston: Skydive, 2010.
- "The Teacher Was the Sixties," *Proximity,* Chicago, vol. 8, Winter 2010.
- "PLAND: Practice Liberating Art Through Necessary Dislocation," Proximity, Chicago, vol. 7, Spring 2010.
- Hooper, Rachel and Nancy Zastudil, eds. "All Eyes on Houston." On the Banks of the Bayou City: The Center for Land Use Interpretation in Houston. Houston: University of Houston, 2009.
- In Situ, ed. In Situ: Richmond, San Francisco: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 2008.
- "973 Possibilities and How To Make Sense of It?" <u>The Institute for Social Research: 90 Days on Communal Living.</u> Stuttgart: Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste, 2008.
- Elder, Erin. <u>Building a Civilization from Scratch: Drop City's Expanded Practice. 1965-67.</u> San Francisco: California College of the Arts, 2007. Masters thesis for Curatorial Practice.
- Bradley, Will, et al. <u>The San Francisco World's Fair of 2007</u>. San Francisco: California College of the Arts, 2007.

select press

* does not include reviews via CCA, 2012-2015

- Boyce, Dan. "As the West reckons with drought, one artist is looking at the past, present and future of El Paso County's Monument Creek." Colorado Public Radio, July 4, 2023.
- Behr, Sage. "Erin Elder's From Source to Mouth Shares the Stories of Monument Creek." Southwest Contemporary, June 6, 2023 (feature)
- Timberg, Cecilia. "Water Course: A Creative Research Project on Monument Creek," *Creativity & Innovation at Colorado College newsletter*, block 6, March 2023
- "Project Spotlight: Erin Elder + Gibbous," Rhizomatic Arts blog, August 2022 (interview)
- Landi, Ann. "Art Coaching, Part 2," Vasari21.com, April 2018.
- Makela, Nathan. "The Accidental Anarchist: How an Anti-Capitalist Artist Makes a Living," *Cipher Magazine*, Colorado Springs, December 2017.
- Coffield, Cynthia. "An Exhibition of Proposals for a Socialist Colony," *Artlies: A Contemporary Art Quarterly,* issue 66, Summer 2010, p. 72. (review)
- Wozny, Nancy. "The Idea Fund Gives Garage Art and Boy Bands With Pens a Chance," *CultureMap*, www.culturemap.com, June 4, 2010. (review)
- Mueller, Kurt. "Critics Picks: Houston: An Exhibition of Proposals for a Socialist Colony," Artforum.com, May 2010. (review)
- Del Pesco, Joseph and Marisa Jahn. "The Pedagogy of the Hot Tub." *Proximity,* Chicago, vol. 2, Summer 2008. (review)

professional honors

- 2017 present Board member, Friends of the Orphan Signs, Albuquerque, NM
- 2016 present Advisory board member, PASEO Project, Taos, NM
- 2016 2024 Advisory board member, Fuego Arts, Albuquerque, NM
- 2023 Grant review panelist, New Mexico Arts, Santa Fe, NM
- 2020 Juror, Fulcrum Fund Relief Grant, 516 ARTS, Albuquerque, NM
- 2017 2019 Board president, Friends of Public Art, Albuquerque, NM
- 2017 Juror, The Lillian Orlowsky and William Freed Foundation Grant, Provincetown, MA
- 2017 Grant-review panelist, New Mexico Arts, Santa Fe, NM
- 2016 Juror, The PASEO, Taos, NM
- 2014 2016 Director's Circle, CENTER, Santa Fe, NM
- 2015 Juror, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK
- 2015 Juror, CENTER, Santa Fe, NM
- 2015 Grant review panelist, New Mexico Arts, Santa Fe, NM
- 2014 Juror of *The Big Show*, Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX
- 2014, 2013 Portfolio reviewer, CENTER, Santa Fe, NM
- 2013 Residency juror, Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe, NM
- 2012 Juror, Design Santa Fe, Santa Fe, NM
- 2012 Residency juror, Signal Fire, Portland, OR
- 2007 2009 Curatorial board member, The Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA

teaching experience

- 2022 2025 curator/advisor for graduating exhibition, Confluence Low-Residency MFA Program, University of New Mexico, NM
- 2020 2023 workshop facilitator, Department of Innovation and Creativity, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2019 curriculum designer, Monument Creek: place-based research, community values, and creative expression
 - Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2016, 2018 2019 contributing faculty, Art + Rural Environments Field School University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
- 2017 visiting instructor, Introduction to Museum Studies (block course) Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2016 contributing faculty, senior seminar: studio II
 - Santa Fe University of Art & Design, Santa Fe, NM
- visiting lecturer, Introducing PLAND (weekend-long workshop)
 University of New Mexico, Taos, NM
- 2011 visiting lecturer, graduate studio seminar: Introducing PLAND Southern Methodist University Taos, NM / Dallas, TX
- visiting lecturer, PLAND with Land Arts of the American West (weekend-long workshop)
 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 2010 visiting lecturer, Adobe (day-long workshop)
 University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, CO
- visiting lecturer, Radical Reuse (weekend-long workshop)
 University of Houston, Houston, TX
- 2010 visiting lecturer, Each Campfire Lights Anew, (weekend-long field trip) Glassell School of Art, Houston, TX,
- 2009 2010 visiting instructor, Curating Place in Theory and Practice; Ideas into Action; Intro to Gallery Management; Curatorial Project: Site-Specificity in Art University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2006 2007 teaching assistant, World Revolutions in Theory & Practice; Core: 4D California College of the Arts, Oakland, CA

lectures & public talks

* does not include lectures & public talks via CCA, 2012-2015

- PLAYA Presents, Playa, Summer Lake, OR, February 7, 2025
- We Don't Have a River: a conversation from many perspectives, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, November 8, 2023
- Looking and Listening to Learn: a conversation between artists, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, October 6, 2023
- Source Material: Learning Monument Creek, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO, April 20, 2023
- Opportunities for Young Artists, New Mexico School for the Arts, Santa Fe, September 7, 2022
- Demystifying Residencies, Lincoln City Fellowship program, online, August 25, 2022
- Collaboration and Conservation, Coalition to Enhance Working Lands Fellowship gathering, Albuquerque, NM, July 30, 2022
- Fireside Chat with Black Forest Institute, presented by GOCA and M12, Ent Center for the Arts, Colorado Springs, CO, April 26, 2022
- From Observation to Creation: My Path Through Art, Colorado College, April 26, 2022
- Free Money?: Demystifying Art Grants, Southwest Contemporary, online, November 17, 2021
- Showing Your Work Now, Lincoln City Fellowship Program, online, July 30, 2021
- Professional Development for Young Artists, Art & Social Justice Apprenticeship Program, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM, July 27, 2021
- Between the Swells and Draws, Epicenter, Green River, UT, May 26, 2021
- Seed Circles, Root & Bloom conference, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM March 19-21, 2001
- My Life in Art, University of New Mexico, February 4, 2021
- My Life in Art, University of New Mexico, November 11, 2020
- Professional Practices, New Mexico School for the Arts, October 16, 2020
- Trails Across the Bighorns: author talk and reading, Youtube.com, May 31, 2020
- Trails Across the Bighorns, Harwood Art Center, February 24, 2020
- Jentel Presents, Sage Gallery, Sheridan, WY, October 2, 2019
- Professional Practices. Art + Rural Environments Field School. La Florida. CO. May 18, 2019
- Art, Ecology and Culture, Colorado Creative Industries Summit, Salida, CO, May 16, 2019
- Slide Slam, Nomad9 MFA Program, 5G Gallery, Albuquerque, NM, April 6, 2019
- Professional Development for Emerging Artists, CNM, Albuquerque, NM, April 5, 2019
- Basics of Proposal Writing, Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, NM, March 27, 2019
- Museum as Intervention, 516 Arts, Albuquerque, NM, January 16, 2019
- Career Day, Santa Fe Public Libraries, Santa Fe, NM December 5, 2018
- The Rites of Land: Willits Edition, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM, November 27, 2018
- Drawing to See, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, November 14, 2018
- We Are All Space in Time, Pecha Kucha, Taos Center for the Arts, Taos, NM, September 16, 2018.
- The Rites of Land, Mendocino County edition, North Street Collective, Willits, CA, August 3, 2018
- Field Work as Curatorial Practice, Art + Rural Environments Field School, Las Vegas, NM, May 30, 2018
- Breaking (with) the Institution, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO, November 9, 2017
- Land as Stuff: a Curator's Journey, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM October 10, 2017
- Beyond The Studio: Researching the Rural, Alliance for Artist Communities conference, Denver, CO, October 3, 2017
- Proposal Writing for Creatives, WESST, Albuquerque, NM, September 8 & 25, 2017
- Inside American Domain, Museum of Capitalism, Oakland, CA, June 18, 2017
- Creative Communes, Berkeley Art Museum, May 17, 2017

- A Survey of Surveying: a history of land administration in America, LOT, Miami, FL, October 8, 2016
- Can Art Address the Biggest Questions of our Time? Institute for Contemporary Art, Young Artists Initiative, Miami, FL, October 5, 2016
- Directors Kick-Off, PASEO Taos, September 24, 2016
- Transmission Lines, Mountain Fold Books, Colorado Springs, September 2, 2016
- Letting Go: Making Art Without Expectation, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, August 30, 2016
- How to Apply to the Fulcrum Fund, 516 Arts, April 9, 2016 and Santa Fe Art Institute, April 30, 2016
- The Art of Proposal-Making: a 5-week workshop for creative people with big ideas, Santa Fe Art Institute, March 2016
- Creating Experiments in the Outside World, Perez Art Museum Miami, PAMM Teen Arts Council, December 10, 2015
- Discussing the Electric Night: Larry Bob Phillips in conversation with Polly Schaafsma, Phil Space, Santa Fe, October 29, 2015
- Surface: Emerging Artists of New Mexico, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, June 6, 2015
- Scott Anderson & David Leigh IN CONVERSATION with Erin Elder, Phil Space, Santa Fe, May 5, 2015
- Introduction to Curatorial Practice, United World College, April 17, 2015
- Art Matters: Emerging Leaders in Art and Creativity, Evoke Gallery, October 18, 2014
- SFAI140, Santa Fe Art Institute, November 14, 2013
- Alternative Structures, California College of the Arts, Oakland, March 18, 2013
- Professional Practices, Santa Fe University of Art and Design, February 27, 2013
- Collectives and Collectivism, Albuquerque Museum of Art and History, November 18, 2012
- 18th International Symposium on Electronic Art, Albuquerque Museum of Art & History, September 18, 2012
- PLAND, Fieldwork conference, Marfa, TX. March 15-17, 2012
- Making Proposals, Making Things Happen. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, Advanced Sculpture, December 2, 2011
- PLAND. Pecha Kucha Taos, Taos Community Auditorium, October 6, 2011
- Curating Counterculture. 516 ARTS/University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, DIY seminar, July 28, 2011
- Collaboration and Collectivity: a conversation with Meow Wolf. Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe. NM June 24, 2011
- The Construction of the Counterculture: the Role of Women & the Place of Architecture, panel discussion. 516 Arts, Albuquerque, June 4, 2011
- Women in the Counterculture, radio interview. KUNM, Women's Focus, Albuquerque, June 4, 2011
- Hosting and Residency. Open Engagement Conference, Portland State University, May 15, 2011
- Across the Great Divide, a panel discussion. Nelson Gallery, University of California at Davis, March 31, 2011
- PLAND's Radical Reuse Tour in collaboration with students from the University of Houston and Skydive Gallery, Houston, TX, November 16, 2010
- PLAND: There is No Alternative to Water, Skydive Saturday Free School, Houston, TX, November 14, 2010
- *PLAND,* radio interview. Bad at Sports, Chicago, October 18, 2010
- Practice Liberating Art through Necessary Dislocation. University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Gallery of Contemporary Art, October 7, 2010
- Building Castles in the Air and on the Ground: Creativity in Contemporary Gallery Practice. Colorado College, Museum Studies, May 5, 2010
- Fire Shelter. Caldera Arts, Sisters, OR. January 23, 2010

- Trial by Fire: My Search for Temporary Autonomous Zones and Spontaneous, Radical Community. California College of the Arts, Oakland, Advanced Sculpture. September 22, 2009
- Curious About the Curatorial Profession: a panel discussion with Janet Bishop, Erin Elder, and Dina Pugh. California College of the Arts, San Francisco, Career Fair. November 21, 2008
- Goodbye, Commune. Württembergischer Kunstverein, Stuttgart, Germany. August 24, 2008
- In Situ: Richmond. A City in Conversation. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA. July 24, 2008
- Brainstorm: a weekend workshop about the future art at Libre. Libre, Gardner, CO. June 20 22, 2008
- Drop City: art, trash, and the network: the makings of an expanded practice. California College of the Arts, San Francisco, Graduate Seminar. October 25, 2007
- Socialmentalenvironmental: A workshop about self-empowerment and sustainability. Sparwasser, Berlin, Germany. August 4 8, 2007