

Eventually Wild: Practices at the Threshold

Leading into our unknowable future

*A workshop with Chris Seeley, Robert McNeer, Sue Davidoff and Allan Kaplan
The Towerland Wilderness, Langeberg Mountains, Southern Cape, South Africa
1 – 6 October 2011*

“In Wildness is the preservation of the World”

Henry Thoreau

Wild is a state of being - to be able to range beyond limits, to cross thresholds, inner and outer. In our working lives, we are often so defined by outer circumstance that we are unable to access the creativity and freedom demanded by situations that call for entirely new ways of responding, beyond the conventional. We need to be able to go deeper into our own sense of wild and freedom.

Eventually Wild is an exploratory workshop offering you the opportunity to expand your perceptions of what the world is calling from you now as a leader in your field, whether you work in business, consultancy, education, community development or the public sector.

Together, we will explore wilder ways of seeing and responding to our world. We will shape imaginative and perceptual practices that will enable us to experience the qualities of wild within and without us in practiced and rigorous ways. We'll work creatively with our minds and bodies through imagination, slow contemplation, inquiring discussion and fierce conversations; through playing and movement, words and voice, listening and watching; through image-making, writing and questioning. We will work to find the qualities of wild within ourselves such that we can renew and evolve our purpose and presence as leaders. So that, in fact, we can begin to lead beyond the expected, to find the unexpected and even unexperienced within ourselves.

And we will do this within a wilderness setting that enables outer paths and inner paths to meet in conversation through our unfolding journey.

Eventually Wild will take place at Towerland Wilderness, a mountain wilderness situated in the Langeberg Mountains of the southern Cape, South Africa.

Workshop dates/times: 1 – 6 October 2011. Participants are expected to arrive late afternoon of 30 September and depart morning of 6 October.

Cost: R7,800 including 6 nights accommodation, all food and facilitation. (If you are interested but cannot afford the cost please contact us. This workshop enjoys no outside financial support. But we will try to accommodate where we can.)

Inquiries and Applications: Please contact Luke Kaplan of The Proteus Initiative at people@proteusinitiative.org with any inquiries. If you wish to apply please send a letter of application – containing a brief description of who you are and what motivates you to want to

attend – also to Luke Kaplan. He will then take the application process further. Once accepted, a 20% deposit will be due, and the balance will be expected the week before the workshop begins.

The Towerland Wilderness

Towerland is a mountain wilderness situated in the Langeberg Mountains of the southern Cape, South Africa. It is a refuge for pristine mountain fynbos (the most diverse floral kingdom in the world), and contains hillsides and ravines and imposing mountain peaks, a generous river and meandering streams, countless walks, infinite views, and the abundant wildlife of the Cape Floral Kingdom.

Sue and Allan have created a space where people can meet together – and meet themselves – in a wilderness context where, through intimate proximity to the living forces of nature, real meeting can take place, real conversations can be held, and new thinking and practice, appropriate to our collective future, can be nurtured. A very delicate balance needs to be held so that the wilderness is not intruded upon or unduly tamed, yet at the same time becomes accessible in a way that does not constrain its intrinsic wildness, its timeless and evolving essence. We are going about this development as organically as possible. Buildings are simple and aesthetic, constructed of clay, stone and wood with succulent roofs, in a format which encourages both community and solitude. Water is gravity-fed from stream and spring, and there is no electricity; the elements of nature are experienced in their grace and power. The space is basic, relaxed and exquisite.



For further information on Towerland Wilderness as well as The Proteus Initiative, see www.proteusinitiative.org

The Team

Eventually Wild is an experimental innovation held through a collaboration of four experienced and practised individuals whose concerns and interests find each other like underground streams meeting at a confluence of possibility.

Chris Seeley started life with drawing, painting, making – a childhood informed by creating – before studying graphic design, moving into a corporate identity and then industrial market research and new business development. She broadened her horizons at the turn of the century to encompass wider global issues and seeks to re-integrate her expressive creative life into her work as a response to sustainability and the current world situation. She is a Visiting Fellow University of Bath's School of Management, and a Research Affiliate at the Social Sculpture Research Unit at

Oxford Brookes University in the UK. She is Co-Director of the Ashridge Masters in Sustainability and Responsibility at Ashridge Business School. She also works worldwide with public, private and educational organisations incorporating different ways of knowing beyond the intellect into an improvised, unmediated way of receiving the world, allowing spontaneous responses to emerge.

Robert McNeer *is a theatrical educator, actor and director; cofounder of La Luna nel Pozzo (The Moon in the Well), a cultural centre in the countryside near Ostuni (Brindisi province), in southern Italy, where he hosts a month-long summer theatre festival in a stone amphitheatre of his construction. Aside from leading workshops there in theatre and clownwork, he continues his theatrical research with non-professional actors throughout Italy, teaching in schools and psychiatric wards, as well as with the differently-abled. He recently opened practical research into clown and neuro-motor rehabilitation with Parkinsons patients in Venice, and regularly conducts seminars for Rudolf Steiner educators in Germany. www.la-luna-nel-pozzo.com.*

Allan Kaplan & Sue Davidoff *are development practitioners, teachers and writers. They are the authors of The Development Practitioner's Handbook, Artists of Invisible, The Developing of Capacity, Dreaming Reality – The Future in Retrospect and The Learning School, The Courage to Lead, Changing your Teaching respectively. They usually work out of The Proteus Initiative, founded as a vehicle for developing the organic and holistic methods of JW von Goethe into a new understanding and approach to the sphere of social renewal. Their work is an attempt to realise the full consequences of true participation, of socio-ecological complexity, and of an emerging consciousness which holds freedom and responsibility as a generative polarity in the quest for wholeness. Together they have also established the Towerland Wilderness as a space for nature and for the learning that may come through immersion in, and communion with, nature.*