

# Revealing The Moraine story



Illustrated by Emi Shimura

# MORaine

## A hub for Art, Culture and Nature

Nested in nature, on a 'stuwwal' in Beek, in the landscape between the Netherlands and Germany. Here you can find a monumental horse carriage house called 'The Moraine'. The building stands on land that is pushed up with huge force in the ice time. That makes us wonder: How can we work with the natural forces that are in and around us?

Yaniv Schwartz and Eva Van der Zand were inspired to start this place since they experienced a lack of unique locations that offer space for embodied knowledge sharing. The Moraine is a practice ground for artists, designers and artisans. Together we form a group of multi-disciplinary professionals, a global network, exchanging knowledge, by facilitating workshops, residencies and exhibitions.

Through conversations, making and developing we unite people globally and locally to slow down, in order to become better listeners to the needs of nature. We use art as a liberating tool to question and express new stories in this world. The border identity of the land facilitates space to research the stories and the complications around Identity. We are a place where craftsmanship is shared by masters so unique skills stay alive in this world. Keeping old traditions alive we see as a way of walking the path of sustainability.

We operate based on the principles of communal effort, participation and exploring an inclusive future for the planet.

Our facilities include an owl hotel, unplugged woodwork studio, Kirkarra. movement space, a shop, a gallery, outdoor fireplace and artist in residence. We encourage our surroundings to contact us for collaborations, guest teachers, events and workshops.

*Connecting with the force of nature and the inner force.*



# Index

History as inspiration  
Kirkarra  
The four wheels  
The Border Academy  
Moraine Gallery  
Movement Space  
Educational Tea Garden  
About us

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# History as inspiration

The building is an old horse carriage house built around 1890. A horse carriage inspires us as an instrument that people used to transport themselves and their goods. We value a nomadic way of being as a central topic of the place. In the monumental house are remains left of a wooden horse carriage. A vehicle on the move charms us because it does not claim ground permanently and the feeling of identity is fluid. The image of a horse carriage brings old black and white pictures into our minds. A horse carriage perhaps also confronts us with the image of a vehicle of the elite. Like old marketplaces with carriages where exchange is taking place, a dynamic place of human bodies and goods. Another picture is a horse carriage that goes on a journey, without a clear destination. Taking perhaps unexpected routes and turns. Since the building is in the border area, we are on a continuous research of finding ourself on a shared middle ground. Trying to navigate between identities, privileges, hierarchies and viewpoints.



# Kirkara

## unplugged workshop for fine woodworking

Kirkarra is an unplugged workshop for fine woodworking focusing on Nomadic architecture and unique instruments for living.

Kirkara (horse carriage in Hebrew) is a four-wheeled vehicle which transfers people, goods and valuable cultural cargo from place to place. What symbol would the horse carriage be for you?

In a similar way, Kirkara school is about exchanging knowledge, ideas and skills in the field of woodworking and traditional crafts such as ceramics, textile, blacksmithing and glass.

Forming a global network of woodworkers and artisans our focus is passing on the secrets of the trade, the quality and joy of working with our own hands, relating to the human body and the rhythm of breath.

As travelers in this world we walk together and create in humbleness and in respect to nature - a place we call home.



# The four wheels

SlowRhythm,

When we think about sustainability these days, we think about new innovative materials and solar panels.

SlowRhythm is a form of sustainability focusing on slowness and human rhythm. Means we move and create in the rhythm of our bodies using our breath as a Metronome.

Sustainability is an internal quest of understanding the universal and natural system surrounding us.

Slowing down is an available necessity which can bring us there.

Communal Effort

Our community values creative cooperation and collaboration.

We strive to produce, promote and protect nature, social networks, public spaces, works of art, and methods of communication that support such interaction.

Participation

We create an environment which encourages one's participation. By building our own residencies, sharing knowledge, tools and communal effort we take responsibility for our own lives. We are an open community which encourages the public to come and participate as Participation is the key word for real transformation. We achieve being by doing.

Exploration

We believe that self-development and innovation comes together with the will and urge to explore and discover new realms. Our community based on an open sourced system will encourage people to try and dive into educational knowledge and practice by doing.

# Construction project

Inspired by Takami Kawai from Suikoushya school for Japanese traditional carpentry.

Kirkara Collective wants to invite Semi-Experienced/Experienced woodworkers to take part in the construction of the wood workshop and become a Co-builder and a member of our guild.

We will build the entire workshop based on traditional timber frame methods used in Japan and Europe. As a Co-builder you will learn about all the necessary steps required to build a standalone structure. The process will be divided in 15 steps over a period of 4 months. The entire process will be guided by professional woodworkers.

Surveying the Land and Site

Drawing and Marking Preparation

Estimating and Planning for Building Material

Making Sawhorse

Building Material Preparation

Marking

Joinery Making

Temporary Assembly

Assembly work

Making the Roof

Making Walls

Making Floor

Making Opening Partitions

Making Building Components

Building School Equipments

# Border Academy

A place where an open conversation starts around borders.

A starting point for authentic and fluid identities.

A place to practice sensitivity for those on the other side of your (inner) borders. There is a special pole in the forest behind the house placed on the old border with the texts “Let friendship heal, what borders break”.

The house has 23 windows in total, now 9 closed windows with bricks and 14 open windows. A methaphor for topics we prefer not to shine light on. Each window shining a different light from a different direction North, East, South and West.

## *The border residency*

In September 2021 the first Border Academy research group of 7 female artists and performers started with every month a weekend residency The concept is that every weekend is hosted by one of the 7 women, working on: How can the other women help and give support in a topic I want to research? This will continue next year with a new group.

## *It takes a village to raise a person.*

A workshop/lecture series starting in September 2022 where every Sunday a person who is more related to Germany and a person who is more related to the Netherlands host a Sunday workshop. The goal is to have an ongoing meeting ground in the Moraine to exchange knowledge, dealing with the inbetween state of the border.



# Moraine Gallery

## Fruits of the future

The moraine gallery is located on the first floor of the building. In the past it used to be a storage space where apples from the nearby apple orchard were stored.

We now will 'store' a different kind of refreshing fruit: contemporary design and art objects from various makers around the world. The themes the gallery focuses on are border landscape mentality, nomadic ways of living, our relation with non-humans, the fruits of the future and embodied knowledge.

Every year, we have various groups and individuals that work towards an exhibition.

We have a love for handcrafted wooden boxes. An ongoing part of the exhibitions will be boxes. The objects will be shown with unique and suiting handmade boxes. The way an object is transported is an essential part of a work. A box is a metaphor for a solid home for objects, before it gets a place in the outside world, like a tiny house. The box is a container for a form. A box also suggests traveling and exchange.

2022: The Moraine research, an exhibition during Ubbhill festival



# Movement Space

There is a 55m<sup>2</sup> movement space and 3 meter high. There is one wall with mirrors from bottem to the ceiling. We use this space for various purposes.

This space we rent out as well for external teachers and people who would like to host workshops. There are mats and pillows that can be used to sit on the ground. We have a sound system that is easy usable. We welcome any physical workshop. Lectures or readings are also possible to be given in this space and 20 chairs can be placed in it. We have projector facilities.



# Educational Tea Garden

When you enter the garden through the gate we welcome you into a ecosystem. The garden is used for outdoor activities. So it is possible to give workshops and lectures on the grass or on the concrete part. We encourage people to do workshops inside the forest to discover new places since there are a lot of nice open spots and fields in the forest.

There is a possibility to make fire in the garden. There are also camping spots available for residencies.

We grow various trees, plants and herbs based on permaculture principles.

The garden in the back is facing an orchard with apple and pear trees. After that the “Divelsmountain” nature area starts. There are protected animals and ecosystems, so we are always careful with the area. Next to that, there is a small pond, a nature organization takes special care for that.



# Eva van der Zand

Eva van der Zand (1989, Nijmegen), is born on the border between the Netherlands and Germany. She is a social scientist and conceptual glass artist. The border she grew up on made her question, how do stories shape our identity? Therefore she started to study International Relations at the Rijks University of Groningen and TUKS university in South Africa. After working as a journalist, media specialist and teacher for various organizations, she wanted to research the relation between language and the material world. She wondered: How does our voice shape our bodies and the (material) world around us? She continued studying art and design at the Gerrit Rietveld Academie, focussing on glass blowing, and School for visual theater in Jerusalem. For her graduation work she got selected by the external committee and won the Overduin art prize. She develops workshops, educational programs and exhibitions.



# Yaniv Schwartz



Yaniv Schwartz (1989, Jerusalem) is a multidisciplinary artist, designer and wood worker. His family roots stretch over glass craftsmanship and painters from Poland, jewelry makers from Morocco/Portugal and the art of hosting from Jerusalem. This mix of backgrounds created a curiosity in the universal need of humans all around the world to come together and share a space that serves their needs. Many times he experienced spaces that did not meet these needs. The tension that is created by misplaced architecture and design motivates him to make a change. His main research question throughout his practice is: How to empower individuals to use space in a creative way?

Yaniv studied Architectural design and Space at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. In his artistic practice he discovered that fine woodworking is a profound way to capture the beauty and complexity of architecture in one single object. Here he learned to combine craft with a conceptual framework. In 2018 Yaniv followed his heart's wish to study temple building in Kyoto. In Japan he learned from Takami Kawai, Suikoushya school for Japanese traditional carpentry. He practiced traditional Japanese joinery. The stories of the ceremonies that happen around woodworking and hand made wooden objects are a big inspiration for Yaniv. Yaniv's creation process starts from the depth of observing trees, wood and the elements that shape them. He values shaping the wood based on the rhythm of his heart beat. Yaniv continued his training with master carpenter and artist, Gil Arad in Jerusalem. During his stay in the middle-east, his fascination for nomadic cultures was developed. Yaniv treats the wood with great care, since it's scarce in the middle-east.

In his professional practice Yaniv designed when he was 16 his first space. He continued to develop creational gatherings and was one of the founders of the Middle East burning man event, Midburn. His professional career continued in Amsterdam, where he designed and built three boats. A small community sauna boat, a cultural ship Odessa and a 200 m2 houseboat in Amsterdam Noord. That houseboat he uses as his working office and as a cultural hub. This continued in an intensive hands on "Zelfbouw" water villa in Amsterdam. He did these projects together with his twin brother Daniel Schwartz. As twins they developed a unique symbiotic way of thinking, developing and working.