herman de vries

documents of a stream the real works 1970 - 1992

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Published by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh on the occasion of the exhibition 'documents of a stream, the real works 1970 - 1992, Inverleith House, 16 August to 27 September, and the conference 'Order, Chaos and Creativity', 29 and 30 August 1992.

In an edition of 756 copies, of which this is copy number

108 human devisis

The first 324 copies are signed by the artist and include a unique work, nothofagus obliqua, royal botanic garden edinburgh, 1992 (leaf on paper, letterpress printed text) 19 x 14 cm.



Text @ herman de vries, Paul Nesbitt

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Introduction

The development of the Royal Botanic Garden over 300 years into a focus for the investigation and description of the world's flora, has been mirrored by a progressive and (by now) almost complete mutual estrangement of the arts and sciences at a time in our history which, more than ever before, needs their collaborative and joint contribution to human consciousness and understanding.

In recognition of this, we continue to develop our association with art informed by nature, presented within the dual context of a uniquely appropriate garden, and gallery (Inverleith House, from 1960 to 1984 home to the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art), with significant exhibitions during recent years by Sjoerd Buisman, Chris Drury, Andy Goldsworthy, Rory McEwen, Peter Randall-Page and Margaret Stones. On the occasion of the art and science conference 'Order, Chaos and Creativity' it is our great pleasure to present the first major British exhibition by the artist, scientist and natural philosopher, herman de vries.

It was the creation of abstract, white and random works in the 1960's which established his association with 'Zero' art, which continues to this day. The 'real' works presented here began with the collection of 25 shells in August 1970 on the island of Mahé in the Seychelles; their variation in form a presentation rather than a representation of reality. Later collections incorporated the variety of natural objects (flowers, leaves, stones, earth), the sound of streams and observations of human relationships with nature, the largest being **natural relations** (1989) - a collection of several hundred herbs and herbal substances purchased in markets and shops from Morocco to Senegal and India, or gathered in the countryside around the artist's home in Bavaria.

His view of our relationship with nature is beautifully expressed by his rejection of capital letters, which he has not used for over twenty years "it is a kind of anti-hierarchic expression. it's the same in nature; every part of it has its own function, so why should a tree be more important than a diatom?"

From the viewpoint of an organisation which actively undertakes research into both, I must agree.

Paul Nesbitt Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh August 1992

a walking conversation

herman de vries visited the Royal Botanic Garden in May 1986 for the exhibition 'The Unpainted Landscape'. This was his first visit to Scotland, and his itinerary was to be guided by the locations of certain plant species which he would study and collect; their familiarity bringing more than reassurance, to provide the basis for his continuing study of geographic variation in the physical and chemical properties of significant plants.

He returned in October 1989 during his exhibition 'flora', to make work for this exhibition, and to study plants in the herbarium, glasshouses, rock garden and arboretum. The following extract is taken from a conversation made at that time during the collection of branches from 56 species of tree and shrub in the arboretum, a living outdoor 'tree museum'. As we walked, herman would notice certain species which were very familiar to him, being common in the hedgerows and forests around his home, and others which were completely new, brought from locations world-wide to grow together in an artificial but fascinating juxtaposition.

Specimens were collected, and carefully identified from their labels - with species name in latin (the international language of plant description), common name where it existed, the family to which the plant belonged and its country of origin.

Can you remember how long you have been interested in plants?

ever since i was a little boy. when i was five years old i already knew the names of most common plants - except grasses, around our town near the dunes of north holland. my parents stimulated my interest very much, and later they bought me a picture book so that i could identify plants for myself. after i met suzanne and we went to holland together for the first time, we went to the dunes where i remembered beautiful valleys in which grew parnassia and wintergreen and creeping willow. but we were prevented from going further by a fence, and when i looked over this fence there, in the valley of my youth, stood the first dutch atomic power station...

the needles of this tree look like the pines of our forests, but it is pinus densiflora from china and japan - different from pinus

sylvestris, the scots pine. the destruction of the native scots pine forest represents another chapter in our cultural history, after the occupation of scotland by the english many forests were felled for their wood, and for charcoal with which to smelt iron ore, i believe that near loch maree there were three furnaces which used 150 hectares of mature forest each year, when i came to scotland for the first time i saw on the maps the names of many forests, but when i visited these places, i found not forest, but moorland, or grazing land, realizing the impoverishment of this landscape, i studied all the topographical maps and made the text of a book 'in memory of the scottish forests', containing the names of all those lost forests, but with a book you don't get back a forest.

A book can evoke however the memory of those forests, which is a beginning.

of course; it is a contribution to our becoming conscious of it, which is also what art's about. art is one of the very small number of things in life which we have no definition for. but for me at least, it has to do with consciousness, or becoming conscious. unless we change our environmental consciousness, it will be too late; not for nature which can become poorer and poorer by our means and still survive, as it has throughout the history of earth, but for ourselves. we will be gone. people think we have to protect nature for itself; we have to protect nature for ourselves ...

i am using a sickle to cut a twig from this cherry tree - one of the oldest human activities, harvesting. It has a human scale and the person who cuts with the sickle has a relationship with the plant being cut. It is a big distance from the sickle to the harvesting machine, and one of the reasons why we have lost our connection with nature. but what can i say; I fly to edinburgh in a plane, and when I make an exhibition with twigs, leaves, earth - or when I go to the printer who prints poetry - I use my car. I do not drive big distances, but still I use it.

perhaps the most direct connection to our environment is our sense of smell (i prefer to use the word life space rather than environment because for me it has the sense of us being a part of it more). When we were in the rock garden and peat house, i smelled the juices from small-leaved species of ledum and rhododendron. every species smelled different, and you can with some experience identify many plants from their smell. We have no words to describe this, and it's nice to do something that we

don't need words for. our nose has perhaps the most direct connection to our environment of all our organs, although i don't like to use the word environment. i prefer the word 'life space' because that unites us with it.

We cut a branch from Caragana arborescens, a member of the pea family, which releases a pungent odour into the warm air.

i would never eat from this tree. the smell is a sign - it would make me sick i think, but it's a kind of signal that many of us have lost our sense for. we don't need these senses in a supermarket, and when we no longer have supermarkets we have lost our orientation in the world!

How does this relate to the branch of a cherry tree which we are about to collect?

in springtime when the forest around my village is without leaves, you see cherries flowering on the hillsides, like white clouds between the trees. I have worked with them in autumn, by laying down card beneath the tree and as the leaves fall onto it, fixing them in the positions where they have fallen so that I have that moment made visible, and I feel that I have to make visible that which people don't see anymore, but it's about randomness in nature as well, that particular work, randomness and chance, in the beginning I said when a leaf falls from a tree there are many factors making the leaf at a certain moment fall on a certain point, and this togetherness I called randomness, but later I saw that everything is causal, and 'randomness' in fact expresses our inability to grasp the complexity of all these causes.

We walk along, through the autumn smells of rotting leaves, cutting twigs for our collection and just as we debate whether it is randomness or chance which determines our choice of where to stop, we discover another cause - fascination!

fascination has a cause - many causes, yes of course. i am fascinated by the aspect of completely unrelated species resembling each other so closely that it becomes difficult to recognise the differences. in this closeness is a diversity which is remarkable to witness and to experience.

This is one of the prime functions of the Royal Botanic Garden - the identification and classification of plant species, so how would you say your work differed from that of a botanist?

they have different points of departure to do with consciousness i hope, and the herbarium (a reference 'library' of over two million preserved plant specimens) where we were working yesterday, is a collective work of art made by botanists. it certainly fits into what my idea of art is - but that is not so important. what is important is that such differences do not always exist. this is what language does; language is 'you and me', 'we and them', 'here and there', whereas in effect, it is all part of the same, it is one. but language is a human instrument of great power, like words of sorcery. it gives us the means to communicate what we are doing, what is around us, and gives us a grip on reality and great social power, but also we pay for it in the loss of unity. but still i am talking!

You have your own collections of living and preserved plants, but also a museum of earth samples collected from all over the world.

yes, there are i think about 2,400 samples. about ten percent has been collected by friends, and the rest i have collected myself. sometimes i have a large sample from a particular region, such as the three hundred samples i have from groningen in holland - many of them very similar, but always different in some way. from the island of gomera in the canaries which is an important place for me, i have collected 350 samples, each very different because gomera is an old volcanic island, and there you have red, white, yellow, orange, grey and brown earth. in scotland i have collected yellow earth, orange earth and even very red earth from the shores of loch kishorn.

What do your earth samples represent to you?

everything represents always something. earth signifies so much because it is the basis of life; on which all plants grow, on which we stand. but i am interested of course not only in earth. i like to see lakes and streams because water is present in all living things; not because of it - that is an intellectualisation of it, but because i love streams.

herman de vries Paul Nesbitt Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh October 1991

The following extract is taken from a recording made by Paul Nesbitt on 11 July 1992, in the oldest beech forest in Germany, (Kleinengelein, in the Steigerwald) for the Art and Science conference 'Order, Chaos and Creativity', 29 & 30 August 1992, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

documents of a stream

... the sound of rain. once i made a recording of water and it was produced as a record - water, the music of sound. it contains the sounds of rain, springs, the sea on the west coast of ireland and the sounds of six little waterfalls from a brook here in the forest. and every waterfall had its own sound. its own individuality. and still it is the same stream, the same stream that gets its identity from the circumstances at certain points, and at other points it has another identity. and still it is the same water ...

our language separates things from each other. so we say when we see a waterfall - 'look, a waterfall' as if it is a separate entity when in fact it is part of the stream, descending and continuing. our language has a great power of identification, but at the same time it creates an illusion because it separates things which are not separate at all.

another recording i made was called natura artis magistra (nature is the teacher of the arts), and that is also the name of the zoo in amsterdam. I recorded, using a parabolic microphone, the sounds of birds singing at 4.30 in the morning, bringing together sounds from deep in the forest that would not normally be heard together with the human ear. so in fact, it was not completely organic in this way. originally i recorded this as an example of randomness; now i regard it differently, because what is randomness, what is order? i think it's all the same.

but still they had a lot of poetry, these sounds.

in 1963 or 1964 i made a recording of a pedestrian crossing in the centre of a town in holland, with traffic stopping and starting again - a lot of noise coming together, and the name of this tape was humanae vitae after the encyclical of pope john 23rd - 'of human life'. i also regarded it as an example of randomness; things coming together with no cause. but that's not true - all these things have causes. we call it randomness because we have no overview any more of the causes which led to certain situations; they are too complex for us to grasp, to understand, therefore we invent words, i think that words such as order, randomness and chaos, are in fact separations from a totality, - abstractions which are not real, not actual, therefore i prefer the word actuality instead of reality.

i think i know, understand, less and less of the processes going on around us and i start more and more to wonder. it's of course very interesting to see how science analyses the way certain processes are happening and functioning. that's great. but it can't explain the wonder of it.



in memory of the scottish forests



the real works

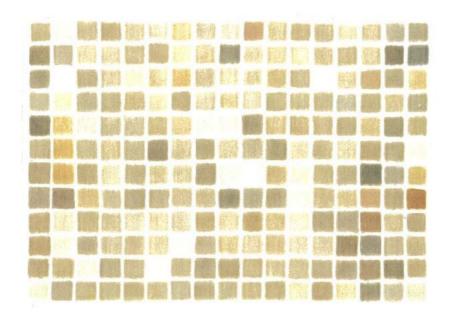
collected mahé, seychelles, august 1970 (25 shells) dimensions variable

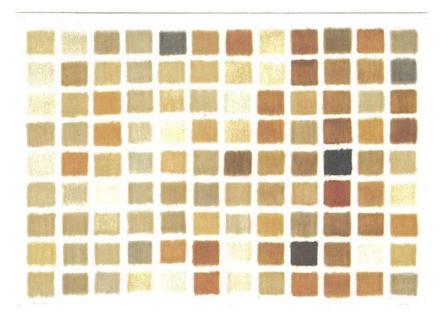
opposite page detail from natural relations 1982-1989 dimensions variable

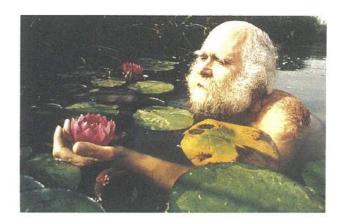
centre pages the meadow (paradise field) 1986 (eschenau) 3940 m²











herman de vries photograph by heinz gunter mebusch

opposite from polish earth (od polska ziemia) 1991 (earth on paper) 100 x 140cm photograph by bruno schneyer

opposite
from earth; nepal and india 1992
(earth on paper) 100 x 140cm
photograph by bruno schneyer



forms from the botanic garden 1991-1992 (leaves on paper) 100 x 140cm photograph by bruno schneyer

opposite page key to species in forms from the botanic garden 1991-1992 (text - from plant information labels)

following pages exposition complète de luang-prabang 1975 (poster) (printed text on paper) 32 x 36cm

to be all ways to be 1974 (printed text on rice paper) 22 x 15.5cm

I tococa platyphylla melastomataceae tropical america 2 clusia grandiflora guttiferae guiana 3 clerodendrum tomentosum verbenaceae australia 4 casaurina equisetifolia casaurinaceae 5 vitis rumicispermo vitaceae himalava 6 hevea brasiliensis euphorbiaceae 7 boehmeria macrophylla urticaceae himalaya 8 echium decaisnei boraginaceae canary islands 9 coffea arabica rubiaceae 10 weinmannia silvicola cunoniaceae new zealand II caesalpinia sappan leguminosae malay isles, india 12 brownea grandiceps leguminosae venezuela 13 melicope mantellii rutaceae new zealand 14 camellia sinensis theaceae 15 lophomyrtus bullata myrtaceae new zealand 16 piper excelsum piperaceae new zealand 17 alchornea ilicifolia euphorbiaceae eastern australia 18 schinus lentiscifolius anacardiaceae brasil 19 bseudopanax crassifolium var.trifoliolatum araliaceae new zealand 20 aloysia triphylla verbenaceae chile, argentina 21 knightia excelsa proteaceae new zealand 22 agathis australis araucariaceae new zealand 23 pomaderris apetala rhamnaceae new zealand 24 beilschmiedia taraira lauraceae new zealand 25 monochaetum humboldtianum melastomaceae south america 26 cunonia capensis cunoniaceae south africa 27 grevillea banksia 'albiflora' proteaceae 28 fuchsia arborescens onagraceae mexico 29 phyllocladus hypophyllus phyllocladaceae malaysia, new guinea 30 lavatera acerifolia malvaceae canary islands 31 echium candicans boraginaceae madeira 32 vaccinium acrobracteatum ericaceae new guinea, borneo 33 senecio aschenbornianus compositae mexico 34 lyonothamnus floribundus var. asplenifolius rosaceae california 35 banksia collina proteaceae australia 36 isopogon dawsonii proteaceae australia 37 glyptostrobus lineatus taxodiaceae china 38 phyllocladus trichomanoides phyllocladaceae new zealand 39 phyllocladus hypophyllus phyllocladaceae malaysia, new guinea 40 phyllocladus glaucus phyllocladaceae new zealand 41 acacia floribunda leguminosae australia 42 acacia falcata leguminosae australia 43 dodonaea triquetra sapindaceae java 44 hibiscus species malvaceae 45 amentotaxus formosana cephalotaxaceae china 46 ceratonia siliqua leguminosae meditteranean 47 acacia spadicigera leguminosae jamaica, central america 48 cinnamomum loureirii lauraceae china, japan 49 cyphomandra betacea solanaceae southern brazil 50 bencomia sphaerocarpa rosaceae hierro (canary islands) 51 aphelandra sinclairiana acanthaceae central america 52 theobroma cacao sterculiaceae central and north south america 53 vaccinium cercidifolium ericaceae borneo 54 vaccinium auriculifolium ericaceae new guinea

poesie actuelle

EXPOSITION COMPLETE

de

luang - prabang

comprenant tous les éléments de paysage de ville et tous les objets, vivants et morts de la région de

luang - prabang

l'exposition est ouverte tous les jours, par tous les temps à continuer partout et par tous. temporary travelling press publications

* 2 *

herman de vries

to be all ways to be

1974

kathmandu

nothofagus

nothofagus menziesii nothofagus solandri nothofagus betuloides nothofagus antarctica nothofagus pumilio

herman de vries 1991-92 royal botanic garden edinburgh

text from nothofagus, royal botanic garden edinburgh 1991-1992 (leaves on paper, printed text) 17 x 49cm (5 elements), 17 x 15cm (1 element)

opposite page my poetry is the world... 1972

my poetry is the world
i write it every day
i rewrite it every day
i see it every day
i read it every day
i eat it every day
i sleep it every day

the world is my chance it changes me every day my chance is my poetry

sen seoghal mo bhàrdachd bi mi ga sgrìobhadh gach latha ga athsgrìobhadth gach latha ga amharc gach latha ga leughadh gach latha ga chnàmh gach latha ga chadal gach latha

sen seoghal mo dhìsneadh gam chaochladh gach latha sem dhìsneadh mo bhàrdachd

Gaelic translation by Aonghas MacNeacail

biography

- 1931 born in Alkmaar, Netherlands
- 1949-1951 studied at the School of Horticulture, Hoorn
- 1951 farm worker in France
- 1952-1961 worked at the Plant Protection Service, Wageningen
- 1953 began to paint, self-taught
- 1961-1964 published four issues of the review nul=0
- 1961-1968 worked at the Institute of Applied Biology in Nature, Arnhem
- 1965-1972 published eight issues of the journal integration
- 1969 began to travel in Asia and Africa
- 1970 moved to Eschenau, Bavaria
- 1974 began to make a series of artists books, comprising to this date 31 publications (eschenau summer press)
- 1991 founded integration journal for mind- moving plants and culture

selected one person exhibitions

- 1959 gallery 31, Dordrecht
- 1964 objectivität und zufall Gallery d. Frankfurt.
- 1967 toevals-objectiveringen 't venster, Rotterdam (cat) Gallery Hansjorg Mayer, Stuttgart (cat).
- 1968 toevalsstrukturen Gemeentemuseum, La Haye (cat). rationele strukturen felison, limuiden (cat).
- 1969 Ung Dansk Kunst Academie, Copenhagen (cat).
- 1970 random objectivations Gallery Swart, Amsterdam.
- 1973 random shapes Gallery Swart, Amsterdam.
- 1974 Lucy Milton Gallery, London; Gallery Lydia Megert, Berne.
- 1975 exposition complete de luang-prabang Luang Prabang, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (cat)
- 1976 at random Kunstcentrum Badhuis, Gorinchem (cat).
- 1977 Gallery Mueller-Roth, Stuttgart.
- 1979 16dm² de Vleeshal, Middelburg (cat).
 - the birch Gallery Megert, Berne.
- 1980 werken 1954-1980 Groningen Museum (cat).
- 1981 documents of a stream Apollohuis, Eindhoven (cat).
- 1982 here Gomera (cat).
- 1983 from earth Gallery Megert, Berne.
- 1984 natural relations I- the moroccan collection Gallery Mueller-Roth, Stuttgart (cat).
- 1989 natural relations with the locked paradise Karl Ernst Osthaus Museum, Hagen (cat).
- 1990 natural relations Silkeborg Kunstmuseum, Silkeborg Denmark (cat).
 - a moment in a stream Art Affairs, Amsterdam.
- 1991 terre, vie et poesie Espace de L'Art Concret, Mouans Sartoux.
 - flora Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.
- 1992 nature morte Durhammer Gallery, Frankfurt.
 - documents of a stream; the real works 1970-1992 Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

selected group exhibitions

- 1957 natuur en kunst Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam.
- 1962 nul Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (cat); anti- peinture, Hessenhuis, Antwerp (cat).
- 1964 zero New Vision Centre, London.
- 1965 zero Atelier Fontana, Milan,
 - white on white de Cordoba Museum, Lincoln, Mass (cat).
- 1966 destruction in art symposium London
- 1974 basically white I.C.A., London (cat); poesia concrete 1952-1967 National Library, Florence (cat)...
- 1979 zero Kunsthaus, Zurich.
- 1980 pier & ocean Hayward Gallery, London; Rijksmuseum Kröller-Müller, Otterloo (cat),
- 1985 livres d'artistes Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (cat).
- 1987 the unpainted landscape Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh (cat).
- 1989 the european movement 1958 1989 Central Artists House, Moscow (cat).

- 1990 from nature into art Messepalast, Vienna (cat).
 - le carre liberé Espace de L'Art Concret, Mouans Sartoux.
- 1992 from the silence... Zacheta, Warsaw (cat); zufall Hackmuseum, Ludwigshafen (cat),

selected publications

- 1960 wit is overdaad/blanc est surabondance 22 pages...
- 1962 nul=0 in Revue Nul=0 no.1 p.1; wit/white/blanc 200 pages.
- 1963 random objectivations in Revue nul=0 no.2 pp 34-35.
- 1965 visual information in Review integration no.1 pp3-18.
- 1971 (random structured semiotic fields in malayalam types) Mahé, India, Mally Crafts,
- 1972 random objectivations III pages, Brescia, Editions Amodulo.
 - on language limuiden, Subvers 8, 24 pages.
- 1973 chance fields an essay on the topology of randomness Dinkelscherben, Editions e, 35 pages.
- 1974 the wittgenstein papers I and II, Berne, Artists Press, 16 + 16 pages, noise the temporary travelling press publication no.1, Kathmandu, 30 pages.

to be all ways to be, temporary travelling press publication no. 2, Kathmandu, 6 pages.

1975 random shapes catalogue 574, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam. five manifests on language - and a poem Berne Artists Press, 32 pages.

asiatische und eschenauer texte portfolio, Berne Artists Press. 16 pages.

- 1976 two different chance & change situations, following similar chance channels and situated on similar but locally different chance fields in Museum Journaal no.6, pp. 248-249.
- 1977 october, february, june eschenau summer press publications no.8. the dust of some roads and a leaf from a tree temporary travelling press publication no.9.
- 1979 16dm², an essay, Editions Lydia Megert, Berne 468 pages.
- 1980 wit-white, 3rd edition revised, Artists Press, Berne, 200 pages.
- 1981 documents of a stream I & II appollohuis, Eindhoven 228 pages.
- 1983 belladonna, (book published on the occasion of the film), appollohuis, Eindhoven 67 pages.
- 1984 natural relations I, the moroccan collection Gallery Mueller-Roth, Stuttgart/Institute for Modern Art, Nuremberg 298 pages.
- 1986 von wirklichkeit und sprache eschenau summer press publication no.27.
- 1987 collecting notes, eschenau, 68 pages from earth gomera Editions Lydia Megert, Berne, 108 pages.
- 1988 ich bin was ich bin flora incorporata Piesport, Ottenhausenverlag, 484 pages.
- 1989 natural relations eine skizze Karl Ernst Osthaus Museum, Hagen Institute of Modern Art, Nuremberg, 800 pages.

selected films

- 1972 look out any window.
- 1973 chance and change.
- 1977 a letter from lames.
- 1979 the flower sutra. film notes.
- 1980 water pictures.
- 1983 belladonna.

list of works in the exhibition (dimensions in centimetres)

- I all the plants in the royal botanic garden edinburgh, august 1992 (approximately 15,000 species, 30 hectares)
- 2 forêt humaine 1957 (tempera on jute) 80 x 61.
- 3 white 1960 (tempera with sand on board) 50 x 60.
- 4 collected mahe, seychelles, august 1970 (25 snail shells) dimensions variable.
- 5 collected lauterbach, 29 may 1974 (leaves of grasses on paper) 62.5 x 45.
- 6 to be all ways to be 1974 (printed text on rice paper) 22 x 15.5 each element, 9 elements.
- 7 exposition complete de luang prabang (poster) 1975 (printed text on paper) 32 x 26.

- 8 my poetry is the world... 1975 (printed text on paper) 32 x 26.
- 9 this shall ye think... (telegram text from the vajracchedika prajnaparamita) 1975 (printed text on paper 36 x 51).
- 10 leaves from the courtyard, hotel amrhitha, thicaud, trivandrum, southern India 18 january 1977 (leaves on paper 73 x 102).
- II untitled 1977 (plant specimen on paper, printed text, cardboard cover) 51 x 33 (edition no. 16/50).
- 12 fernbook, collected: valee du doubs, jura, 29 october 1978 (plants, paper, boards) 61 x 30.
- 13 fernbook ferns of gavdos, collected: gavdos (34 50'N, 24 05'E), april 1978 (plants on paper, wooden box) 23 x 16.5. 5 + 17 sheets.
- 14 ferns collected between sangha chölling and pemiantse 1979 (unique book; plants on paper, cloth bound) 61 x 47.
- 15 untitled 1981 (basalt stones from the shores of northern Gomera, Canary Islands) 15 elements, dimensions variable.
- 16 all leaves from one bough (alle blatter von einem zweig) salvia canariensis, collected-riscos de agulo, gomera, canary islands, 4 february 1982 (leaves on paper) 38 x 105.
- 17 all leaves from one bough (alle blätter von einem zweig) sonchus species, collected-riscos de agulo, gomera, canary islands, january 1982 (leaves on paper) 38 x105.
- 18 lichenstone (flechtenstein) chorros de epina, gomera, canary islands 1982 ± 13 x 20.5.
- 19 from nature to culture 1984 (bark with paint on paper) 28 x 54.
- 20 2019 x 1986 (2019 leaves from Vaccinium myrtillus) (leaves on paper) |20 x |80. coll. Gallery Mueller-
- 21 from earth: kirchlauter 1986 (earth on paper) 50 x 70.
- 22 stream, water reproductions (photographs taken | second apart, Glen Shieldaig, Scotland) 1986 (photographic colour prints, three elements) 31 x 138.
- 23 own blood (eigenblut) 1987 (blood on paper) 76 x 104.
- 24 the bundles 1972-1989 (shelves, plants, newspapers) 200 x 89 x 32.
- 25 grosses rasenstück (great grasspiece) 1989 (plants) 170 x 125. Coll. Gallery Mueller-Roth, Stuttgart.
- 26 under the trees (drescher) (unter den bäumen) (leaves from eight species of forest trees) 1989 (leaves on paper) (eight elements) 68 x 320.
- 27 2000 empty sheets, kathmandu (rice paper) 1989 ± 80 x 52 x 245.
- 28 rudrakshas, 1989 (24 rosaries from fruits of Eloeocarpus ganitrus from Pashupatinath, Nepal) (fruits, string) 1989 dimensions variable.
- 29 herbal medicines from two herbalists at bhaktapur and kathmandu 1989 (32 and 106 herb samples with documentation) dimensions variable.
- 30 human life, kathmandu 1989 (earthenware, cereals, seeds, 2 glass plates, water, earth) dimensions variable.
- 31 9 bundles 1990 (branches, rope) ± 40 x 110 x 500.
- 32 phalaris arundinacea, six plants out of one clump, 1990 (plants, paper) (six elements) 173.5 x 234.
- 33 durable change 1990 (charcoal on paper, charcoal) 53 x 75.
- 34 life 1990 (charcoal on paper, charcoal in case) (two elements) 53 x 75, 14 x 15 x 33.
- 35 untitled 1990 (bark on paper) 37.5 x 31.5.
- 36 untitled 1990 (birch bark on paper) collection Leykam, Knetzgau.
- 37 last pieces (from a felled forest, fabrikschleichach) 1991 (wood on paper) 36 x 54.
- 38 from eight fire spots (von acht brandstellen) 1991 (ashes on paper) 76 x 104.
- 39 108 pounds of lavender flowers (108 livres de la fleur de lavande) 1991 (lavender flowers) dimensions variable.
- 40 the provençal field (lou camp provençal) 1991 (colour pencils on paper) 124.5 x 154.
- 41 from the oak forest of donadieu (de la forêt des chênes de donadieu) 1991 (stems) 126 x 198.
- 42 from the royal botanic garden edinburgh 1991 (branches from 56 trees and bushes) 60 x 275.
- 43 from earth; solignac 1991 (earth on paper) 100 x 140.
- · 44 from polish earth (od polska ziemia) 1991 (earth on paper) 100 x 140.
- 45 from earth; nepal & india 1992 (earth on paper) 100 x 140.
- 46 in memory of the scottish forests 1986-1992 (wall installation) (charcoal on wall) 420 x 600.
- 47 vaccinium from the royal botanic garden edinburgh 1991- 1992 (leaves on paper, text) 26.5 x 31 (27 elements), 26.5 x 23 (1 element).
- 48 nothofogus from the royal botanic garden edinburgh 1991-1992 (leaves on paper, text) 17 x 49 (5 elements) 17 x 15 (1 element).
- 49 forms from the royal botanic garden edinburgh 1991-1992 (leaves on paper) 100 x 140.
- 50 euonymus nanus 1992 (leaves on paper) 50 x 70.
- 51 tragopogon pratensis 1992 (seeds on paper) 21 x 30.