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# G R O U N D L O R T R O C

An interdisciplinary forum by Awst & Walther

28 March – 18 April 2015

We find ourselves today in a time of great disorientation and uncertainty, marked by ecological imbalances, unforeseen technological advances and global political tensions. In this context, how do we imagine the future and define our grounds for existence? Awst & Walther understand their artistic practice as a means of establishing a critical distance to current systems of order, and to carve out new ways of thinking.

It is exactly at this point that *Ground Control* takes off: The forum attempts to generate new thinking through bringing together a range of interdisciplinary perspectives in order to re-frame traditional ideas of *ground* in both physical and metaphorical senses. The project follows on from a symposium created by the artists last summer in Wales, UK investigating different perceptions of landscape (see [farandwide.awst-walther.com](http://farandwide.awst-walther.com)).

The core of the forum is a new installation by Awst & Walther: a projection of a digitally constructed, hyper-real landscape where the viewer is caught in the middle of a camera's gradual journey towards the horizon. The landscape depicts a wide open area of permafrost tundra that is flipped 180° so that ground becomes sky and sky becomes ground. This minimal shift creates great spatial disorientation, and places the viewer in unfamiliar, floating territory.

Alongside the installation, Awst & Walther have devised a special stage for a symposium. Here, a series of talks and discussions with participants from a range of different fields e.g. architecture, philosophy, ecology, cultural theory and politics, will offer insightful perspectives on ground and future-thinking.



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## PROGRAM

### **Opening: Saturday, 28 March 2015, 6 - 9pm**

- 6 pm Talk by Ine Gevers (curator, writer, activist) and discussion
- 7.30 pm Performance by Sigal Zouk/Jan Burkhardt (dance) and Andreas Reihse (music)

### **Symposium: Saturday, 18 April 2015, 2 - 8pm**

- 2 - 7pm Talks and discussion with:
- Adrienne Göhler, publicist and curator  
Steffen Krämer, filmmaker and researcher in media studies  
Dr Heiko Schmid, art historian and curator  
Brian Edlefsen Lasch, solar energy engineer  
Bettina Vismann, architect, artist and researcher
- Moderated by Manon Awst & Benjamin Walther
- 7 - 8pm *A&R Impromptu improv experimental show*  
Sound performance by Annika Henderson + Andreas Reihse

Biographies of all participants and up-to-date information can be found at  
[www.awst-walther.com/groundcontrol](http://www.awst-walther.com/groundcontrol)