

# ABSTRACTS

Malina Grubhofer und Maya Mathias

## **THE FUTURE OF MOUNTAIN REGIONS: LIVING AND WORKING IN THE ALPS**

Residents have moved away, houses stand empty, the gardens grow wild, the village shops are abandoned, the village center stands deserted. Many communities in the Alps have experienced a steady decline in recent decades. What will it take to counteract migration and an ageing population in mountain regions? The International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA) is pointing the way to the future.

Keywords: outmigration, Alps, migration, co-working spaces, future

Page: 4

Annina Boogen

## **OPERATION CONCRETE: OF ATMOSPHERES AND DAMS**

The alpine landscape in Switzerland is a limited resource, which leads to conflicts over its use. Energy infrastructure such as dams trigger a conflict between economic interests and the need to preserve nature and heritage. Another factor has also played a role for some time: the transformation of the energy industry. How should we deal with this dilemma in the future? The article's author argues that this question cannot be dealt with within the confines of a single discipline. It requires far more transdisciplinary approaches.

Keywords: energy strategy 2050, landscape perception, alpine hydropower, transdisciplinarity, atmosphere, sensory ethnography

Page: 7

Werner Bätzing

## **WHAT FUTURE FOR THE ALPS? FUTURE PERSPECTIVES FOR A SINGULAR MOUNTAIN RANGE IN THE MIDDLE OF EUROPE**

As a high mountain range, the Alps are a unique landscape in Europe that particularly exemplifies the European approach to the environment and the economy. The various scenarios illustrate how strongly certain normative values shape the development of the Alps.

Keywords: scenario planning, Alps, urbanization, tourism, de-settlement

Page: 11

Johannes M. Hedinger

## **ART IN THE ALPS**

While in the 19th century, the Alpine landscape was still a beloved object of painting, with increasing tourism it came to represent a brand and after the Cold War became synonymous with conservation and security. A new orientation in the perspective on the Alps can be observed in the visual arts of our time as well, which brings with it a more expansive understanding of art and artworks: "from mostly singular, object-like phenomena to an approach oriented toward process, action, and experience."

Keywords: art, land art, site-specific, periphery, sustainability, research, Institute for Land and Environmental Art

Page: 14

Barbara Keller

**OUR WATER: SIX MODELS FOR THE FUTURE**

"Our Water: Six Models for the Future," an exhibition at the Alpine Museum, illuminated approaches to the increasingly scarce resource of water in the era of climate change. Curator Barbara Keller offered a summary of the central scientific findings to a wide audience and opened up a play of possibilities as well as questions in the realm between research and fiction.

Keywords: climate change, drought, heavy precipitation, permafrost, tourism

Page: 19

Boris Previšić

**DEEP STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION – ALPINE CULTURES IN THE FACE OF IMMINENT CLIMATE CATASTROPHE**

Comprehensive countermeasures will be necessary if the consequences of an undeniable climate catastrophe are to be slowed and the steps undertaken are actually to take effect. With regard to the Alpine region, this structural transformation could be thought of in three ways: in terms of adaptation, renewable energies and carbon capture, and fields of operation.

Keywords: climate catastrophe, sustainability, structural change, solar power, wind power

Page: 22

Marius Förster and Peter Tränkle

**THE ALPS MUST GO! A CLEAR VIEW OF TROUBLED TIMES – POST-PROMETHIAN SPECULATIONS ON TRANSVERSES THROUGH NATURE AND CULTURE**

In the wake of global warming, average temperatures are rising in high-alpine regions as well, resulting in dwindling permafrost and destabilization of the thawing rock. In the Swiss Alps, permafrost can be expected starting at 2500 meters above sea level – an area that encompasses around 5 percent of Swiss territory and includes over 3000 peaks, which are now potentially unstable. We are thus already living with a future of significantly altered Alps.

Keywords: permafrost, global warming, Prometheus, 3000 peaks, national myth

Page: 25