

# Exklusive

The name of our Project reflects our aim to explore various aspects and perspectives of our coexistence with other animals and how we feel about it.

We came to Drosendorf as outsiders with different backgrounds and experiences, some more and some less connected to nature, but all having stories and emotions related to the theme of "cohabitation with animals". We wanted to understand and learn how the people of Drosendorf live with and relate to other animals.

## The site:

Under the bridge that leads to the castle's main gate, there is a hidden space. It is decorated with wooden beams and boards, where some bugs make intricate patterns on the wood. Apart from the bugs, the place is full of mystery. It is hard to access, ignored by people, and creates a strange atmosphere where the air is different and the light fades away.

We picked this site that is excluded from Drosendorf's daily life because its mysteriousness allows us to tell many stories and create many worlds. It is a world that contains many worlds. Moreover, its isolation due to its inaccessibility adds to our portrayal of exclusion. It is an example of infrastructural exclusion. However, only people who are physically capable can visit the installation.



### The Interviews:

We interviewed some locals and learned how they coexist with different animals in their homes and surroundings. We used cardboard to make life-sized figures that show their stories and personalities. On the left, you can see four examples of these figures: the man with more than 1000 roommates, the man who shares his love of luxury cars with a weasel, a group of teenagers and the mouse who admire each other but from a far.



### The Film:

The wall becomes a screen for a self made film. It shows scenes from Drosendorf and its surroundings, recording glimpses and noises of everyday life. A quiet voice narrates in the background, speaking slowly. The voice reads the text that introduces this document, describing the context and the purpose of the project.

### The web of life:

A circular artwork displays, located by the entrance, various animals along its edge. Guests can use ribbons to link any two animals and label their relationship. The ribbons create a web-like pattern inside the circle, showing the connections and intersections among the animals.

Words rewritten on the ribbon like, Admiring, feeling sorry, disgust, eating.



The sculpture:

A pile of cardboard boxes forms the centre of the installation. Each box has a label that urges guests to use their senses: feel, touch, smell, see, hear. And indeed, each box holds something that appeals to those senses: soft moss, wildflowers, mushrooms, snail shells, and various items from Drosendorf and its surroundings. But the guests cannot fulfil their curiosity as everything is out of reach. Plastic foil covers the boxes and blocks the access to the contents. The boxes that offer to see are obscured by multiple layers of foil. The boxes that suggest to: touch or smell are sealed by a single layer of foil that teases but denies the contact. The box that invites to hear is silent.

The installation is about exclusion. It promises a sensory world of abundance and diversity, but it never delivers. It is like a zoo, a national park, a road to a place that is always distant. It conveys the message that there is much to experience, but it is separated from us. It reflects the nature-culture dualism, the alienation of the environment from the self. It makes common things scarce and private.



A series of photos that shows different animals present in drosendorf.



An abstract structure playing with lights and shadows.



Thank you for this valuable course. I learned a lot of new knowledge and skills. The course was well-designed, well-delivered, and well-supported. I appreciate the feedback, guidance, and encouragement. Thank you for this memorable and rewarding experience.

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