

Kirsten PALZ

(born 1971 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Lives and works in Berlin.)



IMPACT (2023-25), HD video, 12:00, colour, sound

The video *IMPACT* is a comprehensive visual narrative about the global use of 790 pesticides in nature and agriculture. Drawing upon data provided by state government institutions that monitor pesticide usage worldwide, the work is grounded in meticulously sourced information. Through its exploration, *IMPACT* classifies pesticides into subcategories such as herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, acaricides, molluscicides, and more. These substances, integral to modern agricultural practices, are depicted for their pervasive influence on ecosystems. In the video a litany of chemical names, formulae, and classifications, is superimposed over AI-generated images of diverse landscapes and cityscapes where landscapes merge surreal 'larger-than-life' environments with reflections of the fragile state of natural ecosystems affected by pesticide use. The juxtaposition of chemical data and landscape imagery invites viewers to contemplate the complex relationship between human activity and the natural world. *IMPACT*

deals with the dependency on pesticides and their consequences for biodiversity, soil health, water systems, and human well-being. Watching this work within the rural landscape of the JYH Museum, we are reminded of agriculture's damaging cycle of dependence on these pesticides that may feed us in the present but starve us in the future. Graphically, with the red squares framing chemical data flashing up in every scene, this work also manifests as an SOS message to our imperilled planet.

ARTIST BIO

<https://kirstenpalz.com/>

Kirsten Palz is a Berlin-based conceptual artist and educator, trained in Fine Arts at the School of Visual Arts, New York (1994–98), and Computer Science at IT-University Copenhagen (1999–2003). Palz interweaves art, technology, language, and ecological critique. Her multidisciplinary practice — collected under the heading “Sculpture as Writing” — blends performance, video, installation, text, generative music, linguistic and structural form, programming, data-mining, and AI-driven media to explore aesthetics, environments, and ecological loss. Her work addresses pressing global issues such as climate change, species extinction, the influence of the pharmaceutical industry, destructive consumption patterns, and the accelerated degradation of Earth's ecosystems. Palz's practice integrates conceptual methodologies with interdisciplinary approaches, research-driven processes, and new technologies. Her methods include self-written texts, the use of AI, pop-cultural aesthetics, and scientific research methodologies, including research into data from institutional libraries and private companies, to create knowledge-based works. These are collected in Palz's *Chronicle of Extinction* archive, which centres on themes of climate change and the destruction of biodiversity.

Selected recent solo exhibition include: Pavillon Milchhof, Berlin, Germany (2024); Four Boxes, Krabbesholm, (Denmark) (2024); Changing Room, Berlin, Germany (2022, 2020, 2019); Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Germany (2022); Spor Küblü, Berlin, Germany (2020); SCHARAUN, Siemensstadt, Berlin, Germany (2019); Hamburger Bahnhof Museum for Contemporary Art, Berlin (2018); Botschaft, Berlin, Germany (2017); The National Museum, Berlin, Germany (2016); Schwartzsche Villa, Berlin, Germany (2015); Grimmuseum, Berlin, Germany (2015); MOMENTUM, Berlin, Germany (2015); KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany (2014); and many others.

Recent selected group exhibitions include: The National Museum, Berlin, Germany (2025, 2023); Spor Klübü, Berlin, Germany (2024, 2019, 2018, 2016); Gregory Allicar Museum of Art, Colorado State University, Michigan, USA (2023); LAGOS, Mexico City, Mexico (2023); Irenic Projects, Los Angeles, California, USA (2022); Stadtraum, Berlin, Germany (2021); MOMENTUM, Berlin, Germany (2021); Zionskirche, Berlin, Germany (2021); Tokyo Wondersite, Tokyo, Japan (2016); Tete, Berlin, Germany (2016); BarBabette, Berlin, Germany (2015); Den Frie, Copenhagen, Denmark (2015); Month of

Performance Art, MOMENTUM, Berlin, Germany (2015); Neue Nationalgalerie, Staatliche Museen, Berlin, Germany (2014), among many others.