



A talk “Utopian Signals : Reactivating a 1980’s Ecotopia through Archive & Media Art”

Followed by a film screening of **Big Tech Blues** (2025)

Elisabeth Brun

Dr. Elisabeth Brun will talk about the the International Nyksund Project—a largely forgotten ecotopian experiment in an abandoned fishing village in Northern Norway during the 1980s. Initiated by pedagogues, engineers, and architects from Technische Universität West Berlin, the project was both a lived utopia – an international eco-city for youth - and a testing ground—a site where youth pedagogy, environmental activism, technological innovation, and alternative living practices converged with local culture. Using images, videos, and VR works *Nyksund Reloaded* (NODES Collective 2022-25), explores how past utopian desires remain legible in contemporary ecological and artistic imaginaries, resonating with what Ruth Levitas calls “Utopia as method” – a tool for critically probing alternative futures.



We will also screen Elisabeth’s essay film *Big Tech Blues* (2025.) When the filmmaker’s abandoned childhood school in a small village in Northern Norway was bought up by Elon Musk’s SpaceX Starlink programme, the event sparked reflections on what is at stake as digital technology infiltrates all aspects of human life.

April 21, 2025, 18:00-20:00
Room 301, building 10,
Sophia University
In person only
No registration necessary



Elisabeth is a filmmaker, visual artist, and researcher working at the intersection of media theory, artistic research, and public space. She specializes in how technology, mediation, and form

shape cultural and ecological imaginaries. She holds a PhD in Media Studies from the University of Oslo, 20 years of industry experience as a documentary filmmaker, and a post-master’s in Public Art from the Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm.

Currently a visiting scholar at The School of Arts, Design and Media at Kristiania University College, Oslo, Elisabeth’s work spans film, installation, and 3D media. Her films and artworks have been shown at Oberhausen International Short Film Festival, Seattle Art Museum, and Lofoten International Art Festival, among others. She has received awards including the Ivan Juritz Prize for Creative Experiment and the Emerging Artist Award at Mimesis Doc Fest.

