

# Archeypical Encounters in Shibari

## A performative rope research in Helsinki

**When:** February 23th to 27th, 2012

### Schedule:

Thu 17-21

Fri 17-21 sat 12-18

Su 12-18 + Showing

Mo contemplation + future planning

**Where:** Todellisuuden Tutkimuskeskus (Reality Research Center) / Suvilahti / Puhdistamo 6, II krs / Helsinki, Finland

**Costs:** 100 €, max 12 participants

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**More information:** [Todellisuuden Tutkimuskeskus](#) , [Dasniya Sommer](#)

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## Utopia

What goods are at stake in a Second Life age of global mega bit exchange? Among billions of personal and more anonymous data, identities get suspended. If things were simply upside down, or inside out it would be an easy trot. But affairs seem more intricate. Seizing chaos literally. Rooting bodies airwards, floating into the world wide void.

Incompatible archetypes form patchwork communities and trench warfares. On the scout for oneness, traveling meditative galaxies, individuals become partially ascetic. Is the social task to transform and reduce archetypical existence to zen-zero?

The Method: Atheist Yoga & Un-Shibari:

Traditional Shibari settings operate with binary constellations like active-passive, men-women, dominant-submissive. One person taking control over a second person, by restricting and decorating them with ropes. Or: The Good and the Evil, The Beauty and the Beast.

What questions are needed, in order to move beyond these (gender insensitive) concepts?

-what archetypical behaviour do we find, and identify with, within the normative Shibari practice? why disidentifying with these figures? why are they enjoyable/can be problematic?

-towards what dynamic do specific type-constellation lead?

-how can rope technique be tailored, so that it becomes compatible with performative role models?

-what archetypical sensual/sexual patterns do practitioners decisively or unconsciously experience, copy, manifest or challenge in relation to their (sub-) cultural context?

- what concepts for semi-intimate relations allow for these kind of experiments in real life?  
(between romanticism, polyamory and asexuality)
- which other socially informed practices, like reading, dancing, massaging, tea ceremony, food can be combined?

#### Generating performative material:

- investing into stupidity, non-rational primitive actions
- combining these with ropes
- self-suspension as subversive strategy
- adding archetypical performance to the rope work
- learning the traditional technique and finding new approaches
- rope improvisation
- deviating dramaturgies within a rope  
situation: self->partner->self suspension

#### More meta-material to generate tasks/for Mondays reflection:

- avoiding second nature-shibari patterns or their (semi-)conscious reproduction
- unjudging, indulging and exploiting them
- transforming the archetype
- talking about (care-) ethics
- being critical on Shibari/BDSM practices?
- finding formats for non-/participatory performances

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