

# Johanna Hällsten



Björk (score in process), photograph of located work, 2023. – Björk (sculpture for a score), hand stitched cloth, 2023

The work explores how we engage with rural parts of northern Sweden through practices of listening, noticing and care – the work seeks to understand how we can communicate or rather commune with the other through various translation processes.

This specific birch tree is close to Ännsjön (Ännlake), near Enafors and the Snasahögarna (mountain range) close to the Norwegian border. A place I have spent many hours walking and sitting in over the last 35 years, within the deafening silence of the snow. It is a sparsely populated area with regards to humans, however rich in fauna and flora. In the winter many are not visible, lying dormant, slumbering underneath the thick snow. Those awake are difficult to see, camouflaged well. Listening out for them instead, I occasionally hear a snow grouse call, and unexpectedly I hear my own heartbeat in the silence left behind.

## Biography

**Dr. Johanna Hällsten** is a Swedish artist and Course Leader for BA Fine Art at London Metropolitan University, UK. She works primarily with text, sound and performance, where the work focuses on translation between different cultures, species, and forms, to address the interrelation between sounds and environments. Her work was performed at Nottingham Contemporary as part of InDialogue by Juxtavoices, and exhibited in e.g. Personal Structures, Venice Biennale, Translation Zone(s): Constellation Hong Kong, Sze Chi Ching Exhibition Gallery, ANTI festival, EV+A. She has published in e.g. The Front Edge of Environmental Aesthetics, Contemporary Aesthetics, Somatechnics, EUP journal, and in n.Paradoxa.

ARTIST LIST