

Colophon

Publisher
Prof. Ilka Raupach

Loyalt
Prof. Ilka Raupach

Editor
Faham Croger
Jörg Schatz

Prober
Faham Croger
Nora Zimmermann

Translator
John Gibson

ISBN
978-3-947929-34-4

250 copies

Wismar, March 2025

Travel notes
Aljoscha Schmidt

www.lg-hs-wismar.de

Philip-Müller-Str. 14
23865 Wismar, Germany

Faculty of Architecture and Design
University of Applied Sciences
Hochschule Wismar

forming with snow

VARANDRA

Inner space of the sculpture
 Elia: Niklas Richter (Design),
 Nora Zimmermann (Design),
 Annika Hopf (Interior Communication),
 Design and Media,
 Prof. Ilka Rausch,
 Aljoscha Schmidt (Architecture)

A big thanks to
 Robert Gustafsson
 Ida-Louise Svomdi
 Elin Persson
 Sofia Ståhl
 Katrina Lappand
 Katrina Komman
 Luca Roncoroni

Frozen snow crunched under my shoes and my fingers tingled from the constant changes in temperature. I was able to discover all the little details – gradually forgetting the cold-landscape and captured our group dynamics on camera. This week not only made me feel, but also showed me new perspectives.

Fabian Croger

It seems to me that everyday life in Kiruna in the winter is strongly influenced by the cold and the snow. Decisions have more consequences than in other places. Building a sculpture out of the clear, almost dry-looking snow was a special way of getting to know this world.

Vilho Rönner

The six of us were squeezed together and could barely fit into the inner hollows of our bubble sculpture. I immediately felt the huge difference in temperature to the outside and the sounds from outside were very muffled. Regardless of the shape, I had the feeling that I actually found myself in a bubble.

Anneli Högl

The six of us were squashed together and could barely fit into the inner hollows of our bubble sculpture. I immediately felt the huge difference in temperature to the outside and the sounds from outside were very muted. Regardless of the shape, I had the feeling that I actually found

It seems to me that everyday life in Kirtana in the winter is strongly influenced by the cold and the snow. Decisions have more consequences and freedom has to be lived differently. Building a sculpture out of the clear, almost dry-looking snow was a special way of getting to know this world.

VARANDRA
SNÖFESTIVALEN Kiruna Snow Festival, Sweden
22 to 25 January 2025

This interdisciplinary excursion was a journey into the snow, 200 kilometers above the Arctic Circle. There we formed a walk-in sculpture from a 3x3x3 meter block of snow, meaning 27 cubic meters and weighing around 20 tons. We had developed the concept experimentally in Wismar shortly before. VARANDRA (translated: each other) transforms the structure that builds itself from frozen soap bubbles. It is inspired by light and darkness, stability and fragility, inner and outer spaces and mutual interaction. Soap bubbles, like snow, are a symbol of transience. VARANDRA is a permanent, playful yet thoughtful reflection of a relationship based on communication and mutual transformation. We were in direct contact and in collaboration with international ice and snow experts from various design professions.

We also visited the nearby ICEHOTEL in Jukkasjärvi (an ephemeral architecture made of ice and snow), the new Kiruna Art Gallery and the Kiruna Music Festival. Kiruna, the northernmost city in Sweden, is characterized by a gigantic underground iron ore mine in the middle of the vastness of the Arctic mountains. We experienced the unique urban development there; a mixture and conflict of Swedish and Sami cultures as well as deep winter temperatures. Beyond the festival, the resulting sculptures will be on display in Kiruna's new public city center until the end of winter.

Prof. Ilka Raupach

This interdisciplinary excursion was a journey into the snow, 200 kilometers above the Arctic Circle. There we formed a walk-in sculpture from a 3 x 3 x 3 meter block of snow, meaning 27 cubic meters and weighing around 20 tons. We had developed the concept experimentally in Wismar shortly before. VARANDRA (translated: each other) transforms the structure that builds itself from frozen soap bubbles. It is inspired by light and darkness, stability and fragility, inner and outer spaces and mutual interaction. Soap bubbles, like snow, are a symbol of transience. VARANDRA is a permanent, playful yet thoughtful reflection of a relationship based on communication and mutual transformation. We were in direct contact and in collaboration with international ice and snow experts from various design professions.

We also visited the nearby ICEHOTEL in Jukkasjärvi (an ephemeral architecture made of ice and snow), the new Kiruna Art Gallery and the Kiruna Music Festival. Kiruna, the northernmost city in Sweden, is characterized by a gigantic underground iron ore mine in the middle of the vastness of the Arctic mountains. We experienced the unique urban development there; a mixture and conflict of Swedish and Sami cultures as well as deep winter temperatures. Beyond the festival, the resulting sculptures will be on display in Kiruna's new public city center until the end of winter.



