

# **C.R.A.S.H: A postcapitalist A to Z**

**Take part in a free course combining art, activism and permaculture or get paid to actively imagine a postcapitalist world!**

*We are looking into an unprecedented abyss of economic and social turmoil that confounds our previous perceptions of historical risk. Our vertigo is intensified by our ignorance of the depth of the crisis or any sense of how far we might ultimately fall.*

Mike Davis, Historian and social commentator.

***The Laboratory of Insurrectionary Imagination*** is a network of socially engaged artists and activists whose work falls in between resistance and creativity, culture and politics, art and life. We are inviting creative resisters, unemployed workers and art activists to take part in our latest project - **C.R.A.S.H: A post capitalist A to Z** - in London's financial district in June 2009.

As we accelerate towards the collapse of our ecological life support systems and suffer the consequences of reckless economic fantasies, the question of what our future could look like has never been more vital. In June 2009 the ***Laboratory of Insurrectionary Imagination*** will be experimenting with radical sustainable alternatives to the ecological and economic crisis in the symbolic heart of the capitalist system. We are inviting you to either participate in the course and/or apply for one of the £500 intervention commissions.

C.R.A.S.H contains two parts: 1) **C.R.A.S.H Course** a free two week long intensive training combining permaculture design, art activist tactics and skills for building radically ecological and deeply democratic communities. 2) **C.R.A.S.H Culture** is a week of commissioned actions and interventions across the City and a nightly promenade performance in an abandoned office block.

**C.R.A.S.H** is part of "2 degrees" Artadmin's festival of art and climate change.

## **C.R.A.S.H Course**

We are inviting 30 unemployed workers (low waged/precarious) to take part in **C.R.A.S.H course** held in central London. Participants will be introduced to ways of combining art and activism, non-hierarchical organising and Permaculture; a sustainable design system applicable to everything from growing food to setting up a political campaign. Permaculture brings together ethics, principles, and practices modelled on the way ecosystems function. Imagine learning from the complex efficiency and sustainability of a forest or meadow! During the course you will learn many skills for building resilience in a time of collapse - including how to develop creative forms of civil

disobedience, how to plant a self managing garden, how to build shelters and nurture affinity groups. And that the problem is the solution!

The course is free for participants and will run from Monday to Friday for 2 weeks (June 1<sup>st</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>). Participants will be expected to attend full time and are also be invited to co-design and contribute to transforming the space (an abandoned office building) which will host the C.R.A.S.H culture week (17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> June) as well as working on the performances and interventions.

Deadline for applications is Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Download an application form here [www.labofii.net/docs/course.rtf](http://www.labofii.net/docs/course.rtf)

### **C.R.A.S.H Culture**

The Lab of ii will be awarding eight £500 commissions to the most imaginative ideas put forward for C.R.A.S.H culture. We are looking for:

1) Three 15 minute long indoor performance/skill shares that creatively demonstrate some form or postcapitalist living techniques. These will be performed for 4 nights (June 17/18/19/20) during the evening performance which takes the audience through an abandoned office block on a journey of desertion from capitalism. Examples might include: a performance lecture that shows how to skip food, conjuring tricks that explore barter economics, a wild knitting demonstration or delving into the wonders of a worm bin.

2) 5 actions or interventions that demonstrate postcapitalist life on the streets and public spaces of London's financial district. The interventions can be live or object based, can last 5 days or 2 minutes, can be street art or direct action (neither or both). Projects that involve an element of participation will be.

Deadline for applications is Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Download an application form here [www.labofii.net/docs/culture.rtf](http://www.labofii.net/docs/culture.rtf)

You can apply for both course and the commission. This project is dependent on fundraising which is in process at the moment. Successful applicants will be notified on 10th April.

If you would like to find out more See: [www.labofii.net](http://www.labofii.net) Or email us at [info@labofii.net](mailto:info@labofii.net)

*The future is always dark and that's the best way it could ever be. For it is in the dark that seeds begin to germinate. It is in the dark that you see the stars and it is in the dark that lovers come alive.*

Rebecca Solnit, Author.