

Academy of Design and Crafts
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Workshop Skriv - Bygg
Workshop Write - Build
2018 - 12 - 20

Write / Build

May 23rd 2018 **MASU** hosted a workshop in Trädgårdsföreningen, Gothenburg, with staff from **Kultur och Fritid in Askim-Frölunda-Högsbo**.

100 participants. 1000 wooden laths and cable ties.

Participants were asked to write on the laths with markers and then build together, using cable ties to connect the laths.

Questions for writing (continue the sentence): *I am a person who...* , *We are people that...* , *If I was in charge...* , *When we are in charge...*

This workshop connects to previous work and in a way closes one long cycle. In June 2011 **Cell** (Oskar Broberg + Mattias Gunnarsson) together with Susanne Westerberg set up the workshop *Rita Bygg Reflektera / Draw Build Reflect* as the opening of the Kulturskolan Summer Camp for teenagers. 370 participants worked for four (4) hours with writing, building and talking in the grass slope outside the Gothenburg University Library. Then as now we worked with the questions of identity and the feeling of agency. The questions then were slightly different: *I am a person who...*, *You are a person who...*, *If I was in charge...*, *When they are in charge...*

Back in 2011 we worked for four hours with the 370 young people participating in the camp, this time it was almost two hours with the 100 staff of Kultur och Fritid in Askim-Frölunda-Högsbo as a part of a staff-day.

Then as now we had the participants make texts or new questions out of our sentences and then write them on the the laths. When they put the laths together the sculptural structure also becomes readable. In the end of the session we gathered and everyone got to take some time to walk around and make notes on what was written. The reflections were brought back to offices to be used for further discussions.

When we look at the result from the workshop we notice that it was a bit too short. It takes a little while to get in to a new workshop format and to get a grip of the setting, the format and the material. We worked with the time given and note to ourselves that if we do it again we will need more hours. Still there were many discussions getting started both regarding who is actually in charge as well as how to build a higher tower and if it is ok with a cross. When we do these types of workshops, where participants work with quite simple things for a bit of time, it becomes clear to us that working together with something everyone can manage opens up for both new thoughts and conversations. Since the workshop in 2011 we have set up many different situations where collaboration, simple construction and reflection are important parts. Sometimes we have done it as educators and other times as artists, but we have kept on working with dialogue with visitors and participants and the questions of identity in different ways.

The workshop at Trädgårdsföreningen in May 2018 positions itself well in this elastic space of participation, collaboration and dialogue that is the practice of MASU.

