

## **ILKKA HALSO / Statement**

### **Restoration and Museum of Nature**

Museum of Nature is the next step in a continuum of imaginative nature restoring projects, which started in year 2000 with the Restoration exhibition. The Restoration series attempted to restore single nature objects by means of technology and engineering.

The museum project takes one step further. I plan and visually construct buildings, which will protect nature from threats of pollution and what is more important, from actions of man.

I visualize shelters, massive buildings where big ecosystems could be stored as they are found today, in the present. These massive buildings protect forests, lakes and rivers from pollution and, more importantly, they protect nature from the actions of man himself. At the same time, I study different aspects of man's relation to nature as a rare, unique and endangered place.

Putting nature into a museum, you have to take under consideration the aspect of the audience/consumer. Nature becomes a joyride for tourists or a beautiful landscape turn into a meditative theatre show.

The works are visualized building plans; plans I rather not want to see realized.

### **Naturale**

What is happening? Has nature been evacuated to wait for better times, or has it been chopped and simplified into transportable merchandises and items of decorative tableaux?

My work deals with the urban man's ambivalent relationship to nature. It is typical for human beings to exploit natural reserves and build, mold and order nature into geometrical forms. This is justified by aesthetic and economic aspirations on the one hand. On the other, wild untouched nature is often valued and preferred as worth preserving. Though, in the crossfire of human interests, nature is usually the first one to fall.

In my photographs, consumption of nature has taken a concrete form. Whole ecosystems have been harvested and collected into a gigantic warehouse. Elements of nature are arranged in city-like blocks in strict order. Objects of nature have been rethought and have, for logistical purposes, been packed into modules that are easy to handle and transport.

Different types of nature, from soil and flora to fauna, can easily be collected, transported and assembled into new working ecosystems.

I am looking into the future; I don't like what I see.