

SOMATOSENSES

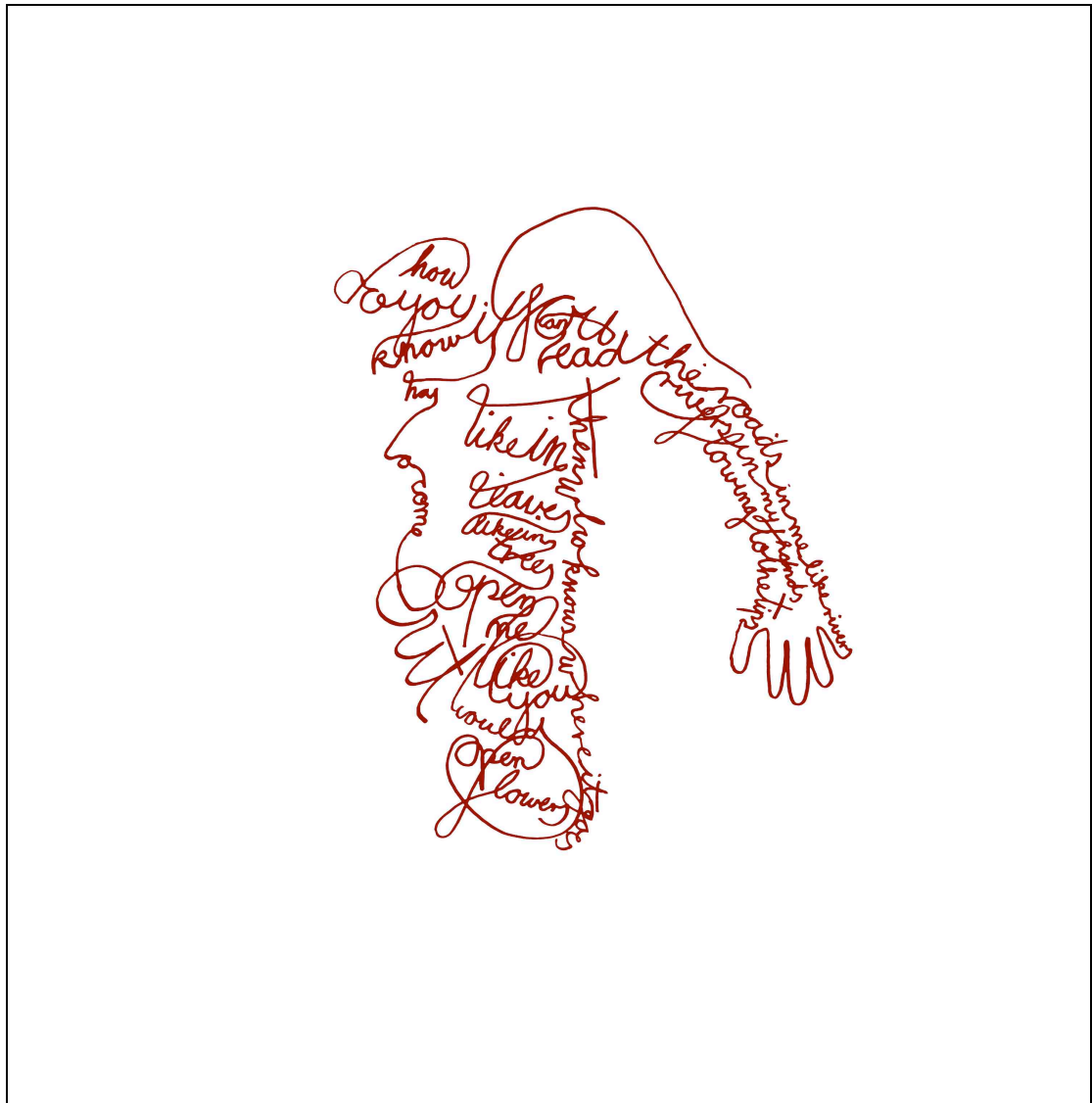
DRAWINGS & PRINTS BY

KAI LOSSGOTT

Ongoing project. 2006 – 2010. Drawings and laser engraving prints in etching ink on archival paper. Edition of 30. 30 x 30 cm.

"somatosensory system: the components of the central and peripheral nervous systems that receive and interpret sensory information from organs in the joints, ligaments, muscles, and skin. This system processes information about the length, degree of stretch, tension, and contraction of muscles; pain; temperature; pressure; and joint position. It is commonly interpreted as the sense of touch." (Mosby's Medical Dictionary, 8th edition. © 2009, Elsevier.)

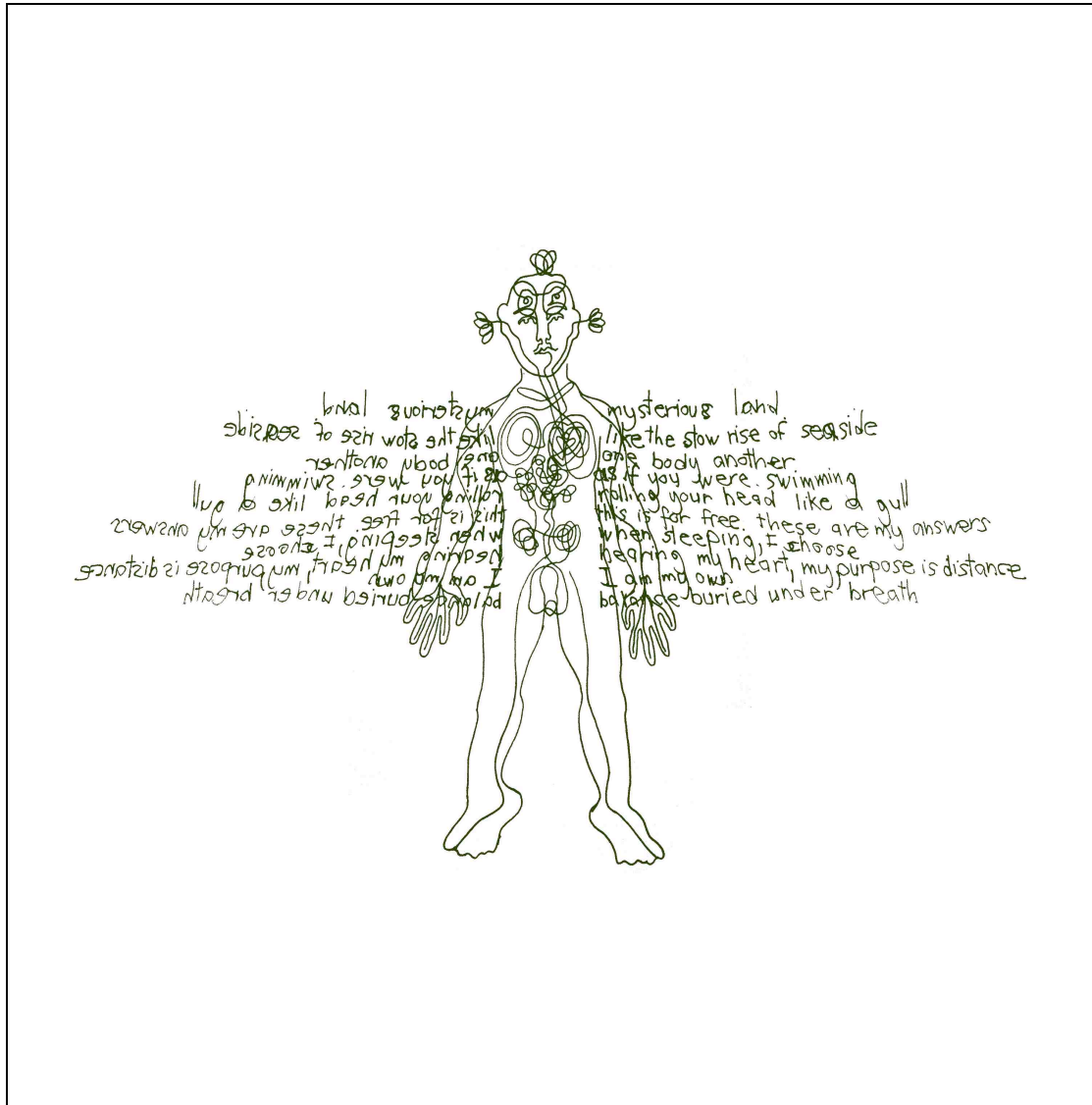
"I seek truth at the level of silence and neural sensitivity. In observing the workings of my own body during Buddhist meditation, I gradually unlearn the language of complexity. I surrender to the sense of touch. All human beings regularly perceive this in the state of crossing from wakefulness into sleep. Many of my dry-point engravings, drawings and artist books are attempts to depict this state, in which both mind and body are at rest. This is what I experience during time spent in nature, and is a consequence of making contact with its living presence. In these drawings I seek to draw what the eye and the camera do not see." KL



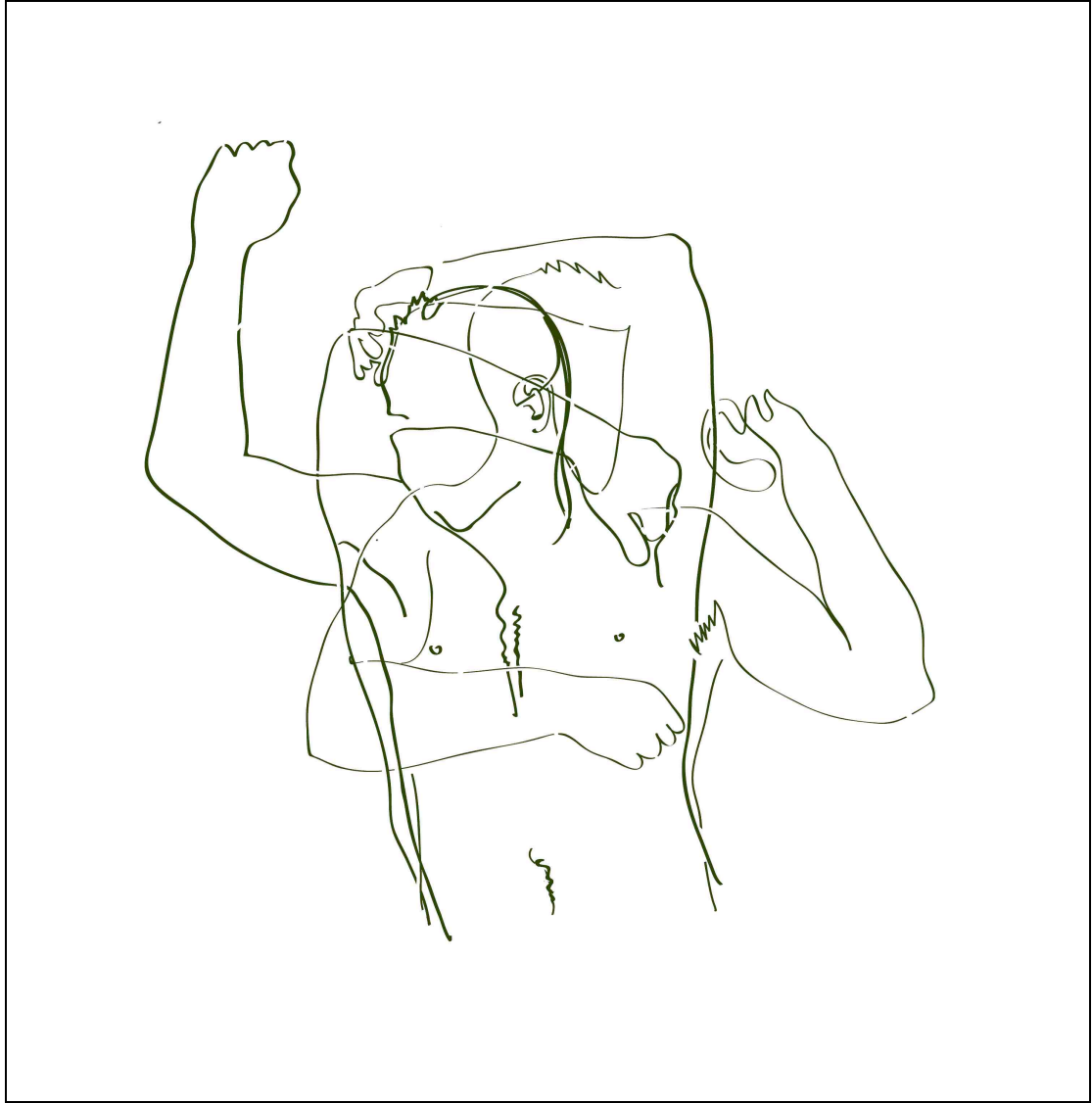
read these roads. Kai Lossgott. 2010. Laser engraving print, etching ink on archival paper. Edition of 30. 30 x 30 cm.



slumber. Kai Lossgott. 2010. Laser engraving print, etching ink on archival paper.
Edition of 30. 30 x 30 cm.



sound. Kai Lossgott. 2010. Laser engraving print, etching ink on archival paper.
Edition of 30. 30 x 30 cm.



sleep. Kai Lossgott. 2010. Laser engraving print, etching ink on archival paper.
Edition of 30. 30 x 30 cm.



travel. Kai Lossgott. 2010. Laser engraving print, etching ink on archival paper.
Edition of 30. 30 x 30 cm.



sleep. Kai Lossgott. 2010. Laser engraving print, etching ink on archival paper. Edition of 30. 30 x 30 cm unframed. (Installation view.)

BIOGRAPHY

Kai Lossgott

In his personal practice, contemporary visual artist and poet Kai Lossgott currently focuses on exploring green politics and systems theory through performance, experimental film and visual art like his engravings in plant leaves.



German by birth (1980), South African by upbringing, he currently lives and works in Cape Town. Kai's work has been widely exhibited for numerous South African art award shows such as the Sasol New Signatures, ABSA L'Atelier Awards and Thami Mnye Awards since 2004, as well as screened at avant-garde film festivals on five continents. He is represented in a number of top corporate art collections, such as the SASOL, UNISA, and Nirox Foundation collections. Kai's poetry has been published in various respected South African journals. The artist is also known for his public performance collaborations on the Spier Contemporary 2007, Infecting the City 2009, the Badilisha Poetry X-change 2009, Cape 09, and Out The Box 2010.

As a filmmaker operating outside of the industrial context, Kai works to transcend and re-invent the language of cinema. He is the curator of the CITY BREATH Festival of Video Poetry and Performance (2010), initiating and bringing together short interdisciplinary and experimental films from five South African cities. It has been well received both in South Africa and internationally. A selection of the films was screened at the British Film Institute in London (May 2010). Selections went on to travel to Cape Town, and noteworthy film festivals in Berlin, Marseille, Victoria (Canada), and Vancouver (Canada).

Kai Lossgott holds a BJourn from Rhodes University (documentary filmmaking and dance theatre), an Advanced Diploma in Visual Arts from UNISA, and an MA in creative writing from the University of Cape Town, all three *cum laude*. He has written and edited tertiary coursework and lectured at various South African universities, as well as facilitating community arts initiatives.

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