

International Youth Summit 2008 “Go 4 BioDiv”

A selection of artistic contributions by the young summit participants

Dance theatre: “Go 4 Biodiv!” – the idea

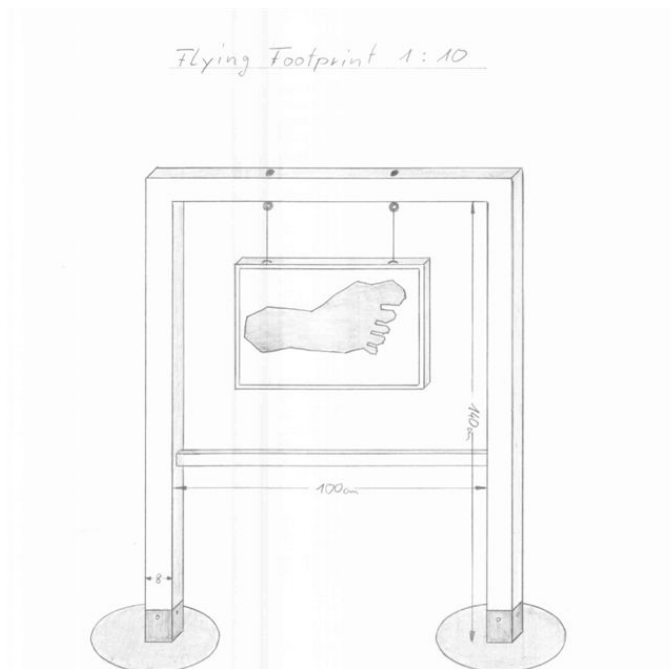
In a 20-minute dance theatre performance, the young people will give creative expression to the messages and statements they have prepared on the topic of cultural and biological diversity. The dance theatre piece will be developed by everyone involved, under the direction of professional choreographers. The pieces will tell the story of the dancers’ personal experiences and illustrate how the young people experience biodiversity and what impact it has on their daily lives in the context of their family, their region, or their country as a whole. The scenes will be expressed through dance and movement. The cultural background and characters of the dancers from 16 countries will give the performance its distinctive quality.

Art: the “Flying Footprint” and the “Puzzle of BioDiv”

Glass art is prevalent in the Bavarian Forest region, where the first part of the International Youth Summit will take place. During their stay in the National Park, the young participants will make two artworks – under the direction and with the help of a local glass artist from the Bavarian Forest. The ecological footprint model will provide inspiration. It is an indicator model, developed for the most part at the University of British Columbia in Canada. The Global Footprint Network defines a population’s ecological footprint as the amount of productive land and water it needs to produce, transport, process and dispose of all the resources it consumes using prevailing technology.

The first piece of glass artwork is the “Flying Footprint”: it consists of a series of suspended glass display cases that will later be installed at the “Expo of Diversity” in Bonn to mark the route from the entrance to the Youth Summit stand. The young people will fill the cases with natural products – their symbols of the biological and cultural diversity of their country. The cases will be insulated by a vacuum space to preserve the symbols.

Sketch of the Flying Footprint



The second artwork is also made mainly of glass: the “Puzzle of BioDiv” consists of 16 glass elements into which the ecological footprint of each country will be incorporated. The participants from each country will also have the opportunity to create their glass element using a technique by which coloured glass is fused together. Only the surface of the footprint will remain untreated, i.e. transparent. The individual elements will be linked together and, seen as a whole, will make the shape of a footprint.

Sketch of the Puzzle of Biodiv:

