



## THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT

**Project purpose: The Equator Memorial Project** is a group of international artists who are creating art pieces and functional objects by recycling historical materials of ruins from world heritage sites. The mission is to hold a series of exhibitions in galleries or museums worldwide in support of a sustainable environment, justice, freedom and peace. At each exhibition approximately 50 - 60 art pieces will be presented created by selection of international artists. A part of the income for each sold or rented piece will be allocated to a charity fund for humanitarian and community projects. **Confirmed materials:** the Reykjavík Harbour, the Hamburg Port, the Berlin Wall, Genbaku Dome in Hiroshima (A bomb) and two broken windows from office of Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg in the Norwegian government's headquarters in Central Oslo after it was damaged from terrorist attack by Anders Behring Breivik and from Graveyard of Lenin monuments and Stalin statues. **Plans have been drawn up to obtain materials from;** the French village of Oradour-sur-Glane, which has been preserved untouched since almost all its inhabitants were massacred on June 10, 1944, the Czech village of Lidice, 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, former Soviet Union - GULAG, Colosseum, ruins of the Buddhas of Bamiyan which was destroyed in Afghanistan by Taliban in 2001 to demolish holy icons and disrespect ideologic of the religion, the Basque town of Guernica, Liverpool and the slave trade and from the time of the Japanese Diplomat Chiune Sugihara, when he was in Lithuania helping refugees, women and children from the tragedy of the World War II.

**“Reworking the past for a just and sustainable future for all”**

### Content:

<b>Exhibition at the Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris - Time &amp; Work Schedule.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Confirmation from art studio / FLUTGRABEN e.V.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Confirmation from art studio / STUDIJA VILNIUS.....</b>	<b>14</b>

**LETTERS PROVIDED TO THE PROJECT;** Letter of recommendation from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture; letter of recommendation from a member of the parliament of Iceland; letter of intent from Promote Iceland / Inspired by Iceland; letter of recommendation from the Icelandic National Commission for UNESCO; International letter of support from UNESCO and letter of intent for exhibition in UNESCO Headquarters in Paris; contract from Hamburg Port Authority about the donation of the wood from the Port of Hamburg; Donation Letter / Associated Icelandic Ports, over 100 years old wood from Reykjavik Harbor; letter of Confirmation / VOLKER PAWLOWSKI for providing the Berlin Wall to the project; letter of recommendation from the French Embassy in Reykjavík; letter of intent from Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Reykjavík in Reykjavík; declaration from Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum; letter of intent from the Embassy of Japan Reykjavík Iceland; letter of confirmation / FORTY THOUSAND SEVENTY FOUR KILOMETRES / a full length documentary film, THE STORY BEHIND HISTORY, letter of intent from RUV - The Icelandic National Broadcasting Service TV and donation letter / material from the Norwegian Government buildings / Statsbygg, Letter of Recommendation from Hon. Citizen of Vilnius and former Minister of Foreign Affairs (when Iceland was the first state to take a conflict with the Soviet Union to support Baltic freedom in 1991), Mr. Jon Baldvin Hannibalsson to the Mayor of Vilnius, Mr. Remigijus Šimašius for the possibility to provide 2.500 -3.000 square-metres working area, house or abandoned building that can be renovated for the main operation of the art project, Letter of Intent / SAATCHI GALLERY London and Confirmation from GRŪTO PARKAS / Mr. Viliūmas Malinauskas.



## THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT

Barðavogur 42, 104 Reykjavík / ICELAND / ID 550813-0840 (VAT 114636)

THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT / International Itinerant Artists / tel: 00354-699-8035 /  
e-mail: 40074km@40074km.is / official site: www.40074km.is



**TIME SCHEDULE / ART PIECES FOR THE HISTORY- AND ART EXHIBITION AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF UNESCO IN PARIS FOR SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT, JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND PEACE, OPENING AT 5TH OF JUNE 2019 IN THE HONOUR OF THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY.**



The Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris is collaborating with The Equator Memorial Project and envisages favourably to exhibit a collection of the art pieces at their headquarters. **H. E. Mr. Kristjan Andri Stefánsson, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Iceland to France, Permanent Delegate** has now sent a formal proposal to the Headquarters of UNESCO of our request for the exhibition.

The idea is to have the exhibition for support of sustainable environment, justice, freedom and peace, opening at 5th of June 2019 in the honour of the **45th Anniversary of World Environment Day**. The theme of the exhibition will be material from all the historical materials / ruins which has been donated to the project and the historical informations on the pieces.

The Exhibition will end with an charity event at 28th of June in honour of **100 years anniversary of Treaty of Versailles** with **auction and Peace memorial dinner “Make a Peace Worldwide”** at the headquarters.

17th of November 2019 in the honour of the **22nd Anniversary of The International Day of Peace** is announcement of gifts to humanitarian and community projects worldwide which has been accumulated through the sale of the artworks of The Equator Memorial Project and its artists charity fund.

The **President of Iceland, Mr. Guðni Th. Jóhannesson** sent **Official Letter of Recommendation** to support the exhibition to the **Director-General of UNESCO, Mrs Audrey Azoulay**.

**TIME SCHEDULE / ART PIECES FOR THE HISTORY- AND ART EXHIBITION**

The operation from 1st of March 2018 to 1st of April 2019 is to bring the most of the historical material to UAB / STUDIJA VILNIUS in Lithuania where it will be worked and created art pieces for the exhibition.

The material of the Reykjavík Harbour, Genbaku Dome in Hiroshima (A bomb) and two broken windows from office of Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg in the Norwegian government's headquarters in Central Oslo after it was damaged from terrorist attack by Anders Behring Breivik, Graveyard of Lenin monuments and Stalin statues and from the era of Chiune Sugihara, when he was in Lithuania helping people and children from the tragedy of the World War II will be transported to Vilnius for the operation.

We will have the Art Studio with working facilities / equipments to work the exhibition as well to use various companies / co-workers to assist us in the creation such as; Metalworking, glaziers, fab lap, textile fabrics, workshop and printmaking etc.

The artists and team who will work on the exhibition comes from, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway, Denmark, Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain, USA and Japan. The main artist will be Johann Sigmarrson, Models / motifs for creations of the sculptures of the refugees and assistants to the artists. The set up of the art pieces for the exhibition will be organised and designed by Josemaria De Churtischaga (ES) architect and curated by Jón Proppé (IS) & Robert Carrithers (US).



The wood from the Hamburg Port and the Berlin Wall for the creation of art pieces will be worked in STUDIO AM FLUTGRABEN e.v. in Berlin from 1st of April to 1st of June 2019.

The team will concentrate on obtain some of those artifacts for creations of the exhibition if achievable from the French village of Oradour-sur-Glane, which has been preserved untouched since almost all its inhabitants were massacred on June 10, 1944, the Czech village of Lidice, 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, former Soviet Union - GULAG, Colosseum, ruins of the Buddhas of Bamiyan which was destroyed in Afghanistan by Taliban in 2001 to demolish holy icons and disrespect ideologic of the religion, the Basque town of Guernica and Liverpool and the slave trade, the Sugihara House, the dock where Amakusa Maru, the Japanese water tanker picked up the refugees from Vladivostok that were transported to Port of Tsuruga, earning it the nickname "Port of Humanity, from the shipwreck of Amakusa Maru which was sunk by the USS Triton submarine on December 24, 1942 and was discovered at the bottom of Wake Island in August 10, 2016 by NOAA's Okeanos Explorer.

We will as well select art pieces from the exhibition "When the Atomic Bomb Exploded" at Harpa, Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Reykjavik to be exhibited in UNESCO Headquarters.

We will use printed boards with short information text, photos, documents in all forms of media collected together from all the historical sites for the art pieces at the exhibition. In some cases we will create several different small set design and atmospheres from the era of the historical sites.

For the the idea of the charity auction and Peace memorial dinner "Make a Peace Worldwide" at the exhibition ending 28th of June in honour to the day in 1919 when 100 years since Treaty of Versailles. We will look for good recommendation for a fine dining service and concentrate on our relationship to collaborate with CHRISTIE'S on the auction of the art pieces. A part of the income for each sold or rented piece will be allocated to a charity fund for humanitarian and community projects.

17th of November 2019 in the honour of the 22nd Anniversary of The International Day of Peace is the announcement of gifts to humanitarian and community projects worldwide which has been accumulated through the sale of the artworks of The Equator Memorial Project and its artists charity fund.

CHRISTIE'S would have priority to sell and invite Peace memorial dinner admissions to their clients, the Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris and public relations office from the Equator Memorial Project as well. The book of Collection with selected art pieces from the Equator Memorial Project will be published and introduced on the event.

Invitation cards to the opening of the exhibition. The Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris, CHRISTIE'S and public relations office from the Equator Memorial Project would invite people and press to the opening event with a brochure about the exhibition.

## THE ARTWORKS;

In May 2012, Sigmarsson was watching a report on the evening news about the Association of Icelandic Ports and its intention to refurbish the Reykjavik Harbour. Apparently, much of the jetty was to be removed and discarded. It occurred to him then that the wood might be recycled and used to make furniture. And this was the beginning of a brand new idea.

In autumn, a group headed by Sigmarsson obtained permission to take the wood being thrown away by the Reykjavik Harbour. He then began to dry and plane it in preparation for the project. He soon discovered that much of the material was perfect for what he had in mind, i.e. stylish handmade furniture. Aside from being environmentally friendly, this recycling was also a kind of resurrection. Way back in 1903, the very same material was used to construct a dock for the herring fleet, which later became a part of the Reykjavik Harbour that was constructed between 1913 and 1917. Closer examination revealed that some of the wood originally came from a German schooner that sank off the south coast of Iceland in 1890. The vessel was brought to Reykjavik and disassembled for scrap. Fascinatingly, research indicated that that the trees may have been more than 200 years old when they were first used for shipbuilding.



The wood is pine, which can live anywhere from 100 to 1000 years. The oldest preserved pinewood dates back nearly five thousand years. The Romans commonly used pine and other conifer wood to build many of their houses.

The recycled wood from the Harbour gives the furniture a characteristic look and holds part of Reykjavík's history at the same time.

1. 10x Sculptures / functional objects created out of recycled wood from Reykjavík Harbour. / Worked in STUDIO VILNIUS.

A. We will have the written history of the Reykjavík Harbour on printed boards with photographs. Reykjavík Harbour is over 100 years old. / Worked in STUDIO VILNIUS.



**The Equator Memorial Project** in cooperation with the **Ministry of Culture in Norway** and **Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction and Property** received permission to utilize two broken windows from office of **Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg** in the **Norwegian government's headquarters** in Central Oslo after it was damaged from terrorist attack by Anders Behring Breivik.

The **2011 Norway attacks** were two sequential Lone Wolf terrorist attacks against the Norwegian government, the civilian population, and a Workers' Youth League (AUF) summer camp in the Oslo region on 22 July 2011, claiming a total of 77 lives. The first was a car bomb explosion in Oslo within Regjeringskvartalet, the executive government quarter of Norway. The bomb was made from a mixture of fertiliser and fuel oil and placed in the back of a car. The car was placed in

front of the office block housing the office of Prime Minister, Jens Stoltenberg and other government buildings. The explosion killed eight people and injured at least 209 people, twelve of them seriously. It was decided to donate the project material for recycling it to art pieces and functional objects to indicate the uselessness and cruelty of terrorism. The group will create series of artworks with artists by recycling the ruins.

2. We will create 2x paintings into the frames of the two broken windows from office of Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg in the Norwegian government's headquarters in Central Oslo after it was damaged from terrorist attack by Anders Behring Breivik.

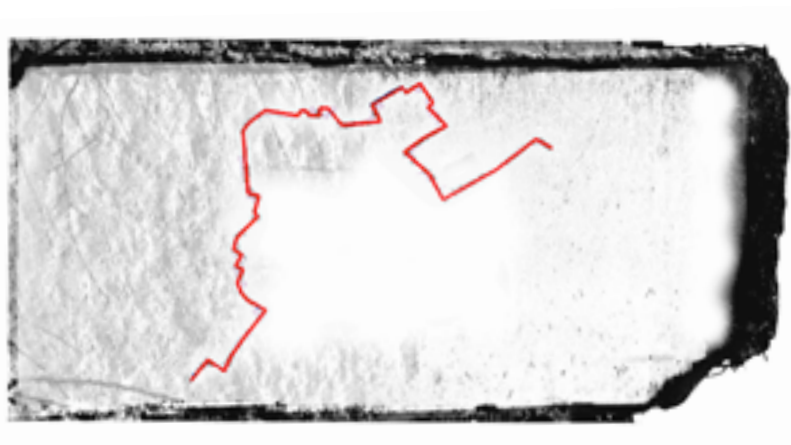
A. We will have the written history of the terrorist attack on printed boards with photographs.

3. 10 x Sculptures made out of wood from the forrest of Utøya. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.



The Cold War was a state of political and military tension after World War II between powers in the Western Bloc and powers in the Eastern Bloc. The **Berlin Wall** (German: *Berliner Mauer*) was a barrier that divided Berlin from 1961 to 1989. Constructed by the German Democratic Republic (GDR, East Germany), starting on 13 August 1961, the wall completely cut off (by land) West Berlin from surrounding East Germany and from East Berlin until it was opened in November 1989. The Wall was officially referred to as the "**Anti-Fascist Protective Wall**" (German: *Antifaschistischer Schutzwall*) by GDR authorities, implying that the NATO countries and West Germany in particular were "fascists" by GDR propaganda. The West Berlin city government sometimes referred to it as the "Wall of Shame"—a term coined by mayor Willy Brandt—while condemning the Wall's restriction on freedom of movement. Along with the separate and much longer Inner German border (IGB), which demarcated the border between East and West Germany, it came to symbolize the "Iron Curtain" that separated Western Europe and the Eastern Bloc during the Cold War.

## THE BERLIN WALL MEETING TABLE



Sketch / Drawing from above - Name of piece: THE BERLIN WALL MEETING TABLE

Solid piece from the Berlin wall, oil varnished. The plate have line milling in the concrete of the Berlin wall like the border was going through the city filled with red yacht paint. The concrete is a bit broken and weathered on the long sides.



THE BERLIN WALL MEETING TABLE - 3D drawing from front.

Solid pieces from the Berlin wall, oil varnished. Table plate and legs are a bit broken and weathered on the long sides. Also is visible traces that had been carved into the wall on the west side from people who wanted to break it down. On one of the short sides of the table plate is a metal plate milled in the concrete, signed by the artists with a short informational text from the wall. Handmade - prototype will be made in 2016. The group will create series of artworks with German artists by recycling the historical ruins.



4. We will create 1x meeting table out of 2x original L- and T - concrete elements of the Berlin border wall. / Worked in STUDIO FLUTGRABEN e.V.

A. We will have the written history of the Cold War on printed boards with photographs.

5. 5 x Sculptures created out of 2 x original L- and T - concrete elements of the Berlin border wall. / Worked in STUDIO FLUTGRABEN e.V.



6. 10x Sculptures / functional objects created out of recycled wood from Hamburg Port. / Worked in STUDIO FLUTGRABEN e.V.

A. We will have the written history of the Hamburg port on printed boards with photographs. The Hamburg Port is now 828 years old in 2017. / Worked in STUDIO FLUTGRABEN e.V.



## GRAVEYARD OF LENIN MONUMENTS AND STALIN STATUES

The project team is now in discussion with **Mr. Emanuelis Zingeris** and **The Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania** to provide bronze Lenin and Stalin Statues from the Baltic countries for the artists to melt down for creating art pieces out of it for the project. We have as well contacted **Mr. Viliumas Malinauskas** the founder of the **Grūtas Park (c. Stalin's World Lithuanian Grūto Parkas)**, and the winner of the **Ig Nobel Peace Prize** in 2001. Gūtas Park will provide access to park and its collection. This assistance will take the form of allowing visiting artists selected by the project to create art pieces using all forms of media form the materials collected together in Gūtas Park. The result will be exhibited and auctioned for the good purpose and humanitarian worldwide. Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov, better known as Lenin (22 April 1870 – 21 January 1924) was a Russian lawyer, revolutionary, and the leader of the Bolshevik party and of the October Revolution. He was the first leader of the USSR and the government that took over Russia in 1917. Lenin's ideas became known as Leninism. Lenin grew critical of Stalin, and many other Bolsheviks at this time, but in 1922 a stroke forced Lenin into semi-retirement. Lenin recommended Stalin's dismissal. However, after Lenin's death in 1924, Stalin suppressed documentation of Lenin's recommendation. Joseph Stalin was the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union's Central Committee from 1923 until his death in 1953. In the years following Lenin's death in 1924, he rose to become the leader of the Soviet Union. The exact number of deaths caused by Stalin's regime is still a subject of debate, but it is widely agreed to be in the order of millions.

7. We will melt down 1x old bronze statue of Lenin and create 10x art pieces / sculptures / functional objects. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.

8. We will melt down 1x old bronze statue of Stalin and create 10x art pieces / sculptures / functional objects. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.

A. We will have the written history on printed boards with photographs.



**CANNA OF PEACE**  
*blooming in the scorched earth*

**The Equator Memorial Project** in cooperation with the **Embassy of Japan in Iceland** and **Mr. Tatsukuni UCHIDA** Counsellor received permission to use mementos from **Hiroshima**, the first city in history to be targeted by a nuclear weapon on August 6, 1945. The donation are stones from the roof of the **Genbaku Dome in Hiroshima**. The atom bomb exploded in the front of the dome above the ground and the stones were found over 30 years later in the river **Motoyasu**. **Oleander flower** is now a symbol for the city of Hiroshima because it was the first to blossom after the explosion in 1945. The group will create series of artworks with Japanese artists by recycling the historical ruins as well as creating the Oleander flower and present a new sign of peace for the world.

That autumn in Hiroshima where it was said “For Seventy-five years nothing will grow” New buds sprouted. In the green that came back to life. Among the charred ruins. People recovered. Their living hopes and courage.



9. We will create 1x embroidery textile art piece in blue velvet with one original roof tile from the Genbaku Dome in Hiroshima in the middle with curved Oleander flower into the stone. The art piece will be in a frame created from over 100 years old wood salvaged from the recently excavated old Reykjavik Harbour with glass. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.

A. We will have the written history of the (A Bomb) on printed boards with photographs.

10. 10 x drawings in leather carton of the roof tiles from the Genbaku Dome in Hiroshima in frames created from over 100 years old wood salvaged from the recently excavated old Reykjavik Harbour with glass. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.



***“I may have disobeyed my government, but if I hadn't I would have been disobeying God.” - Chiune Sugihara -***

Chiune "Sempo" Sugihara (杉原 千畝 Sugihara Chiune?, 1 January 1900 – 31 July 1986) was a Japanese diplomat who served as Vice-Consul for the Empire of Japan in Lithuania. Sugihara decided to disobey his government and grant transit visas on his own in the World War II. From 18th of July to 4th of September 1940 he wrote 2.139 visas to Jewish families and helped over 6.000 people to leave the country so that they could travel to Japanese territory, risking his career and life. The Jews who escaped were refugees from German-occupied Western Poland or Russian-occupied Eastern Poland, as well as residents of Lithuania. He continued to hand-write visas, when he had to leave his post before the consulate was closed by the Russian Government. He was still writing visas after boarding the train at the Kaunas Railway Station, throwing visas into the crowd of desperate refugees out of the train's window even as the train pulled out. He was their last light of hope. Now the people from the survivors are over 60.000. Later on people started to call Sugihara “Oskar Schindler of Japan”.

We contacted Tsuruga Port in Japan and the Tsuruga Museum for the possibility to provide / donate materials to the project which can be used for creation of the art pieces from the life-saving era of Chiune Sugihara in Lithuania. The material we ask for is from the dock where Amakusa Maru, the Japanese water tanker picked up the refugees from Vladivostok that were transported to Port of Tsuruga, earning it the nickname “Port of Humanity.”





We contacted as well NOAA's Okeanos Explorer which discovered the shipwreck of Amakusa Maru just last year on the August 10 2016 at the bottom of Wake Island which was sunk by the USS Triton submarine on December 24, 1942 to obtain historical materials for creation of art pieces because of the exhibition.

It is our hope to obtain permission to use materials /ruins from the ship.

11. We will create embroidery textile art pieces of Visas For Life in recycled wooden frames from Tsuruga Port varnished in oil with glass. / 5 x art pieces. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.
- A. We will have the written history of the Chiune Sugihara on printed boards with the art pieces.
12. We will create paintings / drawings of the refugees on wood planks from Tsuruga Port. / 5 x art pieces. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.
13. We will create paintings / drawings of refugees on the historical materials of the shipwreck Amakasu Maru in recycled wooden frames from Tsuruga Port varnished in oil with glass. / 5 x art pieces. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.
14. We will create / curve sculptures of refugees and Chiune Sugihara in full human size in wood planks from Tsuruga Port varnished in oil. / 5 x art pieces. / Worked in STUDIJA VILNIUS.

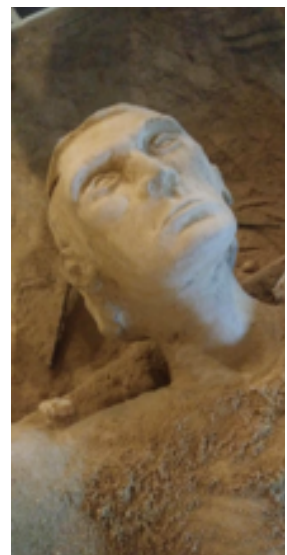


**Above left photo** / The Icelandic football team taking the viking clap. / **Above right photo** / Johann Sigmarsson making photos for sculptures of the Icelandic football team.

15. 11 -18 Sculptures created out of recycled wood from Reykjavík Harbour from the Icelandic Football Team posing the Epic Vikings Slow Hand Clap. Worked in STUDIO VILNIUS.



**Above left photo** / Ksenija Zapadenceva sawing wood from Reykjavik Harbour for sculpture. **Above right photo** / Ksenija Zapadenceva taping photos of Mr. Aron Einar Gunnarsson Icelandic football team member to a board for preparation of sculpture. **Down below photo** / Sculpture in working process of Mr. Ari Skúlason, Icelandic football team member. **Down below photos** / Sculpture in working process. Worked in UAB / Studija Vilnius.





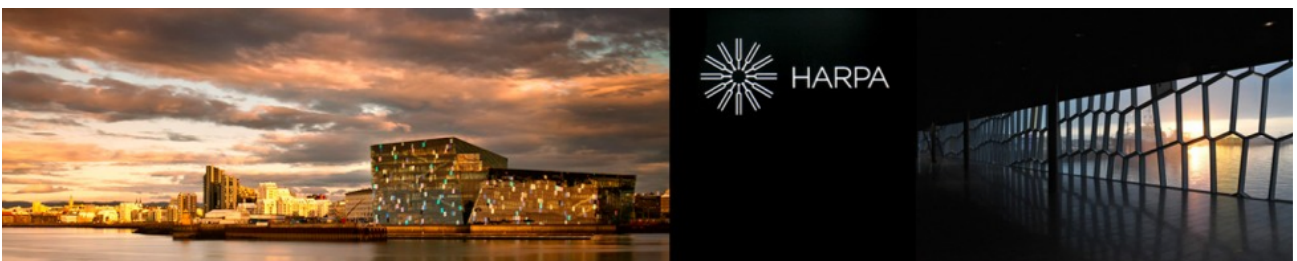
- A. We will have the written history of the Reykjavík Harbour, the Icelandic Football Team / Iceland become smallest nation ever to qualify for World Cup finals and from the Epic Vikings Slow Hand Clap on printed boards with photographs. / Worked in STUDIO VILNIUS.
16. We will as well select art pieces from the exhibition “When the Atomic Bomb Exploded” at Harpa, Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Reykjavík to be exhibited in UNESCO Headquarters.
17. We will have the written history of The Equator Memorial Project on printed boards at the exhibition.
18. All the process will be documented for the full-length documentary “Story behind the History” about the Equator Memorial Project. Teasers will be running about the process at the exhibition.

**CONFIRMED DOCUMENTARY FILM CREW;** Marteinn Thorsson (IS) filmmaker, aims to direct a full-length documentary “Story behind the History” about the Equator Memorial Project. Fahad Falur Jabali, OCTOBER PRODUCTIONS and FORTY THOUSAND SEVENTY FOUR KILOMETRES (IS) will be the producers of the documentary film will cover sales and distribution of the film, co-producers are Egil Ødegård & FILMHUSET STUDIOS AS (NO), Christian Riffard, FROZEN FROGS (FR) and Ksenija Zapadenceva, UAB / STUDIJA VILNIUS (LT).

## From the preparation and creation of the exhibition in Reykjavík 2016



**Above left photo;** sculpture in working process of a victim in the moment before the burning exposure flashed from the atomic bomb in Hiroshima / **above middle photo;** Toma Toshiki motif for one of the sculptures / **above right photo;** Jóhann Sigmarsson creating his sculptures of Hiroshima Victims.



## The first Art- History- and Art exhibition “When The Atomic Bomb Exploded”

Harpa, Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Reykjavík exhibited a collection of art pieces from **The Equator Memorial Project / International itinerant artists project**. The exhibition opened 15th of December 2016, when it was formally 60 years from the beginning of the diplomatic relations between Iceland and Japan.

The first exhibition is achieved partly in collaboration with the **Embassy of Japan** and was opened by **President of Iceland, Mr. Guðni Th. Jóhannesson** and **Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Yasuhiko Kitagawa**. The theme of the exhibition is material from Hiroshima and Reykjavík Harbour with historical informations on the pieces.



**Above photo;** from the exhibition at **Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Reykjavík, Iceland.**

**Down below left photo** / From left; Ambassador of Japan in Iceland, Mr. Yasuhiko Kitagawa, Japanese model for motifs of sculpture of Hiroshima victims created from over 100 years old wood salvaged from the recently excavated old Reykjavik Harbour, Ms. Nina Katrín Jónsdóttir Ichihashi, Jóhann Sigmarsson Artist, President of Iceland, Mr. Guðni Th. Jóhannesson and Japanese model for motifs of sculpture of Hiroshima victims created from over 100 years old wood salvaged from the recently excavated old Reykjavik harbour Ms. Asako Ichihashi.



**Above right photo** / Hiroshima Victims - sculpture created from over 100 years old wood from Reykjavík Harbour. Artists Jóhann Sigmarsson / **down below photo;** Hiroshima Victim - Sculpture.





**CONFIRMATION OF COOPERATION**

**FLUTGRABEN e.V.**

**Am Flutgraben 3,  
12435 Berlin,  
Germany**



**FLUTGRABEN e.V.**

**tel: +49 30 5321 9658  
e-mail; [info@flutgraben.org](mailto:info@flutgraben.org)  
[www.flutgraben.org](http://www.flutgraben.org)**

**BERLIN, 21st of September /2017**

**Re: THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Johann Sigmarsson  
CEO of 40,074KM EHF in Iceland / partner leader

and

Mr. Gunnar Gunnarsson  
Project Manager of THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT.

We hereby confirm our cooperation in the abovementioned: **THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT** and agree to rent art studio space from **FLUTGRABEN e.V.** under your activity of creating and building the Berlin Wall Meeting Table out of original pieces of the Berlin Wall and sculptures and other art pieces from recycled wood of Hamburg Port for the exhibition at the Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris.

The scheduled time for the creation is from 1st of February to 1st of June 2019.

Authorized representative of the cooperating institution.

Sincerely, on the behalf of FLUTGRABEN e.V.

  
**Matthias Krause**



**CONFIRMATION OF COOPERATION**

**UAB / STUDIJA VILNIUS**

**Mindaugo g. 23A-66,  
Vilnius  
LITHUANIA / LT-03231**

**tel: +370 67552540  
m: +370 67662662  
e-mail; info@studiovilnius.lt  
www.studiovilnius.lt**



**VILNIUS, 18th of December /2017**

**Re: THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Johann Sigmarsson  
CEO of 40,074KM EHF in Iceland / partner leader

and

Mr. Gunnar Gunnarsson  
Project Manager of THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT.

We hereby confirm our cooperation in the abovementioned: **THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT** and agree to rent art studio space from **STUDIJA VILNIUS** under your activity for creating drawings, paintings, textile works, making sculptures and other art pieces / functional objects from historical materials from recycled wood of Reykjavik Harbour, roof tiles from Genbaku Dome (A Bomb) in Hiroshima, two broken windows from office of Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg in the Norwegian government's headquarters in Central Oslo after it was damaged from terrorist attack by Anders Behring Breivik, World of Lenin and Stalin, era of Chiune Sugihara and for more artifacts if achievable for the exhibition at the Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris. The scheduled time for the operation is from 1st of March 2018 - 1st of February 2019. Furthermore **STUDIJA VILNIUS** / co-partner is in charge for the LT operation in collaboration with the team of The Equator Memorial Project. The company will be responsible for deliver assistance and services to the artists, art pieces and its exhibition.

Authorized representative of the cooperating institution.  
Sincerely, on the behalf of UAB / STUDIJA VILNIUS,

Ksenija Zapadenceva  
MANAGER



## PROJECT ARTIST

**Johann Sigmarsson** (IS) artist, filmmaker, CEO is entrepreneur of **The Equator Memorial Project**, International, itinerant Artists project and the founder of the Icelandic company **40,074KM EHF** which is the **partner leader**. He will be one of the artists and will design, build and create the functional objects / art pieces with the Equator Artists Group. Sigmarsson was born in 1969 in Reykjavík, Iceland. "PLAN B report" is his third feature film. "ONE FAMILY" was his second, and "WALLPAPER", his debut, is one of the most popular movies ever made in Iceland. His career began in 1988 with the TV production company in Reykjavik, + Film ehf. From 1988-2002 Sigmarsson worked on 500-600 of short films, music videos, TV shows and series. He had studio in Reykjavik from 1989-1992 where he was painting and doing iron sculptures. Sigmarsson began working on the script of ONE FAMILY, besides creating the Reykjavik Short Film Festival in 1992. The idea was to create a forum for young film makers to get together and show their work as well as to generate interest in film. That festival discovered several filmmakers who has later been recognised and get international awards, like "Un Certain Regards in Cannes Film Festival, Tribeca Film Festival, The San Sebastian Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival, Warsaw International Film Festival and The Nordic Council Film Prize etc. 2001 Sigmarsson was awarded official recognition for the 10th festival by the Minister of Culture and Science in Iceland. For his second film, ONE FAMILY, Sigmarsson himself is the script writer, producer and director. British Film Institute quoted that the film is one of the most important cult movie in Icelandic cinema. He was finishing his third film in full length, "PLAN B Report" in 2000. The script was supported in by the European Script Fund. It is the only film in the history of Icelandic cinema which have all the four filmmakers from Iceland who has been nominated for Oscars Academy Awards from the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences. Sigmarsson has always produced the sound tracks of his films under the label of Bad Taste LTD. His films has been screened at festivals and in cinema, TV, VHS, DVD distribution around the world. Sigmarsson cofounded the Icelandic Film Company in 1991. He produced his last film, "Plan B Report" through the Icelandic Film Corporation ehf. Sigmarsson lived and worked in Berlin from 2001 - 2011 writing film scripts; Gentlemen Alone, The Hidden People and The Poisoned Chalice. All three titles are feature film projects in development, supported by European Union, Nipkow program, Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg, Nordic Film and TV Fund, and the Icelandic Film Centre. Since in December 2013 he has been concentrating on developing "The Equator Memorial Project".

**Education:** 1985 - 1986 - The Reykjavík Technical College - Metalwork and mechanical engineering. 1986 - 1987 - The Reykjavík Technical College - Technical Drawing. 1988 - 1990 - The Reykjavik School of Visual Art - Paintings.  
**Exhibitions:** 1992 - 900 Drawings and Storyboard at Mocca in Reykjavík. 2011 - Co-idea for exhibition in End of Psüch Galerie Melike Bilir in Hamburg. 2012 - Bird on the Shore, Environmental accidents - Disasters and damage in the nature at Dead Gallery in Reykjavík. 2013 - The Art of being Icelandic - Group exhibition in cooperation with Reykjavík UNESCO City of Literature, designed and handmade furniture in old pinewood recycled from the Harbour of Reykjavik which was constructed between 1913 and 1917 exhibited in Reykjavik City Hall. 2013 - Saatci Gallery - "Handmade armchair" name of the piece; The Gift of the Spirit by Johann Sigmarsson. The armchair was selected at The World Interiors News Annual Awards 2013 wich is part of The World Architecture News. 2014 The armchair, The Gift of the Spirit got Runner-up for A'Design Award and the desk Something Regal by Johann Sigmarsson is A'Design Winner at the A'Design Award & Competition in Milan and 2014 - Group Exhibition - Broletto di Como at Piazza Del Duomo, 22100, Como / Italy. 2016 – Harpa, Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Reykjavík exhibit a collection of art pieces from The Equator Memorial Project / International itinerant artists project opened December 15, when it was formally 60 years from the beginning of the diplomatic relations between Iceland and Japan. The first exhibition which is achieved partly in collaboration with the Embassy of Japan was opened by the President of Iceland, Mr. Guðni Th. Jóhannesson and Ambassador, Mr. Yasuhiko Kitagawa. The theme of the exhibition is material from Hiroshima and Reykjavík Harbour with historical informations on the pieces. **Established, co-foundation of companies and organizations:** 1991 – Founded and established The Icelandic Film Company a private limited company. 1992 – Founded and established The Reykjavík Short Film Festival. 1992 – Co- foundation and Patron of THE ALTERNATIVE HOUSE a cultural and information centre for young people aged 16-25. The centre offers various help and advice, runs an art workshop, a gallery, employment agency and a Special Unit that works with and encourages disabled individuals. 1992 – Co-foundation of The Independent Art Festival in Reykjavík. 1997 – 2000 – Producer for the Icelandic Film Corporation ehf. 2001 – Founded SR Production a private limited company. 2013 - Founded 40,074KM a private limited company. 2013 - Entrepreneur of The Equator Memorial Project, an international, itinerant artists project. In 2016 Johann Sigmarsson bought company in Lithuania (STUDIJA VILNIUS) to establish Art Studio for creating the art pieces and functional objects for The Equator Memorial Project. **Feature films:** 1992 - Wallpaper, producer, writer, second director. 1995 - One Family, producer, writer, director. 2000 - Plan B Report, producer, writer, director / **Feature films projects in development:** Gentleman Alone, writer. The Hidden People, writer. The Poisoned Chalice, writer.

**INTERNATIONAL GUEST ARTISTS WORKING ON SELECTED EXHIBITIONS; CONFIRMED ARTISTS:** Steingrímur Eyfjörð (IS), Jón Adólf Steinólfsson (IS), Halldór Ásgeirsson (IS), David Walker (UK), Charles Chambata (ZM), Josemaría De Churtchaga (ES), Daniel de Isabel (ES), Kjell Erik Killi Olsen (NO), Gabriel Sobin (FR), Vytautas Narbutas (LT), Jean-Ulrick Désert (HT), Bruno Walpoth (IT), Antonia Puscas (DE) and Ksenija Zapadenceva (LT).



**CONFIRMED INTERNATIONAL ART PROJECT TEAM / CO-WORKERS ON SELECTED EXHIBITIONS;**

Johann Sigmarsson (IS) artist, filmmaker, CEO is the founder of 40,074KM and entrepreneur of the Equator Memorial Project. Tómas Þorvaldsson, (IS) attorney at law, provides legal advice and negotiation of contracts for the Equator Memorial Project. Aasa Charlotta Ingerardóttir (SE) photographer, Gunnar Gunnarsson, (IS) economist is project manager, Björn Bjarnason, (IS) former minister of Culture and Science in Iceland, is advisor on the project for Mr. Sigmarsson, Jón Proppé (IS) curator, Pierre Provoyeur (FR) curator, Robert Carrithers (US) is exhibitions coordinator, Pascal Lainé (FR) is director of curatorial, Thomas Martin Hansen (DK) is service director for the design, Ole Rydal (DK) is creative director for the design, Loren Sopčáková (CZ), photographer, Már Jóhannsson (IS) and VIÐVIK EHF (IS) Accountant, Bookkeeping & Accounting Services, Josemaría De Churtchaga (ES) is architect for the exhibitions, Kristina Mickevičiūtė (LT) service director for art frames, Volker Otte, (DE) culture funding specialist, Matthias Kruse (DE) is project representative in Germany, Paulus Fugers (NL) is in curatorial team and art studio manager, Nicole Kluk (UK) Exhibition Producer for SAATCHI GALLERY, Henrik Hartberg (NO) is service director for printing material, Ksenija Zapadenceva (LT) is, Artist, Art Studio Manager and Co-producer, UAB / STUDIJA VILNIUS.

**PRODUCTION COMPANY; 40,074KM EHF** / partner leader / Iceland is a private limited company founded by Jóhann Sigmarsson in August 2013 for designing, building furniture & creating art works, producing concerts, exhibitions & all kinds of events in art section and in filmmaking. It was given the name 40,074KM, which is the length of the Equator. The company is responsible for The Equator Memorial Project, International, itinerant Artists project. It has been developing the art project and preparing its platform. It is responsible for collecting the historical material / ruins together in cooperation with its governments and institutions, furthermore the company is finding the international companies, co-partners to participate in the art project. The intention is to expand the international group of the artists and the team that are now available who travel between countries, building functional objects, creating artworks and sculptures from historical monuments. It will be established in cooperation with other artists and businesses, in the countries where the materials derive. When the project is completed it will be exhibited on a specific heritage site or at galleries or museums suitable for the project. 40,074KM EHF will design and organise the set up all of the exhibitions and is directory of curatorial and will be authoritative for work with the international artists on the creation of the art pieces and directors and curators from the museums / galleries which are cooperating with the art project. They will interpret the artworks, select them and be responsible for writing labels, catalog essays and other supporting content for the exhibitions in cooperation with the curatorial team, provide art historians, historians, writers, translators and create professional publication / communication to the public and media such as various of articles, interviews, preface of the book of collection, for seminar and opening speeches, academic, journalistic writing which can be distributed in newspapers, magazines, TV, official site and all kinds of web media.

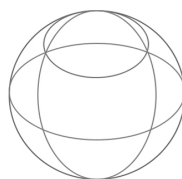
**Official website; <http://www.40074km.is>**

**CO-PARTNERS COMPANIES; Art House SomoS.** / German co-partner will organise and provide historical material, material for art pieces, crew and schedule the work of the international artists in cooperation with the team of 40,074KM EHF at **Studio am FLUTGRABEN e.v.**

**Official website; <https://www.somos-arts.org> Official website; <http://flutgraben.org>**

**UAB / STUDIJA VILNIUS** / co-partner is in charge for the Lithuanian in collaboration with the team of The Equator Memorial Project. The company will be in control of the art studio in Vilnius as well as being responsible for deliver assistance and services to the artists, art pieces and its exhibitions. The company will as well provide and organise companies, art framers and professionals to work all glass material and design, create and build all the art frames of the functional objects and the installations which the artists create for the exhibitions. The frames will partly be worked from the material of the historical ruins in collaboration with the artists. The company will as well be in charge of printing all the material, such as; brochures, flyers, postcards, posters, art prints & book of collection as well as create the design for all material, such as brochures, flyers, posters, art prints & book of collection.

**Official website; <http://studiovilnius.lt>**



# THE EQUATOR MEMORIAL PROJECT