

03 October 2010

**International Village Shop
Website Launch**

www.internationalvillageshop.net

by

Grizedale Arts, Coniston (UK)

myvillages.org (UK, Ger and NL)

public works, London (UK)

Somewhere, Coniston and London (UK)

The International Village Shop is a growing network of cultural producers who set up permanent and temporary trading places for goods that are rooted locally. The products range from horsemilksoap to porcelain Frogbutterpoons, Peter's Pots and Titschy Kitschy houses, single-village rice, music CD's, handmade arrows, etc.

The partners in this network have worked with shop formats, trade and collaborative production since 2003. During a myvillages.org residency at Grizedale Arts in 2007 the idea was born to join ventures and the first collective International Village Shop took place during Toadball.tv in November 2008.

Since then the partner in the network extended and reworked their trading places which include amongst others the ongoing Honesty Stall at Lawson Park, an annual shop for the village fete in Höfen, a two day shop at the Royal Academy in London, a one hour shop at the Studio of Urban Projects in San Francisco and an afternoon shop in a supermarket in the Swiss village of Fanas.

During the harvest month of **October 2010 the International Village Shop website will go online.** The website brings the geographically dispersed temporary and permanent "counters" of this one shop together, and gives insight to products that are developed for and distributed through this shop.

During the first week of October a series of live shop activities will take place across both urban and rural places in the UK , Germany and Sweden.

01 – 03 October, Kultivator will run an **International Village Shop** during Sweden's biggest Harvest Festival, the **Ölands Harvestfeast**.

03 October, from 14.00 – 17.00 a **Höfer Waren Swap Shop** as part of the village fete activities in Höfen, Southern Germany.

06 to 17 October , myvillages.org presents thee **International Village Shop** at the offices of Lower Saxony in Berlin, with the shop open on Thursday 7th October from 19.00 – 22.00.

08 October at 19.00, Friday Session on Shops at the public works studio in London.

10 October, "Heaven's Kitchen" as part of the Coniston Harvest Festival, with Grizedale Arts making frozen meals and a harvest supper from donated local produce.

New products that will enter the International Village Shop during October 2010 include:

Potato Sleepers, a bag to store potatoes in the kitchen, developed with residents from the potato growing village of Neuenkirchen and myvillages.org, designed by FUCHS + FUNKE & Michael Lehner and made from leftover material from the local felt factory.

Paramentenmeterware, a new fabric developed with professional embroiders from the Paramentenwerkstatt at the Monastery of St. Marienberg, Helmstedt, in the far East of Lower Saxony, Germany.

Clay Fruit, a new dish applying "Hausfrauentechnik" to local clay traditions and the relationship between ground and fruit.

Art and Agriculture porcelain sets, a printed second hand dinner set used during the Art and Agriculture wedding reception at Kultivator in Dyested, Sweden

New partners and products to enter the International Village Shop network are always welcome."

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