

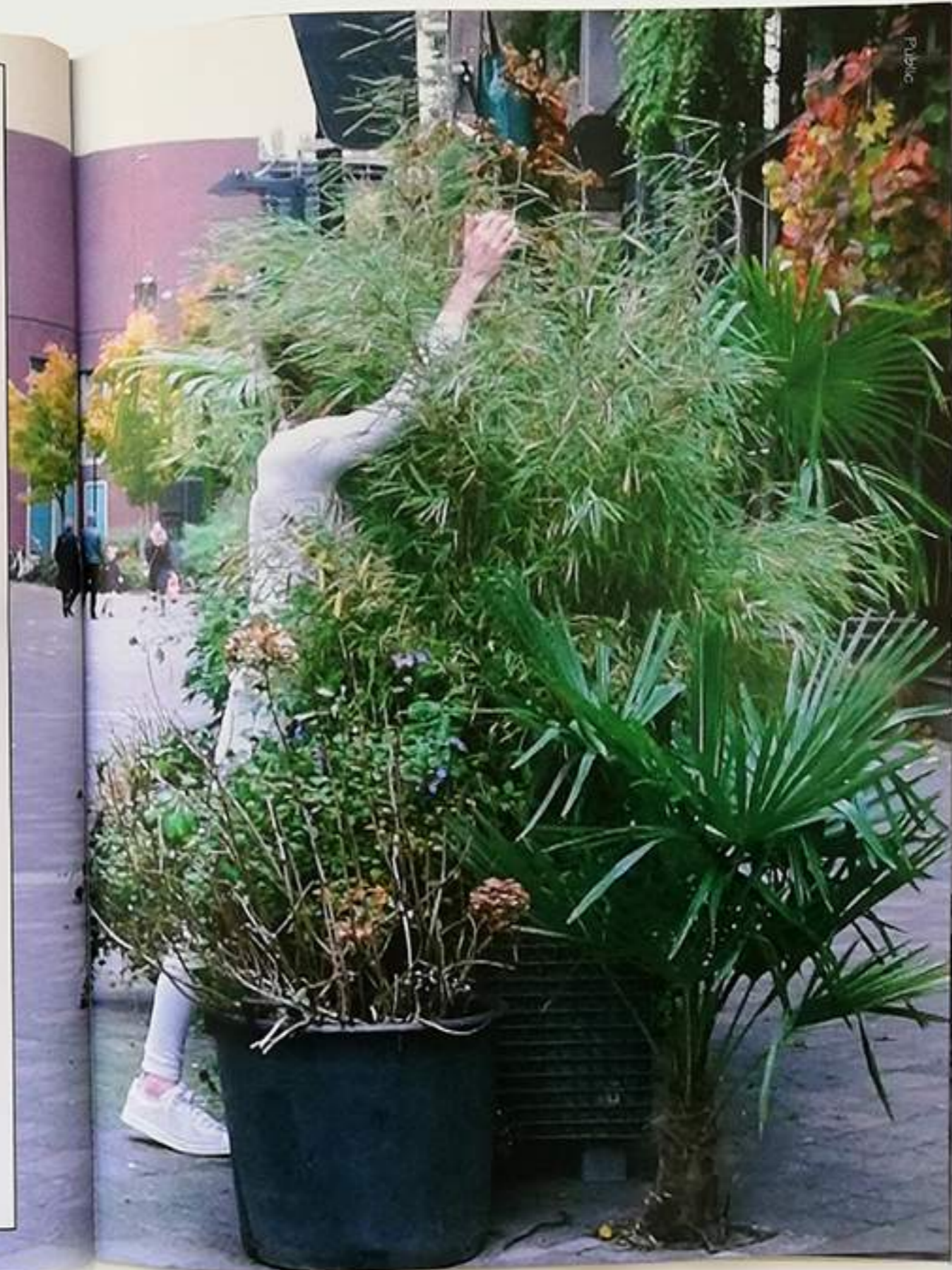


Jasper  
Griepink

ACHIEVEMENT #13  
ULTRA ECOSEXUAL POLYAMORY  
JASPER GRIEPINK

Jasper Griepink is a performance artist who aims to connect humans with each other and nature, through performance pieces, engagements, happenings and New Wave Druidry. His aim is to build a counter movement and momentum against a capitalist mentality, through personal and deeply emotional interactions, lead by feelings and intuition. In many cases Jasper uses the body as a tool within his practice, whether it's his own or that of others, through interaction in relation to others or nature.

His intervention in Eindhoven stood up to the wasteful, and commercial nature of the shopping centre by focussing entirely on the expression and affection for plants and nature, creating a stark contrast to the backdrop of his actions.



## 14.

ULTRA ECOSEXUAL  
POLYAMORY

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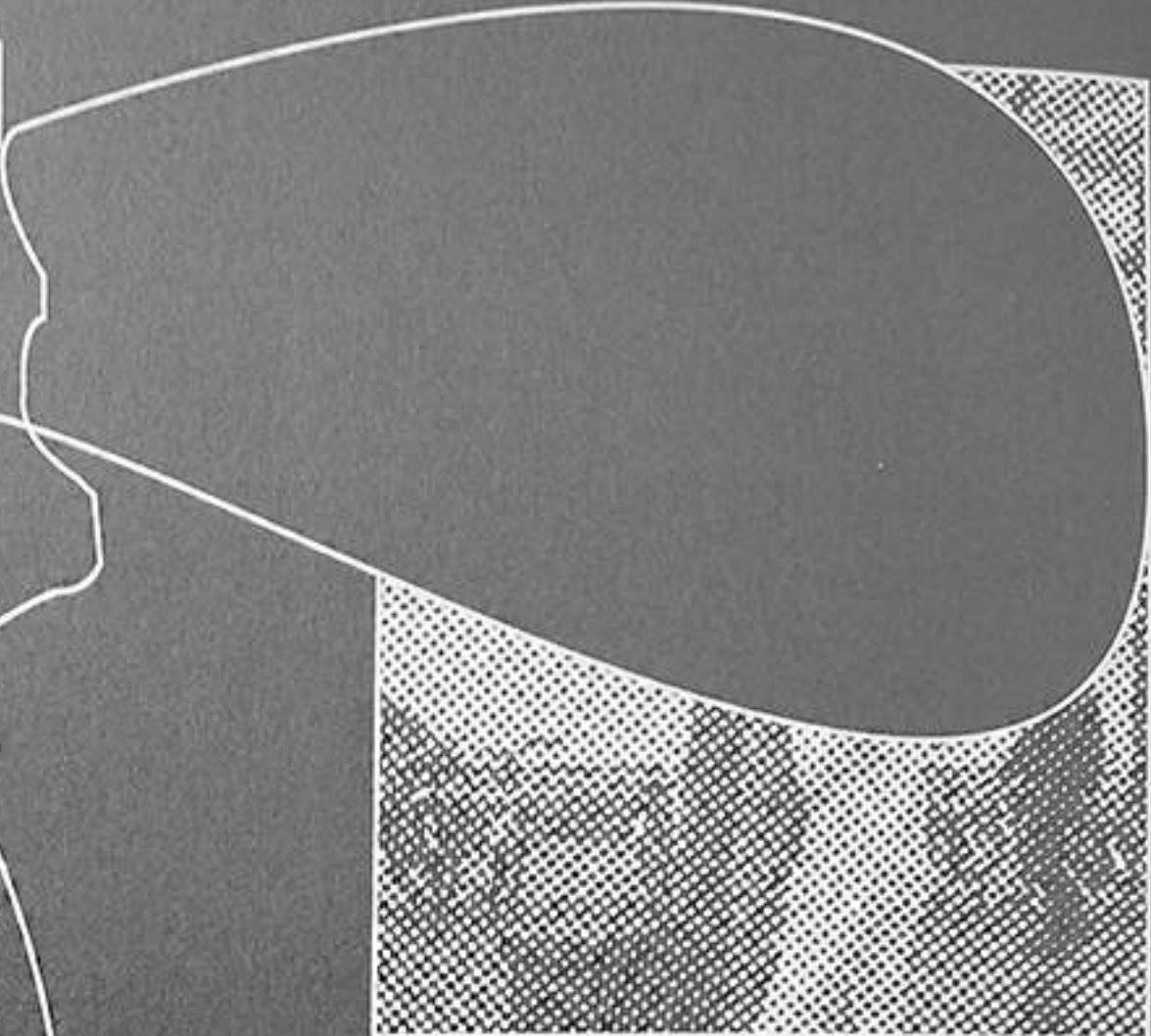
Space is space whether it's covered in concrete or grass or adorned with trees and lamp posts. Why should we (re)connect with the green? What captures us when we gawp at a sign or remember a jungle? Is it a whiter present, cleaner future or a more comfortable past? Wallowing in the fantasy of late capitalist social mobility—that's why we all moved to the city anyway, isn't it? To improve; to synthesise with the synthetic.

However, our brains still equate modernity with progress and the dualism between humanity and nature. Nothing is yet to disturb the dust from industrial production that's settled over us. Having smothered almost all of the alternative narratives, it now threatens to choke anyone who opens their mouth's to talk.

This is all hyperbole, of course. It's something to stir the senses and make you shoot a jealous glance at an empty Coke can. However it does serve as an image to strengthen the symbols that swell around our heads without us noticing. How easy it is to walk past a tree without paying any attention to it, all the while our eyes are drawn to the smell of Subway.

On the 4th of November an off-white skin tight onesie, slender legs and painted nails poured through Eindhoven like oil over a naked body. The Flaneur, The Druid, The Individual, The Collective, The City; all were present simultaneously. According to Jasper Griepink, a Dutch performance artist, when we collaborate with nature we can be incredibly resourceful and invincible, allowing us to build our own futures, with our own hands. What Griepink delivered on that rainy day was a mossy fuck you to the way we interact with cities and our attitudes towards nature.

Ultra Ecosexual Polyamory. Permaculture A.S.A.P was a performance that saw a Neo-Druid wind their way through Eindhoven in search of meaningful connections to whatever green spaces are left in the centre. Whether it was trees outside Primark or in a car park,



chlorophyll was sought out and communed with, caressed and kissed. Jasper rightly points out that in our history today we have lobbyists, politicians and representatives for companies, but very few equivalent things for nature and all it offers.

While the performance was just for the day, what it allowed for was a glimpse at a symbiotic future. By showing that these natural sites can be of interest, Griepink challenges what has economic worth in the city centre and what doesn't. Pushing a kind of political Druidism, the artist was at one point met with a little hostility with some children shouting insults like 'Tree Hugger' at him. Although to Griepink this was not a slight but an affirmation that others like himself still existed.

These others, are the Druids. An ancient order of people that could and should have a future in the way we run our countries and cities. The three orders that make up the training are the Bards, Ovates and Druids. This system of education makes sure individuals are first trained as artists or poets (Bards), then as healers (Ovates), finally 'graduating' to become law makers, politicians or community leaders (Druids). This holistic stance to life feels very alien to our urban condition of parking fines and smart streets.

So if there is a Druid in the next city council, who knows how different the decisions could be. Maybe there would be less private concrete and glass shells and more community spaces. Because, as Griepink has noted, 'we're making a very flat parody of what nature actually is, it's deeply insulting to where we come from.' Nevertheless this parody is our reality, and needs to be addressed. Revolutions have historically begun in squares not parks, so let's start seeding the pavements.