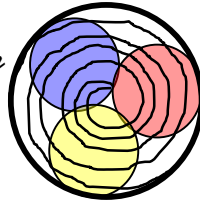


## *Reflections Climax Meeting*



13.-14.10.2012

*Lena*

- *Why did I come this weekend?*

I am driven by a strong desire to learn and contribute. From the age of 14 on, I have been living in Bolivia, Guatemala, Egypt, the Netherlands, Hong Kong and Thailand and traveled through even more places. I moved through many different realities and learned in their language about their cultures and struggles. During my bachelor study in the Netherlands, I learned about Latin American theories of social transformation from a Mexican professor, who himself learned from the Zapatistas.

On my journeys I have met wonderful inspiring people with honest projects. One of them was Bodhi and I joined his work in Thailand in 2011/2012. Coming from the Academia, I carry within me the critical individualized thinking. I produced art performances that opened spaces for exchange and collective transformations. The reality of my journeys, where I lived in other spaces as a sister of a Bolivian or Guatemalan family, a pupil in their schools, a co-worker, a student, a teacher formed a strong feeling about traveling. A traveling whereby one is not the consumer of others' beauty, but the humble guest enjoying the learning from different people and the environment and gratefully offering international skills when the need or possibility emerges.

The feeling that I can contribute to the birthing project with the experience to listen and to translate in between worlds was my drive to travel the long distance from Germany to be part of that weekend.

It was new to me to start with a personal visioning and take the original idea from there into a group visioning. This created a place of inclusion, whereby a collective vision was created, followed by collective ideas. The interplay of thought, conversation, digestion, walk, nature, meditation was highly inspirational and contributed a great deal to the clarity of the topics and the process.

I loooooooooooooooooooved seeing hummingbirds flying around our meeting-table and I loved the meditation on that wonderful tree in the forest.

Sharing visions, ideas, going for a walk, exploring the river, meditating, the interplay of these parts conveyed a sense of a grounded reality, not just an abstract vision. Furthermore, the emerging of a collective vision and using the mind as a thinking tool for a mission statement and methods was very powerful. A great structure, reflection and concentration.

It seems as if the retreat, holding a collective vision at its center, is defined by the speed of all, not just the initiator.