The theoretical thought embedded in Alt Går Bra’s practice thoroughly dissects the ways in which philosophers have understood technology. Alt Går Bra carefully and critically considers the Janus-face of technology, asking when and why we opted for today's overdeveloped technologies and what we might learn by looking back to look forward.

Zanna Gilbert
Getty Research Institute
SUMMARY

In 2019, Alt Går Bra reached a diverse public of nearly 7,500 at 51 public events.

Receiving joint funding from the Arts Council England and the UK National Heritage Fund, Alt Går Bra’s research on alternative publishing resulted in the first ever exhibition dedicated to the mimeograph. Held in London through 2018-19, this popular event was attended by 6,000 visitors and led to a number of invitations to further the research.

The University of Westminster invited Alt Går Bra to convene a two-day international conference, the first event of this type dedicated to the mimeograph.

The Victoria and Albert Museum invited Alt Går Bra to produce a large installation and give a public presentation on its mimeograph practice.

Zanna Gilbert from the Getty Research Institute interviewed Alt Går Bra about its pioneering theoretical work and practice with the mimeograph. The 20-page piece was produced to be published in one of the most prestigious art publications in France, Perspective, the journal of the French National Institute of Art History (INHA).

In August, Alt Går Bra resumed publication of its bi-monthly journal Trykksak, launched at the 29th Salon de la Revue de Ent’revues in Paris. These and other publications were exhibited and discussed at a number of events nationally and internationally, including Berlin’s Miss Read Art Book Fair and the Frankfurt Book Fair.

Invitations to participate in events throughout the year included Coast Contemporary and Kulturrådets Årskonferanse (Norwegian Arts Council’s Annual Conference).

Alt Går Bra continued implementing its project Den Norske Idealstaten, this year with a focus on the Hordaland region. The project was presented at 23 art and non-art specific venues in Bergen, Os and Ålvik. Den Norske Idealstaten was invited to be part of the opening exhibition of the new National Museum in Oslo in 2021.

Through 2019, the group worked on two new projects to be materialized in 2020, The Russians Did It and the Acanthus Project.

Research for The Russians Did It was carried out at different sites, including Kirkenes, Murmansk, and Oslo. Departing from historical figure Ellisif Wessel, the project explores Norway-Russia relations. Eighteen large faner (banners), measuring 200 x 125 cm, were produced through 2019 for the Barents Spektakel Festival in February 2020.

The Acanthus Project investigates the acanthus leaf as an ornament, aiming to shed light on cosmopolitanism and the relations between art and architecture. Research was carried out through 2019 internationally and in Bergen, resulting in an online database and a mapping of acanthus ornaments in Bergen at www.akanthus.no. The database will be used for Alt Går Bra to lead guided walks of the city departing from Kunsthall 3.14 through March-April 2020.

SUPPORTED BY

Norwegian Arts Council (Norsk Kulturråd), OCA Office of Contemporary Art Norway, Arts Council England, UK National Heritage Fund, KORO Public Art Norway, Billedkunstnerenes Hjelpefond, Hordaland County (Hordaland Fylkeskommune), Bergen City Council, Fritt Ord, and the Norwegian Embassy in London.
7,400 PUBLIC AND 36 VENUES

TOTAL of ca. 7,400 at 36 venues
Counting is ca. 90% unique; i.e. some 7,000 different individuals were reached.

36 Venues of different types:
10 Art Spaces
5 Cultural Institutions/Spaces
5 Meeting places (pubs, cafes, folkets hus)
3 Educational Institutions
13 Others

5 ARTICLES WRITTEN BY AGB

TOTAL of 5 articles written by Alt Går Bra
Published in mainstream media (1), art publication (3), other (1), rejected (1)

Johansen, Eva S. "Hvilket samfunn dømmer vi om?" Nordnesrepublikken, September 16, 2019 (online)
Johansen, Eva S. “Nå lærer vi som vi er ferdige med å klage.” Nordnesrepublikken, May 16, 2019 (online)

5 ARTICLES WRITTEN ABOUT AGB

TOTAL of 5 articles published in French, Japanese, Norwegian

Johansen, Eva S. “Hvilket samfunn dømmer vi om?”. Nordnesrepublikken, September 16, 2019 (online)
Johansen, Eva S. “Nå lærer vi som vi er ferdige med å klage.” Nordnesrepublikken, May 16, 2019 (online)

TOTAL of 2-300 emails and phone calls to local, national, international art and mainstream press

15 INVITATIONS, COMMISSIONS, WORK PROPOSALS

TOTAL of 15

3 Invitations to produce solo events
Bruce Castle Museum, London
University of Westminster, London
Kunsthall 3.14, Bergen

10 Invitations to group exhibitions, public debates, talks, etc.
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Miss Read Art Book Fair, Berlin
Oppland Kunstsenter, Lillehammer
Coast Contemporary, Oslo
Kulturrådets årskonferanse 2019, Trondheim
Pikene på broen, Kirkenes
KMD Bergen Art Academy Seminar, Bergen
University of Manchester, London
Oral History Society Annual Conference, Swansea University
William Morris Gallery, London

2 Requests to be part of institutional/closed-groups, debates, assessments, conversations
Oral History Society 2019 Annual Report, UK
Kulturrådet pilot project: Kuraterte møteplasser for det visuelle kunstfeltet, Bergen

0 Requests for studio visits

1 Artwork commissions and job proposals (jury work, teaching, etc.)
Offer to one of the members become the leader of Hordaland Region Artists Union (accepted)
38 FUNDING AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

TOTAL of 30 funding and project applications, 19 granted, 11 rejected (63% success)
1/1 granted: Arts Council England
1/1 granted: Norwegian Embassy in London
1/1 granted: KORO
1/2 granted: Hordaland Fylkeskommune
2/2 granted: OCA
6/8 granted: Bergen Kommune
4/6 granted: Norsk kulturråd visual arts
1/1 granted: Norsk kulturråd performing arts
1/1 granted: Billedkunstnernes Hjelpefond Regional Projects
1/2 granted: Fritt Ord
0/1 granted: Norsk kulturråd literature
0/1 granted: Billedkunstnernes Hjelpefond
0/2 granted: Billedkunstnernes Vederlagsfond
0/1 granted: BEK

TOTAL of 7 other applications, 5 out of 7 granted
2/2 granted (For 2 AGB members): residency at Circolo Scandinavo, Rome
2/2 granted (For 2 AGB members): Billedkunstnernes Hjelpefond for Circolo Scandinavo
1/1 granted: residency at Hallvard Trætteberg Fund, Løten Kommune
0/2 (For 2 AGB members): Norske Gravikere union membership

9,500 HOURS OF WORK

TOTAL of ca. 9,500 hours of work by AGB’s three members

The three members are paid an average of ca. 34 NOK per hour of work, and only one of the three AGB members has been granted a working grant.

There is no minimum hourly rate officially stipulated by artist unions in Norway—sometimes rates of 625 NOK per hour or 4500 NOK per day have been applied, following Den Kulturelle Skoleskekken (DKS) rates.
JANUARY

FOLKETS HUS
Leita etter framtidsvisjonar i Ålvik

Den Norske Idealstaten, Residency at KH Messen, Ålvik

Kunstnærgruppen «Alt» går bina avridd for å farna den norske idealstaten. Gruppen fører mønster spennende i Ålvik.

Barbork Myrhaug

To av samlingsmene i gruppen, Agnes Nederåard og Vibeke Bruun, er innvandrer fra Nederland. Hver høyt i Nidelavet, to av dem er kjent for sin unike stil.

- Agnes Nederåard:
  - Første idealkonseptet er utviklet med boligprosjektet «Den Norske Idealstaten». Vi ser videre på hvordan vi kan bygge en samfunn i en eller annen form.

- Vibeke Bruun:
  - Vi ser videre på hvordan vi kan bygge en samfunn i en eller annen form.

Barbork Myrhaug, Agnes Nederåard og Vibeke Bruun har mønster spennende i Ålvik.

Barbork Myrhaug

Alt havner i en rekke konsekvenser der det kan være nye ideer og innovasjoner i samfunnet.

Barbork Myrhaug

Alt har noye og teiknet i å skape en ny samfunnsmosse.

Den Norske Idealstaten, Residency at KH Messen, Ålvik
Research (due to protection of privacy, it was not possible to photograph certain events), Ålvik
Elkem Bjølvefossen Factory
Ålvik Museum
Ålvik Public Library
Ålvik Union
Individual Surveys and presentation (due to protection of privacy, it was not possible to photograph certain events), Ålvik
Ålvik Folkets Hus
Ålvik Coop Supermarket
Individual Surveys and presentation (due to protection of privacy, it was not possible to photograph certain events), Ålvik
Ålvik Pensjonistforening
Ålvik Public Library
Den Norske Idealstaten, children’s drawings after readings of Plato’s Republic, passage on the cave (due to protection of privacy, it was not possible to photograph certain events), Ålvik Ålvik Skule
Den Norske Idealstaten, children's drawings after readings of Plato's Republic, passage on the cave (due to protection of privacy, it was not possible to photograph certain events), Ålvik Ålvik Skule
The Mimeograph Project, the three Alt Gär Bra members convening the Art of the Mimeograph, International Conference at the University of Westminster, London
The Mimeograph Project, Workshops
Architecture students at the University of Westminster, London
The Mimeograph Project, Presentation, Reminiscence Cafe, Bruce Castle Museum, London
The Mimeograph Project, Research, Haringey Archives at Bruce Castle Museum, London
The Mimeograph Project, Research
Oral history walks, interviews, participation in Channel 4 documentary Spies for Peace, various locations (due to protection of privacy, it was not possible to photograph certain events), London
The Mimeograph Project, Workshops
Bruce Castle Museum, London
MARCH
The Mimeograph Project, Presentation, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
The Mimeograph Project, Presentation, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Tout Va Bien Series, Filmmaker and Media Theorist Matthew Alford in collaboration with Bergen Cinematek, Bergen Cinematek
Research trip to Rome to study painting and architecture, including Pompeian Third Style painting and acanthus ornaments. Research at several sites including the Norwegian Institute, the Academy of the Lincei, Vesuvian towns, Tivoli, and several sites in Rome.
Fane making, Alt Går Bra studio, Bergen
Fane, acrylic on silk, 125 x 200 cm
17. Mai, 2019, Parade with two faner (120 x 250), 17. Mai Parade, Bergen
BKFH Fane, 2019, acrylic on fabric, designed, painted, and sewn by AGB, 90 x 120 cm.
The Mimeograph Project, Presentation, Miss Read Art Book Fair, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
Tout Va Bien Series, Oral Philosopher Dominique Pagani in collaboration with Radical Philosophy and Literature Research Group at UiB, University of Bergen
The Mimeograph Project, Presentation and book launch Tout Va Bien, Bastard Art Book Fair/Oppland Kunstcenter, Norwegian Literature Festival, Lillehammer
The Russians Did It Project, Research at the Norwegian Museum of the Resistance, Oslo

The Mimeograph Project, article by curator Ueno Hisami (MOMA Wakayama) in the Japan Graphic Services Industries Association (JAGRA) about Alt Går Bra’s conference and exhibition in London about the ‘Art of the Mimeograph’
Research of paintings and grotesques at the Palace of Fontainebleau and in Barbizon (L'école de Barbizon and l'Atelier Jean-François Millet), France
The Mimeograph Project, the last heir of the Gestetner mimeograph manufacturer Jonathan Gestetner and his wife Jacquelin visiting Alt Går Brås studio in Bergen

The Mimeograph Project, Research at the Electronic Poetry Center at the State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo
Fane making, Alt Går Bra studio, Bergen
Fane, acrylic on silk, 125 x 200 cm
AUGUST / SEPTEMBER
Den Norske Idealstaten Bergen, Individual Surveys and Booth, Bergens Næringsråd event at Grand Konferanse- og Festlokale, Bergen
Individual Surveys and booth, Bergens Næringsråd event, Grand Konferanse- og Festlokale, Bergen
Talk with Prof. Knut Ove Arntzen (UiB), Bergen Litteraturhuset, Bergen
Individual Surveys, Valgbodene in public space, Bergen
Individual Surveys, Valgbodene in public space, Bergen
Individual Surveys, Valgbodene in public space, Bergen
Talk with artist and curator Gitte Sætre, Bergen Offentlige Bibliotek, Bergen
Den Norske Idealstaten Bergen, Individual Surveys, Lampemannen Bar, Bergen
Individual Surveys, Lampemannen Bar, Bergen
Den Norske Idealstaten Bergen, Individual Surveys and Booth, Bergens Media City, Bergen
Booth, Individual Surveys and discussions with journalists and politicians from different political parties, Bergen Media City, Bergen
Den Norske Idealstaten Bergen, Tlak, Buekorpsmuséet Nordness, Bergen
Talk and Individual Surveys, Bergen Offentlige Bibliotek, Bergen.
Group Surveys and discussions, Oseana Kunst og Kultursenter, Os

Individual Surveys, Skipper Stuen Pub, Bergen
Den Norske Idealstaten Bergen, Individual Surveys, Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen
Talk with curator Sissel Lillebostad, Kunstgarasjen, Bergen
Exhibition and discursive events for Kulturnatt, Kunsthall 3.14, Bergen
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Exhibition and discursive events for Kulturnatt, Kunsthall 3.14, Bergen
Exhibition and discursive events for Kulturnatt, Kunsthall 3.14, Bergen
Exhibition and discursive events for Kulturnatt, Kunsthall 3.14, Bergen
Performance and Individual Surveys, public space, Bergen
Performance and Individual Surveys, public space, Bergen
Performance and Individual Surveys, public space, Bergen
The Mimeograph Project, Research in Italy, Ca Balà magazine and mimeograph archive of Berlinghiero Buonarroti, Compiobbi, Florence
Alt Går Bra new lokale in Nordnes, Bergen
The Russians Did It, Residency at Pikene på broen to conduct research in Finnmark and Russia, Industrial School, Murmansk, Russia
The Russians Did It, Residency at Pikene på broen, Research with local historian Steinar Wikan, Kirkenes
The Russians Did It, Participation at Pikene på broen's Transborder Cafe, Women and War, Kirkenes

Attending ceremony for 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Norway by the Red Army, Monument to the Soviet Soldier, Kirkenes
Presentations and exhibition of artwork at Coast Contemporary
An Unfinished Project, 2019, oil on canvas, 50 x 70 cm
An Unfinished Project, 2019, oil on canvas, 50 x 70 cm
An Unfinished Project, 2019, oil on canvas, 70 x 60 cm
The Mimeograph Project, Presenter and Exhibitor, Entrevues 29th Salon de revues, Halle des Blancs Manteaux, Paris
The Mimeograph Project, Trykksak #4, 2019, inner page detail.
Den Norske Idealstaten, Surveys and Artwork Display, Norwegian Arts Council's Annual Conference (Kulturrådets årskonferenser), Trondheim
The Mimeograph Project, Presenter and Exhibitor, Frankfurt Book Fair, Frankfurt
NOVEMBER
The Russians Did It, sewing 18 faner (125 x 200 cm.) for Barents Spektakel at Alt Går Bra studio and at Murmansk Industrial School in Russia
The Mimeograph Project, Research on original edition of *Dialectic of Enlightenment* by Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer, first published as a mimeograph version with the title *Philosophical Fragments*, Leo Baeck Institute, New York.
The Mimeograph Project, Presentation and mimeograph demonstration, Bergen Art Book Fair, Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen
PERSPECTIVE
actualité en histoire de l'art

DECEMBER
Alt Går Bra is interviewed by Getty Research Institute's Zanna Gilbert for publication in the journal of the National Institute of Art History (INHA).
The Acanthus Project being developed for presentation at Kunsthall 3.14 in March-April 2020
The Acanthus Project, Development of online database of acanthus ornaments in Bergen for guided walks (www.akantus.no)
The Acanthus Project, Development of online database of acanthus ornaments in Bergen for guided walks (www.akantus.no)
Mimeograph printing and design of the *T.R.D.I, Selected Poems by Ellisif Wessel*, book to be launched at Barents Spektakel 2020

Book cover design on wax stencil, hand-etched with styli