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ANDSCAPE: Marta á Góðafoss

a rawlings
University of Glasgow

Marta Guðrún Jóhannesdóttir
University of Iceland

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ANDSCAPE: Marta á Góðafoss

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Notes on the Text

While in Bjarnarfjörður, Marta Guðrún Jóhannesdóttir and I took a walk at Góðafoss and documented our conversations with the landscape. Marta's documentation of her walk included text, painting using the natural palette available in the landscape (mud, crowberry juice), and an audio recording where she pronounced the names of landscape components that caught her attention during her walk. When I listened to Marta's recording, I realized that by 'naming' the environment we populate the environment with what we know. If we attempt to name all of the components in the landscape that we can immediately sense, we create a dizzying or hypnotising mass of words. I then worked with Marta's recording to recut it in a way where listeners may "see" the environment that is being named as it is being named, even though the listeners are not physically present at the described site.

ANDSCAPE: Marta á Góðafoss is excerpted from 'ANDSCAPE'.

ANGELA RAWLINGS is the author of *Wide slumber for lepidopterists* (Coach House Books, 2006) and *Gibber* (online, 2012). She holds a Masters in Environmental Ethics and Natural Resource Management (University of Iceland), and is a current Kelvin/Smith PhD scholar researching performance, geochronology, and Scotland's western seaboard (University of Glasgow). Shortlisted for the 2013 Leslie Scalapino Award, Rawlings' play *Áfall / Trauma* will be published in 2016 by Broken Dimanche Press.

MARTA GUÐRÚN JÓHANNESDÓTTIR is an Icelandic educator and museologist. She holds degrees in Literature and Museology (University of Iceland and University of Helsinki). Jóhannesdóttir has worked on different projects in the fields of literature, radio programming and cultural heritage. She is currently living in Strandir in the North of Iceland where she has recently taken the post of headmistress in a school of ten children in the municipality of Kaldrananes.