

THE RECIFE NETWORK AND THE EMERGENCE  
NETWORK

*present*

# *A Delicate Activism*

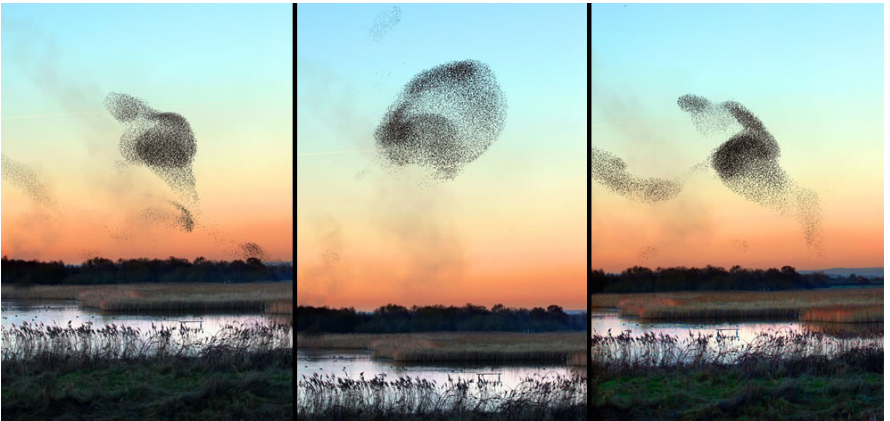
FACILITATED BY THE PROTEUS INITIATIVE

An invitation Towards a Practice that is Alive

6 to 10 February 2018 (full days),  
Monte da Mariposa - Algarve, Portugal

The instrumental nature of much contemporary social activism has become a contributing factor to – rather than a resolution of – the rapid and escalating social and ecological crises that beset our world. Our urgency to achieve change often unfolds a calculative, strategic mindset; results, rather than process, become primary. Yet a closer look at how life actually lives reveals that means are the ends that we arrive at – that our points of departure foretell our places of arrival.

The approach introduced in these five days offers the possibility to understand and work with radically different, more appropriate, more organic approaches to social and ecological process and practice. To work in ways that are respectful of the complexity and true nature of our challenges. Encountering the problems we face in the world today requires the exercise of a responsive creativity premised on our own transformation in the process of engagement. This, we suggest, is built through the disciplined practice of observation as it enters the living processes through which life on earth unfolds. These five days introduce a grounded, aware, engaged and imaginative interpersonal practice.



The idea is to shift our penchant for management towards enabling the world to become more visible. To develop the ability to see into the depths of things, so that the processes and relationships that form the living skein of social, and socio-ecological situations becomes transparent. To enable the situation to transform from the inside, out. We ourselves, in the process, gaining an awareness of a larger reality. We become able to incorporate ourselves within that reality. Our own way of approaching the world has a significant role to play in addressing challenges which we face, at this juncture of world history. In a rapidly foreclosing world, we introduce a practice that seeks to provide an enlarged picture of the human being, and our relationship with a living world. Recognizing that the world we inhabit is socially and ecologically impoverished and compromised, we choose to work with a practice that opens people's horizons – both to themselves and to their responsibilities in terms of intervening creatively into such a world.

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**Location:** Set amidst the hills, in a beautiful valley in the heart of Algarve, the Monte Mariposa Retreat Centre will offer the possibility of a deep individual and group immersion.  
<http://montemariposa.co.uk/>

**Arrivals to Faro** (closest airport) are expected on the 5th of February and departures on the 11th of February 2018.

**Registration fee:** 650 euros (early bird before 31st of October); 720 euros after that. Registrations are limited to 24 participants.

The fee covers all costs related with board, lodging, and course related work and materials. The travel costs from your place to the venue are not included.

## THE TEAM

Allan Kaplan and Sue Davidoff are development practitioners, teachers and writers. They are the authors of *The Development Practitioner's Handbook* and *Artists of Invisible*, and of *The Learning School*, respectively; together they have written *A Delicate Activism*. They work in the field of social phenomenology, drawn more specifically from the approach and methods developed by JW von Goethe. Their activism includes the leading of long-term and accredited programs in Reflective Social Practice (which some call a Delicate Activism). Their work is an attempt to realize the full consequences of true participation, of socio-ecological complexity, and of polarity in the generative quest for wholeness. They have established the Proteus Initiative as a vehicle for doing this. They have also established the Towerland Wilderness Retreat ([www.towerlandwilderness.org](http://www.towerlandwilderness.org)) as a space for nature and for the learning that may come through immersion in, and communion with, nature.

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**If this invitation resonated with you, book the dates and visit our page where you will find the online registration form. After that we will send you the details for payment to confirm your place.**

**For further inquiries, you can call us to +351.925001450 or send an email to [recifealgarve@gmail.com](mailto:recifealgarve@gmail.com).**

**Find more information about hosts and facilitators work at:**

<https://recifealgarve.wordpress.com/>

<http://www.emergencenetwork.org/>

<http://www.proteusinitiative.org/>