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INTERVIEW

AN ECO-CONSCIOUS, MULTI-TALENTED OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST

Those arriving at the East Entrance of ispo winter 08 are immediately welcomed by an exciting world of outdoor sports – several exhibitions, a bizarre stone sofa installation and a adventuresome Outdoor Picture Gallery are highlighted by the photographer, artist and passionate surfer Xandi Kreuzeder and his friends.

Mr. Kreuzeder, you are an independent fashion, sports, and outdoor photographer and artist – what is your inspiration?

I generally get inspired when I travel as well as when I work with international artists. Our new exhibition project "SKELETON SEA" came to life during a surfing trip to the Azores. I was traveling with two friends and artists, and during this rather adventurous trip we traversed a lot of remote and wild

coastlines on goat paths. It was amazing how much flotsam we came across. Our artistic instincts went into overdrive and we began to construct sculptures and structures.

At ispo winter 08, the East Entrance will host your exhibition "SKELETON SEA" as well as a number of other artworks. What exactly is exhibited there, what are your subjects, and what would you like to express?

We, Xandi Kreuzeder from Starnberg, Joao Parrinha from Lisbon and Luis de Dios from Fuerteventura – three passionate artists and ambitious surfers – present photos, sculptures and structures. Our subject is the ocean, and the idea was to create objects from the dead flotsam and refuse, and whatever debris ends up on Europe's beaches, and to bring it all back to life. Each one of our artworks tells a special story. A metaphor for our environment and society.

What is the role of nature; how do you integrate the subject of "sustainability"?

Our latest creations came to life in Fuerteventura, where we organized a beach clean-up on the North coast in cooperation with CLEANOCEAN-PROJEKT.com, a Spanish foundation. A large number of people and surfers volunteered and the community handled the removal of hundreds of garbage bags. We used some of the trash to build a wonderful fish sculpture, the "trash-eating fish", also being shown at ispo.

What projects are planned, and is there anything you absolutely want to create?

First of all we will show the SKELETON SEA exhibition in various European cities for the period of one year. A new project is planned in the Alps, where we want to construct a large sculpture in a very exposed area. I personally want to create a lot of things yet – I am not running out of ideas... and hope I can make a living with my art one of these days. **(tk)**

More info: www.skeleton3.wordpress.com and www.xandikreuzeder.de