

# PEGASUS GARDEN 2023

## A UNIQUE CLIMATE-SMART-THEATRE-GARDEN FOR PUPPETRY & ECOLOGY IN HÖG SCANIA SWEDEN

Next to our theatre workshop in Hög we founded Pegasus Garden, a Theatre Garden, a Forum for Culture and Ecology. Pegasus Garden is a meeting place for audiences, artists and ecologists that want to engage in discussions on approaches to life and our common future. The visitors of Pegasus Garden will experience theaterperformances, music, showings, organic farming and ecological building.

STAFFAN BJÖRKLUND'S THEATRE joined efforts with professional architects and ecologists to make the garden an inspiring place to visit. By means of the beauty of the garden and it's small buildings, and by the stories told here, we want to give our visitors a pleasant and thought- provoking experience. In the plantation you'll get ideas for redesigning your own garden according to the principles of permaculture and our current climate circumstances.

The buildings and ecological installations in the garden are examples of how we in modern building can use knowledge gathered by previous generations and at the same time experience the joys of creativity and craftsmanship in finding the construction techniques of the future.

In Pegasus Garden knowledgeable and humorous ecologists and artists offer ideas on what we can make of the world in terms of Ecological visions in function, and reflections on the future. The buildings in the garden also play an important part in our activities, e.g. children assisted the carpenters during the construction process.

Manual labor is often associated with times long past, but here the visitors get to meet people that take pride in their skills and show the importance that they have in a community built on ecological principles. The design of the buildings and the materials used in them remind us about the importance of careful use of natural resources, both in terms of energy for heating and recycling of materials.

The project Pegasus Garden is idealistic and non-profit even though Staffan Björklund's Theatre through the years was subsidized by local, regional and state authorities.

The theatre offers both public events and showings of the garden and it's ecological installations. And of course International and Swedish Interactive Open Air-Performances, for families, schools, preschools and other groupes in the summertime! For more information, please visit our [HOMEPAGE](#)





# PEGASUS GARDEN

## A THEATER GARDEN FOR PUPPETRY AND ECOLOGY

One purpose of PEGASUS GARDEN is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues in two fields that concern all humans:

### FOOD AND SHELTER

This is a vital ecological project where we jointly strive for an understanding of the values of nature, and how to sustain them. Since more than 30 years children and families have studied the turn of the seasons in Pegasus Garden.

The children sow, harvest and experience the dynamics of nature with us. In the plantation we grow mostly slowly growing crops, so that the children can follow the gradual growth process. The crops, as well as the fruit and berries grown in the garden, are dried and preserved for later use. All cultivation in Pegasus Garden is done in accordance with nature, following organic-biological principles.

Each year we grow a particular crop that will help give the children an understanding for the historical uses and practices associated with it. For example, the children have followed flax from seed to fabric, tried handicraft using straw, and followed the grain all the way to the point where it's turned into a loaf of bread. They have also met the beekeeper by the beehive, and ornithologists.

In the summertime children and families can watch various international performances in the garden, and with inspiration from them try handicraft in outdoor workshops supervised by puppet makers, carpenters and other craftsmen.

The children can also express themselves together with artists, they can shape creations together, all the materials used come from the garden, where we have been growing them since it was founded in 1991.





# SOLSTÄLLET IN PEGASUS GARDEN

SOLSTÄLLET, dedicated in 1995, is our inspirational ecological house designed to minimize the negative impact that the daily process of living has upon the environment. In his design of Solstället, Danish architect Flemming Abrahamsson combines ancient building techniques with innovative modern technologies to create a house that is a fine example of how well the future can work with the past.

Natural materials acquired locally were used for the construction of the house. Larch tree wood for the frame, cobblestones for the floor, thatch for the roof, and recycled bricks for the dividing walls, were each chosen for their low production energy, good diffusive qualities, and reusability. These natural materials are not only good for the environment but also create a healthy living space for the house's inhabitants.

The installations in Solstället use a combination of modern technology and natural processes to enhance the occupants standard of living. Hot water for the shower is cleanly heated by a solar panel. Waste water from the sink and shower is purified naturally in a rootzone located outside the house.

Finally, to serve the inhabitants more basic needs, a urine separating earth closet is included in Solstället. The earth closet is ventilated by a solar powered fan, and the wastes are composted in the closet and eventually recycled in the form of fertilizer.





## ORGANIC PEGASUS FARMING

The portion of Pegasus Garden devoted to agriculture can be divided into three separate areas: the Vegetable garden, the Crop field, and the Wildflower pasture.

This portion of the garden has been designed to minimize environmental impact and we utilize organic farming methods that avoid the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides. To maintain optimum growing conditions in the soil, we plant our crops based on a 5-year crop rotation. In addition, we use composted cow manure as well as other composted matter to fertilize the soil.

The vegetable garden consists of three plots for growing edible vegetables, an herbal garden, a patch of berry bushes, fruit trees, and a bed of plants which we use for dyeing clothing. The garden is watered through the use of a windmill that draws needed water from a nearby stream.

In the crop field we grow a variety of grain crops as well as other crops that are used in handicrafts. Finally, in the wildflower pasture we each year sow new grasses, herbs, and wildflowers as well as bushes and trees, e.g. willow and hazel trees, that provide us with natural materials for building and handicrafts and of course for puppet craft in conjunction with puppet performances!

Most of us know that organic farming doesn't involve chemical fertilizers, pesticides, or herbicides. What is less known is that organic farmers also takes special measures to preserve and enrich the natural growing environment.





## MORE ON ORGANIC PEGASUS FARMING

One concern is to keep the ground covered, which helps to prevent topsoil erosion and to maintain soil moisture levels.

In Pegasus Garden we ordinarily use either hay or phacelia to cover the ground. During the growing season we till the hay and phacelia into the fields in order to enrich them with nitrogen and organic material.

Ground cover is also an effective tool for preventing weed infestation and supporting young and fragile crop plants.

In our vegetable garden we grow clover and birds-foot trefoil around our fruit trees and berry bushes. They are high in nitrogen, and when tilled into our clay soil they make it looser and easier to work with.





# THE SEEDHOUSE IN PEGASUS GARDEN

The Seedhouse serves a double role as summertime theater and wintertime storage facility in Pegasus garden. Designed by Danish architect Flemming Abrahamsson, who also designed Solstället, the Seedhouse is a structure that illustrates to visitors the ease with which modern ecological construction techniques can be applied to practical projects of our time.

Construction of the Seedhouse was carried out as a workshop under the supervision of American architect Robert Laporte (Natural House Building Center, Santa Fe USA).

A group of sixteen people, architects, architecture students, politicians and teachers, participated in this workshop and gained valuable knowledge about ecological construction.

All of our construction materials were prepared on site and were chosen for their lenience on natural resources and local availability.

Fifteen oak logs were obtained to build the frame of the house. These logs were barked and split by our building team using both hand and power tools.

Five large posts cut from the original logs provide the main support for the house. To deter insects and microorganisms in the soil from attacking the wood, we burned the ends of the logs in an open fire. This method is not only very effective at deterring infestation but is also much healthier for the environment than chemical treating of the wood.

Shingles made of spruce and aspen overlay oak rafters to make the roof. Rather than nails, we used the tried but true method of timber peg construction to hold the frame together. Timber peg construction is not only stronger than nail construction but is also much longer lasting as well as more attractive.

Artists at our festival PEGASUS FAMILY testified their love to perform in front of this unique theatre house!





We overbuilt the frame of the house to show visitors how attractive an exposed wooden frame might be in a larger dwelling. The walls were cast in portable moulds, where a mixture of clay and straw from the neighbourhood was tramped by feet.

In order to provide extra support for exterior walls, horizontally mounted willow shafts were drilled into the oak frame of the house.

To increase the aesthetic appeal of the walls as well as to protect them from the damaging effects of moisture, a natural plaster made of clay, water, short-cut straw, and linseed oil was spread over the walls. Finally, a protective coating of linseed oil and bee's wax was placed on the interior walls.





# ROOTZONE PURIFYING WATER

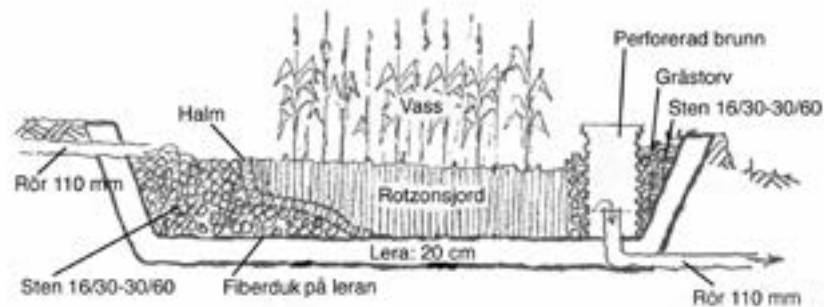
A Rootzone plant is a biological sewage treatment plant, where the wastewater from the shower and washbasin in Solstället is purified naturally without addition of chemicals or energy. This biological technique for purifying water was developed predominantly in Denmark and Germany, where it has been considered as an adequate alternative to conventional purification for many years.

A Rootzone is comprised of a 60 cm deep bed of mould, planted with reeds. The wastewater runs through the mould, where organic compounds and other impurities are eliminated by means of microorganisms (bacteria) in the mould. Heavy metals and phosphate are eliminated by means of chemical precipitation.

The construction of this rootzone was completed in 1995, and the process was followed closely by a group of environmental inspectors. These inspectors were at that time interested in gaining knowledge about rootzones that would help them in their work issuing permits for constructing rootzones in their individual counties. A Rootzone of our size, 6x1.5 m, purifies all the wastewater from an ordinary villa or a farm. Many families were inspired visiting our Puppetfestival!



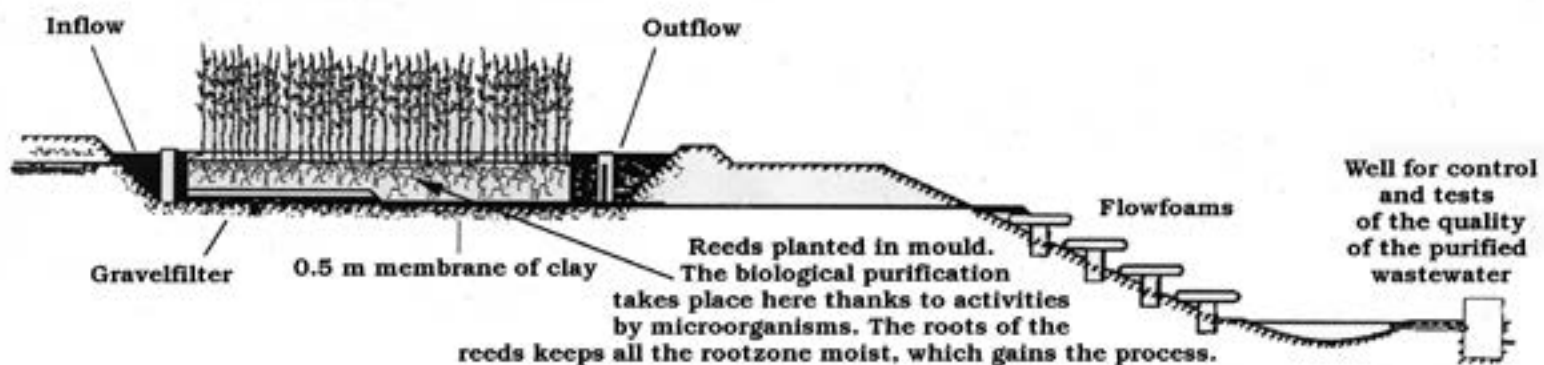
ROTZONEN I PEGASUS TRÄDGÅRD I HÖG



**Mått**  
Längd markyta: 6 m  
Längd botten: 5,5m  
Bredd markyta: 2m  
Bredd botten: 1,5m  
Djup från mark till lera: 0,9 m  
Rotzonsjordens djup: 0,6m

**Rotzonsjorden består av**  
50% mulljord  
20 % sand  
15% torvmull  
15% träflis  
+ 5 kg järnoxid  
+ 50 kg kalk

**Konstruerad av**  
Ark Flemming Abrahamsson &  
Agr dr Jørgen Løgstrup.  
Anlagd 1996 för rening av  
vatten från Solstället, ett  
litet ekologiskt inspirationshus  
konstruerat och uppfört av  
Flemming Abrahamsson  
1994-95





# STAFFAN BJÖRKLUNDS THEATRE STUDIO IN HÖG

Our Theatre Studio is close to Pegasus Garden, in a former brick factory that turned into a vivid business park with many different exciting kinds of productions and services, a popular and requested gentrified park characterized by foresight and creativity.

In our Theatre Studio we create performances that we bring on our tours all over our county and worldwide.

Here we also arrange inspirational programs about the possibilities of puppet theatre. Children that participate in projects in Pegasus Garden can come and watch puppet shows in the studio and participate in ecological activities.

The Studio was created in 1991. It is heated by a Mass Oven of Finnish type the yellow one seen on the picture. A Mass Oven has many advantages over conventional wood burning stoves. In ecological terms a mass oven provides much more heat, consumes less wood, and has cleaner emissions than conventional stoves. The mass oven has two major attributes that contribute to its ecological advantage, it's tall burning chamber and its great mass of stone.

A tall burning chamber lends itself to the complete combustion of gases during the burning process. Burning gasses reach a very high temperature, and all this extra heat is absorbed by the large mass of stone that makes up the oven's inner and outer walls. The accumulated heat is then slowly radiated outwards throughout the day. Our mass oven is so efficient that we can heat the entire studio for 24 hours by starting a fire for only one hour per day.

Our studio also features a solar panel for heating water and an compost closet for more necessary functions. Heat for the compost closet is provided by pipes with water that run from the solar panel and from the mass oven. It is important to provide heat to the earth closet because this allows the composting process to continue year round, Swedish winters can be cold!





# CHILDREN AT PEGASUS GARDEN

We feel that in order to inspire kids to become better caretakers of the environment they must be exposed to nature, nature's resources, and ecological principles in an open, friendly, and fun environment.

Children who visit Pegasus Garden are encouraged to participate in a wide range of activities that are oriented towards a "hands on" approach to learning. Each year many children learn about agriculture by helping to sow, raise, and reap crops such as kale, leek, celeriac, and parsnip.

In common School projects children even get to follow some crops through their transition from raw produce to a final product, such as linseed from seed to fabric and cereal grains from grain into bread. Working with natural materials is also an excellent way of exposing children to the bountiful and creative possibilities available in nature.

Through the years visiting international and domestic artists and craftsmen worked together with children on creative projects that allowed them to express themselves through the use of real tools and natural materials.

"Spirit And Hands" is maybe more important than we can imagine these days of too much screen time and too less time for using hands in schools and families.





# SOLOLLE - A SOLAR DEHYDRATOR

Drying food is the oldest method of food preservation known to man and has many advantages over conventional methods of food preservation. Indeed, drying food is still a common practice today.

Many foods, including nuts, cereals, flour, spices, and hardbreads, are dehydrated. However, most modern methods of dehydration utilize an artificial heat source. Deep freezing and browning, two popular methods of food preservation, also require a large input of energy. Solar dehydration, however, requires only the sun's free, abundant, and clean energy to preserve food.

Dehydration is also a very healthy method of preservation. The vitamins, minerals, proteins, and taste of dehydrated food are not stolen away by the dehydration process. Dehydration also avoids the use of chemical additives and preservatives that are used in modern preservation methods.

Our solar dehydrator, Sololle, is based on Leandre Poisson's Sun Dryer that was further developed by Flemming Abrahamsson and constructed under the supervision of Jörgen Larsson & Lennart Pranter.

The Sololle has a bent solar panel that heats the air that dries the food in a recycled barrel. On a sunny day the air is heated to about 115 degrees Fahrenheit (45 degrees Celsius). Minor differences in internal air temperature causes the air to circulate through Sololle aiding in the drying process which takes approximately 2 days.





## SHOWINGS AND ON YOUR OWN HAND

Pegasus Garden is open for group showings the year around. During the warm summer months the garden is open to the public and is a frequent destination for those wishing to picnic.

One reason why the garden is a popular place to visit is that it is located in a region of Scania that is intensely farmed and doesn't have many natural areas for people to enjoy.

Pegasus Garden is a place where people come to learn about ecological practices in cultivation, construction, and land management at talks and workshops.

Visiting Pegasus Garden on you own hand you'll for free be guided to small and big garden secrets by scanning a lot of QR-codes to videos showing short puppet performances and climte smart installations.

On the more artistic side, Pegasus Garden serves as an excellent outdoor forum for performances while children find it a great joy to work with visiting artists in creating their own works of art.





# GUESTSPEAKERS

Each year we invite guestspeakers to Pegasus Garden. University professors, professional organic/permaculture growers, artists, architects, landscape architects, give talks on a wide range of subjects related to ecology and climate issues.

Often these talks are integrated parts of a workshop, but open to the public as well. The workshops offer participants hands on experience and learning under the enthusiastic guidance of individuals who are among the very best in their fields.

Permaculture can be defined as the use of ecology as the basis for designing integrated systems of food production, housing, appropriate technology, and community development. Permaculture is built upon an ethic of caring for the earth and interacting with the environment in mutually beneficial ways.





# PEGASUS FAMILY

July 2023 we'll arrange the 9:th edition of PEGASUS FAMILY, an International Interactive Visual Puppet Festival in Pegasus Garden!

Famous Puppettheatres from Bulgaria, Denmark, Sweden will perform and give funny workshops.

We met these invited groups performing at festivals worldwide, and at international coproductions. The groups like our two themes of our festival: Ecology & UN Childrens Rights Convention.

The idea of the festival PEGASUS FAMILY is "Spirit And Hand", which means that the audience after a performance can express themselves together with the international artists by making their own puppets to bring home. A lot of puppets were created out of natural materials from the garden like wood, sticks, flax, root-fruits.

## THREE SISTERS

A smart organic interactive Festivalplantation where the three sisters Corn, Bean and Squash grow together! A very old smart and sustainable planting idea from the Hopi-indians in Mexico. During the festival the plantation is presented dramatically with a short story about Pegasus and his three sisters Thalia, Therpiscore and Eutherpe. They live together in the garden, year round!





# PEGASUS FAMILY FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES





## CULTURE - ECOLOGY

Pegasus Garden serves as our theatre's outdoor venue. Here audiences can experience professional international modern and classic puppet performances and express themselves with the artists.

STAFFAN BJÖRKLUNDS TEATER has toured all over Sweden and Worldwide for many years. Our performances are characterised by humour, musicality and by artistically formed puppets of wood. The theatre produces one new performance a year in addition to international coproductions. Principally the plays direct to children and families.

Our theatre has been subsidized by Swedish cultural authorities in many ways through the years, we took part in a number of international theatre festivals and were awarded different prizes abroad as well as in Sweden. For information about upcoming activities in Pegasus Garden, please visit:

### OUR SITE



**PEGASUS GARDEN** is located in Hög, a small village very close to Malmö-Lund-Copenhagen. 0,5 h from Malmö, 1 h from Copenhagen Airport.

Enjoy three short videos:

**PEGASUS FAMILY PROGRAM 2023**

**INTERNATIONAL PUPPETARTISTS IN THE GARDEN 2015-2022**

**PEGASUS FAMILY ATMOSPHERE**

**STAFFAN BJÖRKLUNDS TEATER**

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