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FLUG BLÄTTER

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I like to work with people. I work slowly, exploring subjects over a number of years in the form of projects that combine collaborative interaction and dialogical exchange. A recurring theme in my work since 1983 is the nuclear issue, a subject that has both historical and contemporary relevance.

Since 2011, I have been working with the artist Susan Timmins, collecting material in different languages from people located in North America, Russia, Scotland and Shetland, primarily in the northern regions and on both sides of the former Iron Curtain. Different generations of people share memories and perceptions linked to this period, contributing to expanded understanding of our nuclear future from different perspectives while encouraging a different understanding of the remote North.

The nature of our engagement with collaborative partners and participants shifts over time, evolving as we move across different virtual and geographical spaces. Each person and community brings new ways of working, different expectations and background experience. Speaking and talking, conversation and discussion, form the heart of each project, giving meaning, purpose and momentum, whether interaction is face-to-face, by email, through Facebook or Skype.

This image links my home base in the Shetland Islands with a lifetime interest in Russian and Soviet history and culture. It comprises stills from the film, *Step By Step*, which I made in 2006. It was filmed at the Bridge End Hall, Burra Isle, during the annual Scalloway Fire Festival in Shetland. The film is played as a loop to the soundtrack of a Russian folk song which is sung by Zhanna Bichevskaya.

Roxane Permar
July 2017