



- ◆ non-action in Altgeld Gardens, Chicago (Detroit extra)
- ◆ places – review: Berlin, Potsdamer Platz
- ◆ non-action – preview: Kastanienallee in Berlin Prenzlauerberg
- ◆ news from the gallery
- ◆ vision – the film

### *non-action in Altgeld Gardens*

In August, with a fair share of underlying panic, I went to Altgeld Gardens, a South Chicago suburban low income housing 'project'. Chicago is a gorgeous city full of culture and beautiful buildings. It is situated on the shore of a turquoise-blue Lake Michigan, and a white beach with toddlers digging for treasures and lots of sunshades in the middle of busy business life makes you feel like being on holiday. However, Chicago also is the city with the highest number of landfills, toxic waste dumps, recycling facilities and incinerators in the US, complemented by the remainders of the steel industry. The majority is located in the suburbs as it were, the places where the Blacks and the low income strata of society live. The issue of waste has forever been an issue of race. Altgeld Gardens is surrounded by and built on top of waste. It has a bad reputation for its street gangs, crime and drugs, and, as all these neighborhoods, for being black and low income. Having a black president has changed things but not quite turned them. Everything is always different as soon as we go and see for ourselves, though. Anything can happen in four days as it did for me. At the end of the first day of encounter and wonderful conversation I had lost my fear and in the end I did not want to say farewell. It will take some time to let the experience settle and maybe, at some point, share it – through the art and in conversation. I would like to say thank you to all of you who have been in Altgeld on 28 August with your emails and with your thoughts sent as support. Cheryl Johnson, heart and soul of the People for Community Recovery organisation in Altgeld, said it made a difference.

Here are a few links that not in the least give a thorough picture:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KnEiF8nOaRw&feature=Playlist&cp=1EF9A35AFF047C3D&index=0&playnext=1)

[v=KnEiF8nOaRw&feature=Playlist&cp=1EF9A35AFF047C3D&index=0&playnext=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KnEiF8nOaRw&feature=Playlist&cp=1EF9A35AFF047C3D&index=0&playnext=1)

Fiskars Garden green up event 2008, a bit of a commercial for Fiskars but anyway

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgUrMw9BO3E>

about Gloria Jackson Bacon, founder of Altgeld Gardens' health clinic

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRITiTSPqyU&feature=related>

Altgeld Gardens for Obama

### *Chicago extra – Detroit*

A little extra from Detroit which is, at least for American standards, just a stone's throw away, but quite a different place in a different world, a shrinking city. There is much more to it so this is just a view through a keyhole: Detroit used to host one of the most beautiful Central Stations in the US. Since the 1920s when General Motors bought up and shut down the public transit of many areas in the US, it has been on skid row. Here are a few images and a piece of the film Naqoyqatsi featuring Michigan Central:

<http://www.treehugger.com/files/2009/04/michigan-central-station-demolition.php>

### *places – review*

The clock with the traffic light in what used to be the center of Potsdamer Platz is a place for a rendez-vous, a starting point for strolls through the center of Berlin, a place to tell stories and history. Non-action for quietude – the journal entry as pdf (German only) in TAGEBUECHER: [www.silkeschilling.com/non-action-art/](http://www.silkeschilling.com/non-action-art/)

*non-action art – preview*

Kastanienallee is a lively street in Berlin-Prenzlauerberg. Numerous tourists feel drawn here, there are many little cafés, restaurants of different nationalities, fashion, art, and kitsch, and a busy night life. A heavily discussed rehab of the street, parking spaces and sidewalks is coming up shortly.

**Meditation: Sunday, 04 Oct, 3:00 – 3:30 pm**

**followed by 30 minutes for sharing and feedback**

**meet at Kastanienallee/Schwedter Strasse, traffic island under clock(in case of rain, under the arcades)**

Please bring suitable clothes, notepad or scrapbook. Participation is free, donations welcome. Please sign up in advance by email: [mail@silkeschilling.com](mailto:mail@silkeschilling.com) or here: [www.silkeschilling.com/non-action-art/](http://www.silkeschilling.com/non-action-art/)

*non-action for quietude – meditations in public places*

Every first Sunday afternoon of the month. Come along or tune in from wherever you are. Make time to do nothing. For time and place, please check the newsletter or the website [www.silkeschilling.com/news](http://www.silkeschilling.com/news)

*news from the gallery*

The gallery has now three virtual rooms for: *visions* – images from within, above and beyond, *signs* – condensed message and energy, and *spirit of place* – paintings of the underlying messages, potentials and feelings of places. Please take a walk through: [www.silkeschilling.com/galerie](http://www.silkeschilling.com/galerie)

*the commercial*

Fine art prints of most of my visionary and healing art are available on excellent artist papers (canvas on demand). Please visit: [www.silkeschilling.com/shop](http://www.silkeschilling.com/shop)

*vision – the movie*

Starting 24 Sep in German cinemas – VISION, the film about German mystic, visionary, healer and woman abbot of the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Hildegard von Bingen. I hope it will be available in the English speaking hemisphere some time soon. Trailer and teaser: <http://www.vision-derfilm.de/>

A beautiful remainder of the summer  
and all the best for you  
Silke

Ps: If you do not wish to receive further news please do not hesitate and send a short email; I will take you off the list. If, on the other hand, you would like to forward the *messenger* to your interested friends please feel free to do so.

---

Silke Schilling – Heil-Kunst  
web: [www.silkeschilling.com](http://www.silkeschilling.com)  
Email: [mail@silkeschilling.com](mailto:mail@silkeschilling.com)  
Times Square Contemplation Project  
[www.DayoftheArts.com](http://www.DayoftheArts.com)