

Contents

Acknowledgements | 7

Introduction | 9

Sustainable Development and Sustainability | 9
The ‘cultural dimension’ of sustainability | 13
Overview of the following chapters | 16
Methodological considerations | 19

1. The Culture and Art of Unsustainability | 23

Introduction | 23
Section 1: The culture of unsustainability | 24
Section 2: The art of unsustainability | 66
Conclusion | 91

2. Toward Culture(s) of Sustainability, Step One: Systems Thinking and the Limits of Holism | 93

Introduction | 93
Section 1: Some basics of Systems Thinking | 96
Section 2: The Systems View of Life | 101
Section 3: The Systems View of Society | 115
Section 4: Ervin Laszlo’s “Systems View of the World”
and the limits of Holism | 136
Section 5: Cybernetic apparatuses
and the risk of a technological drift | 147

3. Toward Culture(s) of Sustainability, Step Two: From the ‘Big Picture’ to the Culture of Complexity | 153

Introduction | 153
Section 1: Complexity: Edgar Morin’s ‘method’ | 154
Section 2: Transdisciplinarity | 200
Conclusion to chapters 2 and 3 | 212

4. Aesthetics of Sustainability | 217

Introduction | 217
Section 1: From Aesthetics, environmental aesthetics
and ecological aesthetics to aesthetics of sustainability | 219
Section 2: From Bateson’s sensibility to the pattern which connects,
to a sensibility to patterns that connect | 225
Section 3: The sensibility to complexity | 235
Section 4: The transdisciplinary sensibility | 240

Section 5: The phenomenological and animistic sensibility
to a more-than-human world | 246
Conclusion | 267

5. Ecological Art | 269

Introduction | 269
Section 1: Land art, environmental art, ecological art | 271
Section 2: Precursors and pioneers | 277
Section 3: Exemplary directions in environmental/ecological art | 290
Section 4: The “Reenchantment of Art” according to Suzi Gablik | 310
Section 5: The Monongahela Conference
on Post-Industrial Community Development | 323
Section 6: The exhibition Ecovention | 333
Conclusion | 343

6. Sustainability and Ecology as keywords: a decade of contemporary art | 345

Introduction | 345
Section 1: “Eco-centric topics” in contemporary art | 350
Section 2: Exhibitions on art and sustainability | 364
Section 3: Post-environmental art: The exhibition *Greenwashing* | 379
Conclusion | 396

7. Fostering Change: Art and Social Conventions | 399

Introduction | 399
Section 1: Double entrepreneurship in conventions | 400
Section 2: Polity Conventions: The political setting
for double entrepreneurship in conventions | 429
Conclusion | 460

Conclusion | 461

Appendices | 475

Appendix 1: The subconscious and the ‘eco-’ in autoecopoiesis:
a speculative excursus | 475
Appendix 2: Deutsche Zusammenfassung:
Kunst und (Nicht-)Nachhaltigkeit | 481

Bibliography | 491