













## Learning from the tree The architecture of climbing

This Diploma is a continuation and further understanding of my work in the Body & Space Morphologies: Catharsis - Acting and The Collective studio. The aim of the work has been to allow for a process to take place. A process driven by my (dis)ability to stay in the act, without the purpose for a final outcome, to master an act, to re-learn the craft of pure acting and pure play, to simply take part in that what I aimed to act with and within.

The work started with the initiative "I want to climb a tree". My intention was to rediscover - or discover for the first time -, the space that I can inhabit in the tree, and the space the tree inhabits in my world. Inspired by Plato's quote that "trees and fields tell me nothing: men are my teachers" and Socrates' quote that "the unexamined life is not worth living", I have re-introduced the tree as the subject for myself (and others) to act with. Born and raised in the farmlands of Norway, I wanted to find out for myself what the tree could or could not teach me.

The pure acting and the time spent in the tree, without any other purpose than the acting itself, provoked a looking at space that the tree contains and creates. A space discovered that was not perceived or imagined before. A literal architectural space, a phenomenal space and a social space. A space with certain properties and conditions that I will continue to seek out in conventional architecture too.

Acting with tree(s) has become a personal journey. Being restless and anxious, I had to learn again to spend time with, come close to and care for the tree. After climbing the tree many times, I have not only become a master in the act of climbing trees, but I have gotten new knowledge in the ways of looking at, and perceiving of, the tree, the city, my rural home, architecture, nature and culture.

"Today, too, I experienced something I hope to understand in a few days" 1 quote from the short film "The Perfect Human" (1967) by Jørgen Leth

Lars Anders Oppen Schiøtz The Oslo School of Architecture and Design, Diploma Spring 2020



