

Hassen Saker

Haptics (Skins)

This short film is part one of my triptych, terra lingua: three aspects, wherein I explore three ways in which nature splendidly communicates – haptics, nanonetworks, and cymatics. As Michael Pollan suggests in *Botany of Desire*, a variety of plants have survived in part due to their evolutionary ability to seduce humans. In *Haptics (Skins)*, I consider how the human experience of beauty is likewise an evolved code, our protocol to be stewards of the biosphere that provides life, health, pleasure. As a holistic epicurean and a fan of mutualism, I playfully note this fun[k]/ction herein.

My concern is that our intellectual and cultural divorce from nature, intuition, and our bodies leaves us at the mercy of human abuse and of unnecessary suffering. Because without a contributing role in this super-organism, there is ultimately no use for us individually or as a species. Most relevant is that our experience of beauty is critical to feeling; it keeps us receptive to self and bonded to those (including non-human creatures/objects) around us. I'm fascinated by Nature's steadfast invitation to immerse, to become and remain a part of her, to feel the bliss of her experience and the experience of embodiment in the field, whether we're in the forest, the bath, or embrace of a lover. We've evolved to/with/for this reception and perpetuation.

Hassen Saker creates & performs transmedia poetry with texts, photography, video and sound. In addition, she's a sustainable entrepreneur and filmmaker. Saker has lived throughout the U.S. & currently resides in the Philadelphia area. A fuller description and links to her Haptics series are available at her website.