

# COMMUNITY ECONOMIES SUMMER SCHOOL: POSTCAPITALIST POLITICS IN PRACTICE

with Katherine Gibson & members of The Community Economies Collective

The Community Economies Institute, with Punti di Vista, is inviting expressions of interest for our inaugural summer school. The week long program will provide an in-depth look at the founding concepts and tools of community economies approaches and explore examples of how these ideas are being put into practice by artists, activists, community groups and scholars around the world. With a balance of short talks from community economies experts, practice-based workshop sessions, and field excursions the course will lead participants through an engaging and creative program that covers:

- *Surviving well together* – what do we really need to live healthy lives, in ways that do not impinge on others' healthy lives (including the planet).
- *Distributing surplus* – what do we do with what is left over from meeting our survival needs? How to decide what to do with it?
- *Encountering others* – what kinds of relationships do we have with other people and environments as we seek to survive well?
- *Consuming sustainably* – what do we use up in the process of surviving well?
- *Caring for commons* – how do we maintain, restore and replenish our natural, social and intellectual commons?
- *Investing in future generations* – how do we store and use our surplus for the wellbeing of people and planet into the future?

The Summer School is aimed at students interested in learning more about action oriented research and activists who would like to deepen their engagement with applied community economic thinking. The course will use *Take Back the Economy: An Ethical Guide for Transforming Our Communities* (2013) by J.K. Gibson-Graham, Jenny Cameron and Stephen Healy as the key text. Other readings will be provided depending on the interests and aspirations of the participants.

**Where:** Convento S. Maria del Giglio by the lake of Bolsena, Italy

**Duration:** 6 days, June 1-6

**Cost:** €1,800/US\$2,000 waged, €1,500/US\$1,700 unwaged/student/limited income, including all accommodation & food in Bolsena.

**Expressions of Interest in attending this Summer School should be registered by March 30th using the following google doc:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h36EUON6ZFtqinmQFhOhbiORZINB8BtFNAsMCxVRBwg/edit?usp=sharing>

**For more details please contact Katharine McKinnon:**

[k.mckinnon@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:k.mckinnon@latrobe.edu.au)





## About us:

The Community Economies Institute is a not-for-profit, member based organization dedicated to furthering research, education and advocacy for economic practices that help us all to survive well together. The Institute works in tandem with the scholarship and practice undertaken by members of the Community Economies Collective and the Community Economies Research Network in their efforts to seek to bring about more sustainable and equitable forms of development by cultivating and acting on new ways of thinking about economies and politics.

Since 1993 Punti di Vista has built a creative cultural space for civic groups to come together in order to discuss sustainable futures at the beautiful Convento S. Maria del Giglio by the lake of Bolsena. The Association cares for the Convent on a voluntary basis on behalf of the Franciscan order which has owned the building for centuries. Punti di Vista organises cultural initiatives with international youth exchanges, study trips, residential seminars, summer schools, cultural events and life long education initiatives. The events, seminars, workshops and trainings are founded on environmental awareness, consumption and waste reduction, recycling of materials, biological and natural consumption as well as gender equality and international solidarity. Punti di Vista creates a space where people and nature combine to enjoy conviviality and hope for a sustainable future. Punti Di Vista flourishes as together we create space for people to convene, connect, concoct, contemplate.

Instructor profiles:

**Katherine Gibson** is an economic geographer based at the University of Western Sydney and co-founder with the late Julie Graham (University of Massachusetts Amherst) of the Community Economies Collective. She has with an international reputation for innovative research on economic transformation and over 30 years' experience of working with communities to build resilient economies. As J.K. Gibson-Graham her books include *The End of Capitalism (As We Knew It): A Feminist Critique of Political Economy* (1996, 2006) and *A Postcapitalist Politics* (2006). She is currently co-editing the *Handbook of Diverse Economies*.

**Katharine McKinnon** is a human geographer whose work engages with community economies, gender, development and care. Her work in Australia and the Asia-Pacific focuses on women's economic empowerment measures, social enterprises and the wellbeing economy, and community economies of maternity care. She is a Tracey Banivanua-Mar Senior Research Fellow at La Trobe University and Director of the Community Economies Institute.

**Tuomo Alhojärvi** is a geographer working with feminist economic geography, critical social theory and diverse forms of spatial and economic activism. Currently he works on a PhD thesis at the University of Oulu, Finland, exploring how the theoretical and conceptual inventions of J.K. Gibson-Graham profoundly challenge how space, economy and knowledge are understood and practiced. He is a frequent contributor in Finnish debates, activism and research on social and solidarity economies and the commons. Recently, he has also participated in the translation and rewriting of *Take Back the Economy* into Finnish.

**Sabrina Aguiari** is an independent consultant for humanitarian response and for inclusive development, with expertise on gender, food assistance/security/sovereignty, humanitarian mine action, peacebuilding, information and knowledge management, sustainable development, community based work, participation and governance. She has broad experience in project and programme design and management, as well as in participatory assessments and evaluation, and in community based field work. Sabrina has worked in Southern, West and Northern Africa, as well as in Southern Asia and Middle East, and besides Italian she speaks English and French fluently, and has working knowledge of Portuguese and Spanish. She works for UN (WFP, UNDP, FAO) as well as for NGOs and Universities (Tulane University of New Orleans, Rome Tor Vergata).

## Schedule:

- Day 1, June 1st: evening orientation
- Day 2-6, June 2-6: A mixture of seminars, workshops and discussions based at the Convento in Bolsean, with field trips to local examples of community economies tbc.
- Day 7, depart

**\*\*Participants must arrange own transport to and from Rome.**

