

# Ela Spalding

Camí de Son Fiol 92  
07340 Alaró  
Illes Balears  
Spain

+34 642652027  
[connect@elaspalding.com](mailto:connect@elaspalding.com)

[www.elaspalding.com](http://www.elaspalding.com)  
[www.estudionuboso.org](http://www.estudionuboso.org)

Ela Spalding (Panama/UK, 1982) is an artist~facilitator exploring the ecotones between fields of knowledge, using art as a conduit to practice and convey our interconnectedness with all of life. Her practice lies at the intersection of ecological thinking, somatic experience and narrative art, inviting listening and resonance inside and out. Founder and director of Estudio Nuboso, a platform for art and ecology based in Panama. She recently launched the SUELO Field Guide - a methodology to help us reconnect with the places we inhabit, and hosts a podcast called Tejiendo Corredores~Weaving Corridors where she explores the notion of nature-culture corridors of planetary solidarity. Her artworks have been shown at the XIII Bienal de La Habana, Cuba (2019); the X Bienal Centroamericana in Costa Rica (2016); the Bienal de Artes Visuales del Istmo Centroamericano (Bavic9) in Guatemala (2014); and in group exhibitions in Panama, Central and South America, and Europe. She is part of the MAC - Panama Contemporary Art Museum collection. As a facilitator, she works with museums, universities, scientific and cultural institutions as well as environmental NGOs and individuals around the world.

## Key Skills

Experienced convener of multidisciplinary and in situ exchange  
Artistic mediation and support  
Community engagement and participation  
Empathic communication and translation between different cultures and disciplines  
Systemic and ecological thinking  
Transdisciplinary and cross-sector facilitation  
Strategic project design and facilitation  
Writing and publishing  
Public speaking and academic presentations

## Languages Spoken

English, Spanish - native. Italian and German - conversational. French - basic. Catalán - learning.

## Education

Bachelor of Science in Cinema and Photography (magna cum laude) with a Minor in Dance & Theatre, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York (2004)

Ongoing self-directed research and further education in Systems thinking, ecology, human ecology, sound, movement/somatic studies in relation with the natural world (2005-present)

## Exhibitions

*Ocaso Mallorca*, in Hearth, group show in CCA Andratx, Spain, curated by Sylvia Sánchez-Montoya (2025) and Alart 2025 group show in Alaró, Balearic Isles, Spain.

*Cumulus: 10+ years of Estudio Nuboso*, MAC Panamá, Contemporary Art Museum of Panama. Co-curation of an exhibition about my organisation Estudio Nuboso. (2025)

*Forces*, music album and artist book, digital release (2022) tape release at Spore Initiative, Berlin (2023)

*Ocaso, Panama*, group exhibition Vaciar La Categoría, MAC Panama Contemporary Art Museum (2023) and later in MUSA. Perspectivas femeninas en las Colecciones del MAMM y MAC Panamá, at MAMM Medellín, Colombia (2024)

*SUELO Heizhaus*, Heizhaus-Ufer Studios, Berlin-Wedding. Residency results where the SUELO Methodology was further developed and the notion of Nature~culture corridors of planetary solidarity was born. (2022)

*Vida*, Audio collaboration with the video artist Laura Fong Prosper, online collective exhibition, Grid Galeria (2020), Paréntesis collective exhibition in various Centros Culturales de España in Central America (2021), "Trabajos maternos: desmontando el macho-lío-patriarcal", collective exhibition in various Centros Culturales de España in South America (2022)

*Ocaso (Sundown)* in Ponderosa Dance - Movement and Discovery, Stolzenhagen, Germany (2021)

*Ocaso (Sundown)* in Berlin, Humboldthain Park, as part of the collective intervention Desviarios, organised by Neue Hütte, Berlin (2021)

*En Nuestras Manos/In Our Hands*, online collective exhibition, Grid Galeria, Panama. Also, part of the performance project Härbärgera by Shake It Collaborations, Sweden. (2020)

*In our Hands / Weiche WohnWelten / Wuan Wandeln*, collective exhibition in sign, CIAT - Contemporary Institute for Art & Thought, Berlin (2019)

*Archipel Stations Soil as an Inscribed Body*, Archipel radio intervention and live broadcast at SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin, Germany (2019)

*Ocaso (Sundown)*, collaborative sound installation with geologist Dr. Manuel Iturralde Vincent, created for the XIII Bienal de La Habana, Cuba (2019)

*Songs for Limón, Songs for Colón*, X Bienal Centroamericana, Limón, Costa Rica (2016)

## Artistic and Cultural Facilitation

*Tejiendo Corredores ~ Weaving Corridors*. A bilingual (english and spanish) podcast that weaves together voices, stories and practices to cultivate nature-culture corridors of planetary solidarity. On our websites: [www.elaspalding.com](http://www.elaspalding.com) and [www.estudionuboso.org](http://www.estudionuboso.org) as well as Podcast platforms. (2025)

*SUELO Mallorca*, Biennial B - Es Baluard Museu, Mallorca, Spain. A field day series and publication to reconnect with the natural and cultural value of the Island of Mallorca and the Balearic Archipelago. (2025)

*SUELO Field Sessions* - in academic contexts: Bauhaus University, Weimar; Freie Universität, Berlin; MA Ecological Design Thinking at Schumacher College, Totnes UK, ETH Zürich and MonViso Institute. (2022-2025)

*SUELO Field Sessions* in artistic contexts: part of the Swamps and Starts Programme in Rathausblock Kreuzberg, curated by Planetary Listening, Berlin (2023)

*Cuencas Sanas, Comunidades Fuertes*, design, facilitation and coordination of a 120 hour teacher training for 10 public schools in the basin of the River Juan Díaz, commissioned by Fundación Marea Verde, Panama (2023)

*Barro Colorado Island 100th Anniversary Art and Science Residency* - for the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and the Panama Canal Museum, Panama (2023)

*Suelo Methodology Residency in Heizhaus - Uferstudios*, Wedding Berlin. In the frame of the Berliner Residence Program 2022, by the Senate Department for Culture and Europe (April-June 2022)

*Developing Art and Ecology Projects*, online course, Node Centre for Curatorial Studies (2022)

Suelo Methodology Workshop, Science & Art Festival, Stiftung Kunst und Natur Nantesbuch, Bad Heilbronn (2022)

Suelo Methodology workshop, Seminar led by Dr. Alexandra Toland: More than worms: radical composting for urban transformation, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (2021)

Art and Ecological Awareness workshops, Seminar on "Strategies to grieve the losses incurred by our current ecological crisis" led by Florian Ruland, PhD., Freie Universität, Berlin (2021-2022)

## Publications and Texts

*Suelo Field Guide / Guía de campo*. A brief guide to the SUELO Methodology, to connect with natural and cultural value of the places we inhabit. With the support of Estudio Nuboso, Fundación Marea Verde and Serpentine Gallery, UK. (2025)

*Una calle de árboles, un corredor de vida*, a children's book written for and about the mission of Pro Eco Azuero to create a nature corridor through the peninsula of Azuero in Panama. (2023)

*The Resonance*, for the publication Towards Permacultural Institutions: Exercises in Collective Thinking, edited by Julia Haarmann and Nada Rosa Schroer, Schöppingen, Germany (2022)

*Suelo - Soil as meeting point*, text for the publication of the exhibition Naturaleza Expandida organized by Fundación Mar Adentro, Chile (2021)

*SUELO - Expanded connections to soil, land, community and territory*, case study for the Anthropocene Curriculum program, The Shape of a Practice. Published on [www.anthropocene-curriculum.org](http://www.anthropocene-curriculum.org) (2020)

*Soil Macrocosms: Microbes, People and our Cumulative Effects*, chapter based on interview with Claire Pentecost, Alejandro Meitin and Brian Holmes in the book *Field to Palette, Dialogues on Soil and Art in the Anthropocene* (CRC Press, 2019), edited by Alex Toland, Jay Stratton Noller and Gerd Wessolek. Berlin (2019)

*Lo Exótico en el Trópico (the exotic in the tropics)*, article for the online journal of the Latin American art organisation Colección Cisneros for the section Cite, Sight, Sites - Dispatches on Latin American Art and Culture, Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, New York (2015)

## Presentations, Awards & Prizes

Selected for the first cohort of *Sites of Practice* - a one year networking and skill-sharing project, co-curated by Lucia Pietroiusti (Head of Ecologies at Serpentine Galleries, UK) and Helen Turner (Artistic Director, E-WERK Luckenwalde), convened by E-WERK, supported by Arising Quo. (2024)

*Embodied Soil Connection*, Residency at Hellerau-Europäisches Zentrum der Künste, supported by #TakeHeart Residenzförderung from NEUSTART KULTUR, (2022)

Curatorial Research Stipend for Visual Arts from the Berlin Senate for Culture and Europe, to research and develop the Suelo Methodology (2021)

Presentation "Interconnectedness and ways of being human today" for Werkleitz Festival 2021, Halle (2021)

Participation in the discourse program Assembly for Permacircular Museums within the context of the exhibition Critical Zones at ZKM, Karlsruhe (2021).

Presentation of artistic practice, Curious Minds - dialogues in art and science, State Studio, Berlin (2020)

Panel participation and presentation of the Estudio Nuboso SUELO project as a case study in the discourse programme The Shape of a Practice, organised by The Anthropocene Curriculum at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (2020)