

# Huff, Puff and Blow

Maria Huhmarniemi

University of Lapland, Finland

## Abstract

**Huff, Puff and Blow is an activist artistic intervention and a visual play on materials from the pine forest (pine trunks, saplings, bark, cones and stones). The work is based on a shelter-theme, the common shape of an arctic hut, the thread of a new mining, and the story of the big bad wolf blowing down houses built by the Three Little Pigs. The iron mining plan in Kolari is a threat to local culture, clean nature and the community. The mining would irreversibly change the home region of locals and the nature that is a base for tourism as a big livelihood in the region. It shows itself as the big bad wolf blowing down the foundations of the community. Huhmarniemi describes it thus: “When establishing one’s own home and business, people must be able to trust the fact that environment will not be destroyed. In addition people themselves should have the opportunity to influence their own immediate environment. If implemented, the mining in Kolari will change villages and destroy sustainable livelihoods. The mere planning of the mine is hindering the build of new homes and businesses in the region– the mine could blow their foundations down.” The artwork consists of photo documentaion of the installation in the forest, a collage of natural materials on the floor and shared postcards that can be sent to polticians and desicion makers.**