



Still from the video The Arctic Bubble

## THE ARCTIC BUBBLE

*Report from Jan Mayen Island and Vestisen during TUNU-MAFIG research expedition in July 2008:*

Our existence on board the vessel Jan Mayen is both warm and pleasant, the weather is good and nature itself beautiful beyond words. It feels like we are in a bubble moving slowly up and down the great ocean, continuously waiting for a small change - a new discovery.

We investigate our surroundings through binoculars, first and foremost on the lookout for animals. In the end it seems like the landscape exists only at a distance. The sound from the vessel is evident. Fog comes and goes, heavy and dim.

On board, frequent observations are carried out with the assistance of modern, technical instruments. We experience our surroundings through these instruments and we look on with no guarantee that we will connect what we see with where we arrive in our final analysis. Perhaps the technical development has made the discoveries greater, despite the balance between what we know and what we have yet to learn. Or perhaps it is like *Henry David Thoreau* said: easy for us to become a tool to our own tools.

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