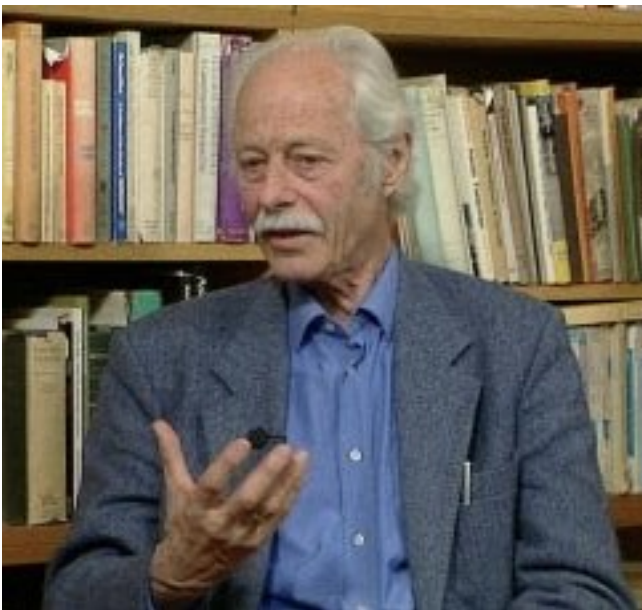




**Box 1**—A screenshot of an online exhibit of the manuscript and panel collection **1247** at the NLN, which was shared—during the C19 pandemic—in connection with a series of seminars connected to this collection of panels and manuscripts from B.M. Keilhau's and P.C.B. Boech 'mountain journey' in 1820. My 2021 contribution [here](#).

When I was concluding my doctoral work it became evident that my interest with *visual* models. I went from the ARENA-programme (Advanced Research on the Europeanisation of the Nation-state) to SINTEF (the Norwegian Foundation for Research on Science and Technology), where I worked from 2000 to 2007. Since then I have worked at KHiO (Oslo National Academy of the Arts) as a Professor of Theory and Writing, from 2013 onwards. In academia model-thinking was overshadowed critical theory and history: a situation not dissimilar from the situation in the art-field.

My contacts with [OSEH](#)—and in particular the project [Critical Petroaesthetics](#)—has given me a similar impression. But the framework of environmental humanities provided me with the opportunity to work at developing model-thinking on the backdrop of [natural history](#). In particular, the invitation to discuss a collection of panels and manuscripts (in this order, owing to the priority I have to the visual contents of this material) from geologist B.M. Keilhau and his friend the naturalist P.C.B. Boech in 1820: with a perspective from Koldedalen in Jotunheimen d. July 14<sup>th</sup>.



**Box 2.** portrait of F. Barth (1928-2016) in his office at the Museum of Natural History, Oslo

The date of the storming of the Bastille in 1789: the French Revolution, also called the bourgeois revolution. B.M. Keilhau was a member of the Physiographic Society, along with e.g. the mathematician [Niels Henrik Abel](#). Together with P.C.B. Boech they embarked on a Grand Tour in Europe. A year after the field-survey to what became Jotunheimen, a law abolishing aristocracy in Norway was adopted by the national parliament in 1921 (when it operated under the *aegis* of the Swedish protectorate, where aristocracy was not abolished). The drawings and notes from the field-trip were published as a logbook (in an expanded version) that year.

It was the property of the [Norwegian Trekking Association](#), and played a role in establishing Norway as a country of *mountains* (not only defined by fisheries and farming). The collection eventually became part of the NLN archive (Na-

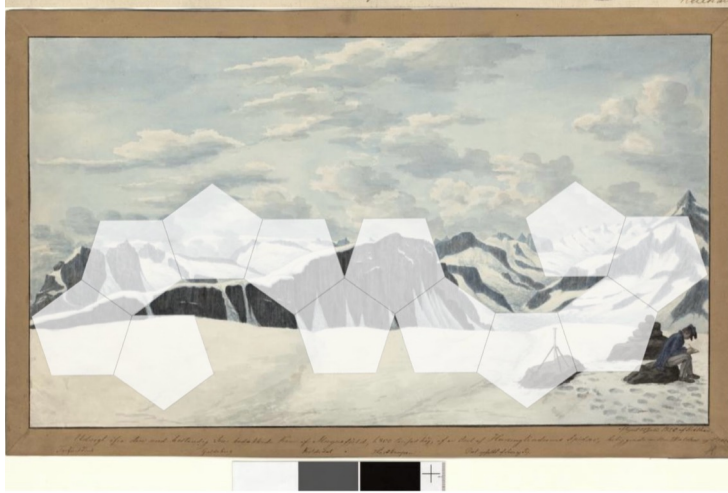
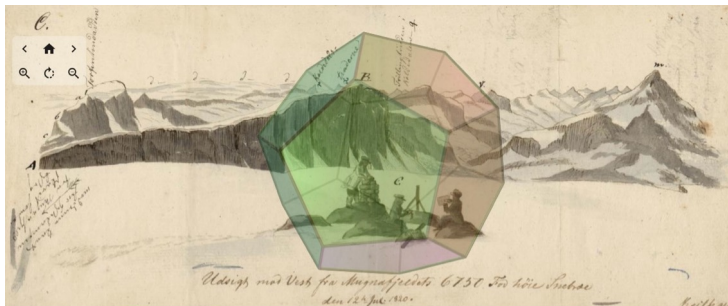
tional Library of Norway) hosting a series of 3 seminars on the document during the C19 Pandemic. The seminars came to gravitate from the historical (I) towards the artistic perspective (III), via Seminar II which was dedicated to the [survey, drawing and cartography](#) of the mountains. They were part to the *series 112*, named after the *environmental §* of the Constitution (1814): the legal frame-work of legislation, which does not rule in court, but rules Parliamentary legislation.

My interest in models comes from the predilection for *arbitration* before court cases in the longer Norwegian tradition: a tradition that goes back to [King Magnus Lawmender](#) (1274); an early example of [Jus Commune](#), in European history. It challenges us to understanding the nature of *truce*, in anticipation and postponement of more rigid court-rulings, in the form of parley that is transactional rather than procedural (which, to some degree, eschews formal definition), as a resident model within the formal legal institution. It is a resident principle/practice of the legal institution, as of old.

Returning to Keilhau. The panels became a crossroads for a number of different interests: my work on *citizenship* in the [doctoral thesis](#), the study of what it can be without the framework of the State (my fieldwork on humanitarian aid in Sarajevo during the war 1992-95), exploring the dynamics of [disordered systems](#) (an idea received and delegated from my mentor Fredrik Barth) from geology on this material, using a method analysis through visual diagrams. The interest for this kind of model came from *games theory* (Fredrik Barth) and *topology* (his mentor Edmund Leach).

Topological models define in the twilight-zone of mathematics & engineering: incidentally, Edmund Leach's background ([Tambiah, 2016](#)). Fredrik Barth did not have this background, but articulated an interest in the same direction when he developed his understanding of models from John von Neumann's *games theory*. My interest in models also define in the limbo *between* abstract algebra *and* topology: featuring the idea of *mapping* in homomorphism, and its topological relative homeomorphism. Historically this interest emerged with forebears who had background in *law*.

A research problem that interests me mirrors across this gap. In abstract algebra: here homomorphism features the mathematics of [resemblance](#)—featuring a domain of departure and a domain of arrival, where the algebraic *identity* between two terms  $f(T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4 + T_5 \dots) = f(T_1) \oplus$



**Box 3**—When pages of note-taking *add* page-by-page (lower view [painting: Carpelan 1821]) it is *not* the same sum of elements, as when the elements interact and the *sum* features a whole (upper view, Keilhau 1820). The *dodecahedron* (unfolded below and enfolded above) is a *random* example modelling 'the problem of the sum'. When going beyond the visual metaphor above, Buckminster Fuller's *Dymaxion map* demonstrates the principle of a *visual model*: i.e. that the grid holding the world map in the *foldout*, in turn becomes held by the world map when mounted into an icosahedron.

$f(T_2) \oplus f(T_3) \oplus f(T_4) \oplus f(T_5) \dots /$  conceals a *paradox*. Namely, the possibility that what we call a *sum* may *vary in different fields of application* (hence the notation  $/+ /$  vs.  $/\oplus /$ ). In the present example: the sum  $/+ /$  of the *elements*  $T_n (\dots)$  and elements of the *sum*  $/\oplus /$  *resemble* one another— 'same-same but different'. Confusing?

No, they can be the *same, similar, different* and *other*. It is for us to determine *analytically*. Clearly, this is *not* math, but a mathematical idea that is clarified as we turn to topological models in their analytical application. The concept of *adding* is different (**Box 3**): the lower method of adding which is linear *step-by-step* is not the same as the upper method of adding which runs *criss-cross* and is matrixial. In topological terms it features a hyper-dimensional rotation: as we move from 2D- to 3D- understandings. Conjecture: moving between 2D and 3D is method of triangulation involving imagination *and* symbolism: *a training ground for democratic citizenship? Model as resident principle?*