

# After Burn Report

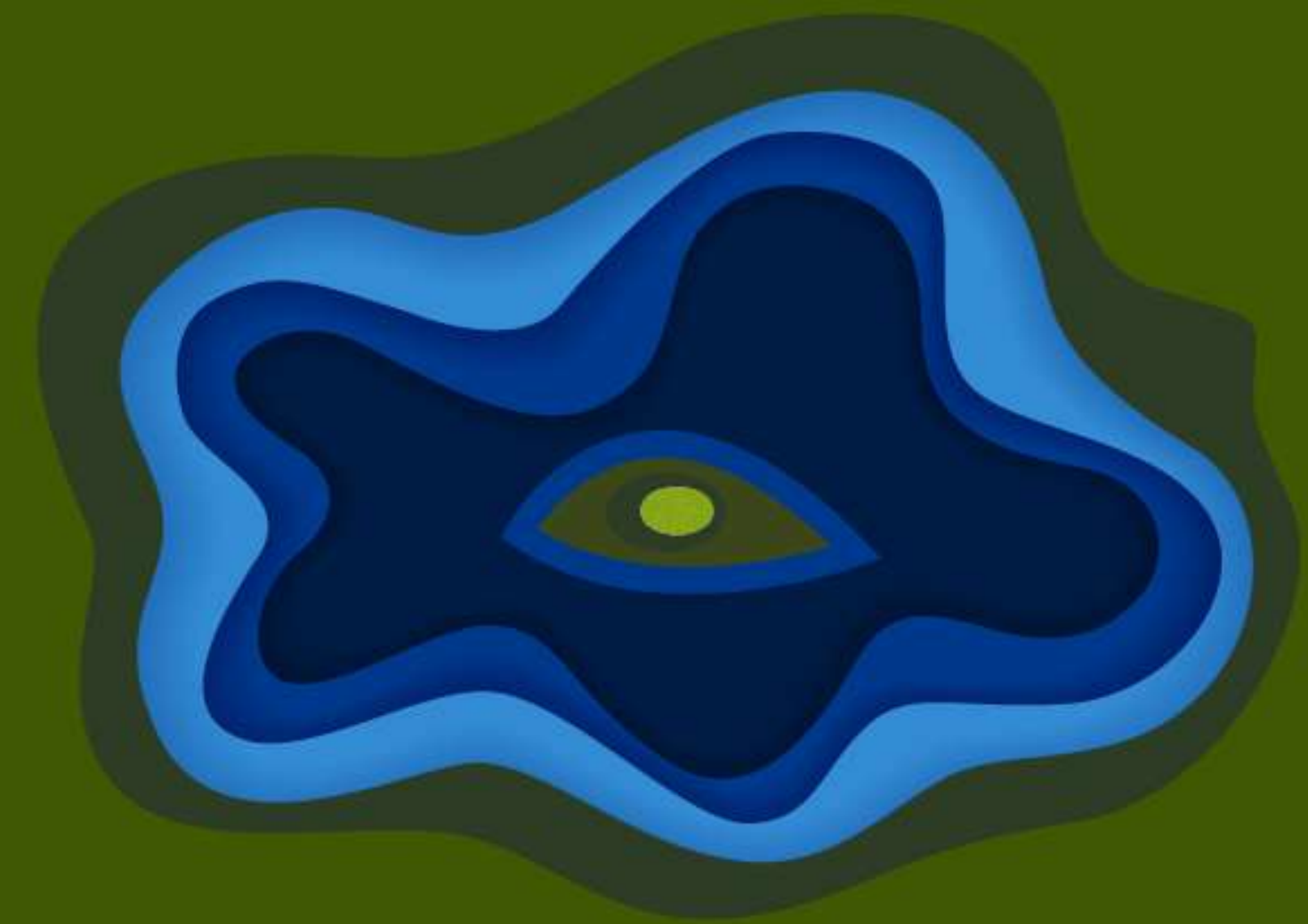




# Welcome!

Welcome to our first official Afterburn Report! Yes yes, it's quite a document, we know! Why, you ask? What is it, you ask? Well, let's explore this together! The Afterburn Report is a few things actually. This Report is a communication tool first and foremost. It's a way to share our collective experiences with our local Dutch Burner community, but also with Burners from all around the world. Here, we can celebrate our successes, highlight our challenges, acknowledge folks who helped make our event so magical, and generally track our growth together. It's an opportunity to create transparency. It's a place to remember, a place to reflect. It's a source of inspiration and a source for gratitude. It's so many things - what do you want it to be?

Yes, it might take a few minutes to get through it all. We recommend a cup of [insert favourite drink] and a bite of [anything! get creative!] and a cozy seat somewhere among loved ones. Wherever you are, we are so glad you are here! So here we go...



# Where the Sheep Sleep 2022

Where the Sheep Sleep 2022 took place this year from 23 – 27 June in Zeewolde, about 45 minutes from Amsterdam. Having started in 2016, this was The Netherlands's fifth Dutch Regional Burn administered by Burning Man Netherlands, formally Black Rock(s) Orange BV and its associated non-profit (ANBI), Foundation Burning Man the Netherlands.

This year we increased the size of our event, capping the number of available tickets at 1500 and the number of RV passes at 200 — an increase of about 30% since the last event in 2019. We sold out the event and ended up scanning 1067 main sale tickets and 124 RV passes. This included 55 children aged 12-17 (children under 12 do not need tickets to attend therefore the number of younger children is unknown). We suspect that the difference between scanned tickets and sold tickets was related to predicted heavy rains and lingering pandemic-related issues. 2020 event tickets were also honored, since the event never took place due to the pandemic. General tickets cost €147.50. Due to the pandemic and our honoring of 2020 tickets, we decided not to increase ticket prices in 2022 from the 2020 price and, in spite of high inflation and event growth, we determined that we could still meet our expected budget. Additionally, we are proud to have sold thirty tickets at a 50% discount to applicants in need through the Ticket Aid Programme. Forty complimentary tickets were offered to production team members and the board members of Burning Man Netherlands.



# Census

This year we created our first Census, modeled after the Burning Man Census. More than 10% of our attendees completed the Census (119 individuals). Although this may not be a robust representation of attendees this year, it's a very exciting start and gives us a sense of our community demographics. Cultural note: Unlike the U.S., The Netherlands does not ask residents to complete a census questionnaire (national demographic data is collected by other means); as a result, many Dutch are unfamiliar with questionnaires of this nature. Questions about age, income, and heritage are considered especially sensitive and makes gathering responses more challenging.

Those who completed the Census this year ranged in age from 18-69 (Figure 1), with the majority of attendees falling between the ages of 25 and 40. Attendees currently live in at least nine different countries (81% Netherlands), though they represent at least eighteen different nationalities (64% Dutch) (Figure 2). Among those currently living in the Netherlands, 32% live in Amsterdam, and the rest live in at least 34 different cities and villages! Our beautiful attendees identified as belonging to seven ethnicities, six genders, four sexual orientations, and at least seven spiritual or religious beliefs. While fewer than 30% of attendees have attended Burning Man in Nevada, our growing community demonstrates that the Dutch regional burn and our regular events throughout the year are the predominant way in which people living in the Netherlands find their entry into Burner culture and community.

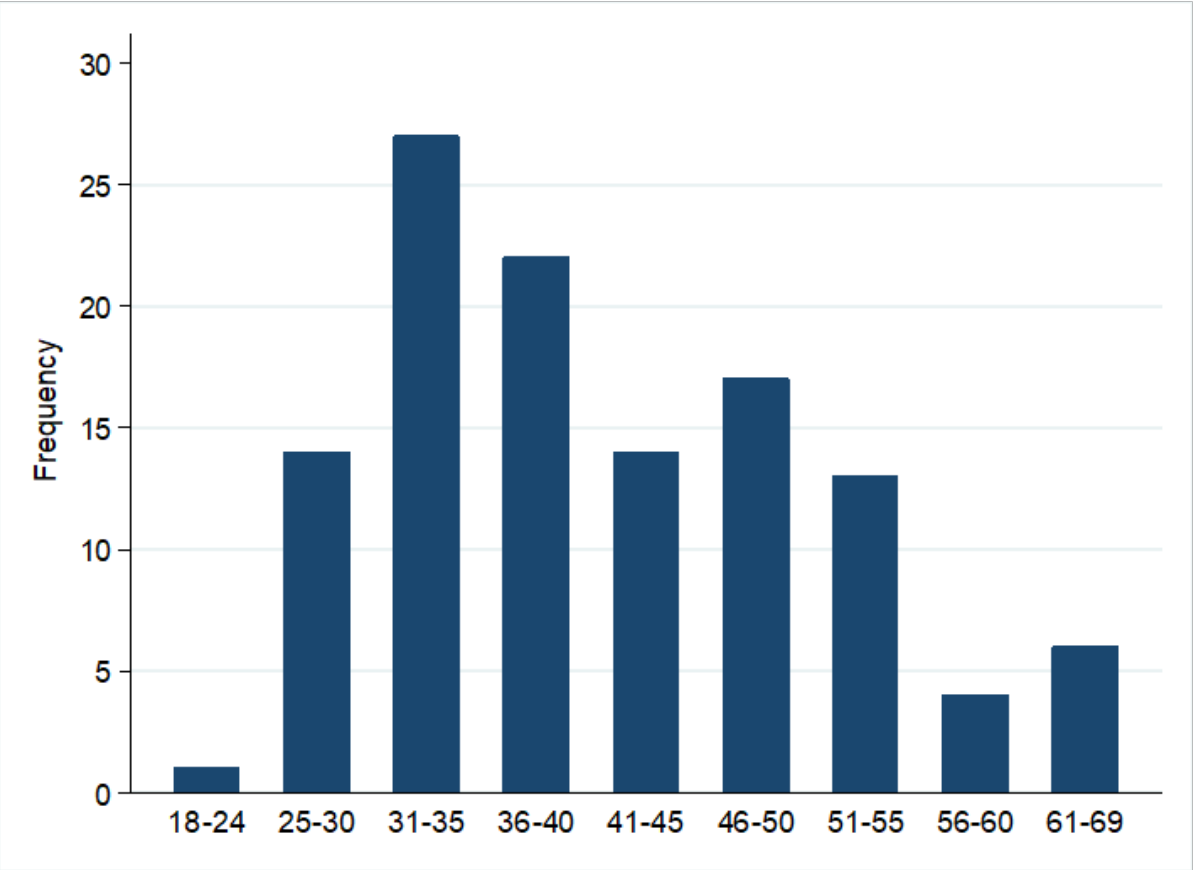


Figure 1: Ages of attendees

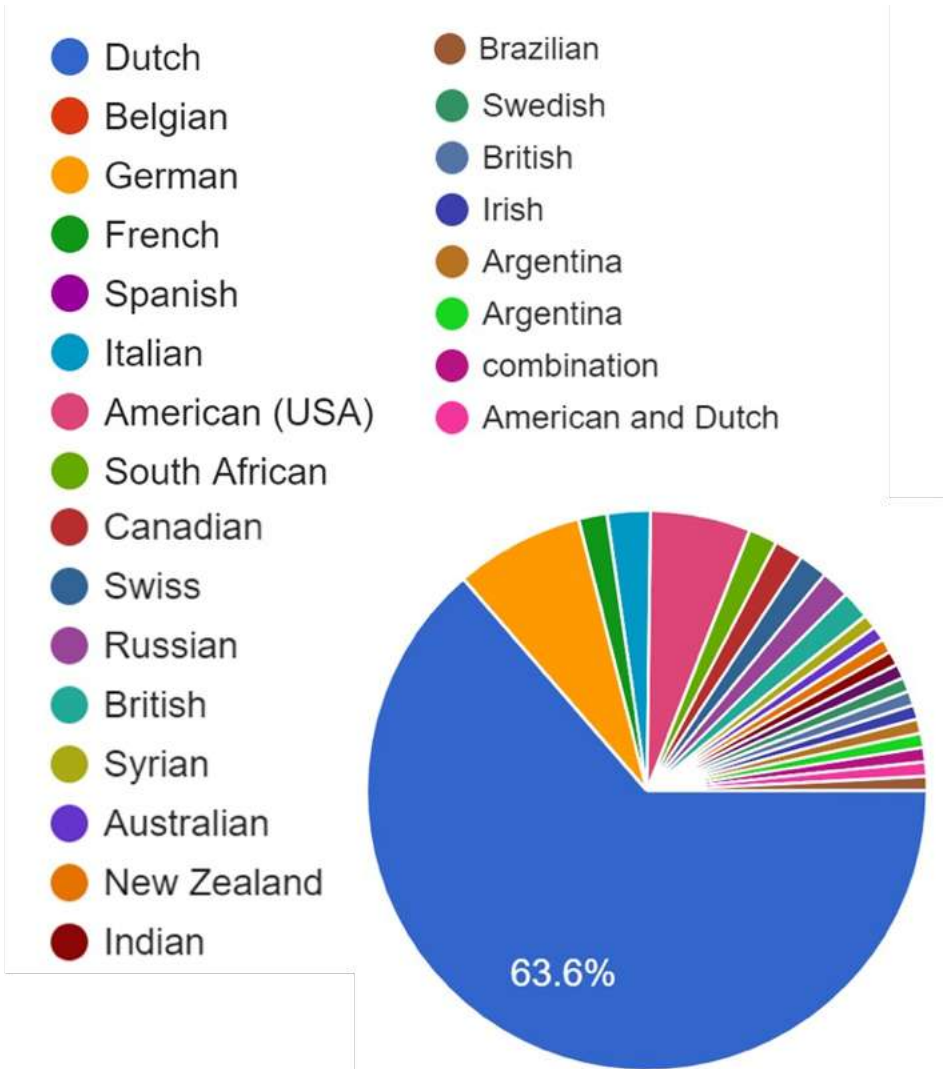


Figure 2: 18 different nationalities attended



# Participation

Over 560 shifts were filled by participants this year.

Roles included

Build

Strike

Gate

Blabbersheep Reporters

Welfare

Sound & Light crew

Decoration, Consent

Fire Perimeter

Infohub

Leave No Trace

Power Rangers

Rangers

Kitchen shift

Parking

Runner

Tiny Tiny House Builders and Decorators.





Wolf - Ticket maestro

Vlinder - Tech co-lead

Coliflower - Comms

De Lach - Event lead and Shepard

Annelien - Event lead

Pussy Riot - Volunteer lead

Brandweerman Sam - Safety co-lead

Maizena - Ranger co-lead

Klaas - Build lead

Tinkerbelle - Temple lead and Atmosphere co-lead

Bigfoot - Safety lead

Bunnyman - Ranger lead

# Production

**Our production team grew from  
about 15 to 34 core team members:**

Norna - Site marcom

Overheersbeestje - Infohub co-lead

Suki - Sign-up lead

Mar - Consent co-lead

Bos - Art / Placement / Man / Terrain lights

Octopus - Atmosphere lead

Linda - Gate co-lead

Dancing Queen - Co-volunteers org

Part of the OralPaca - Gate lead

Melisandre - Hospitality lead

Nanc - Infohub and dreamcamps co-lead

Peppie & Kokkie - Tech lead

Lady Mac - Consent co-lead

Julie - Music lead

Remco - Music co-lead

Jess - Director of Raccoons and On-site Build lead

Elise - Welfare lead

Tamara - Art Jump Lead

Helena - LNT

Koala - Comms

Side lead - Site lead

# Herd sale for Dreamcamps

Because 30% of this year's attendees were new to Burning Man culture, managing growth also meant finding new opportunities for greater acculturation. With that in mind, we offered newly-released tickets to "Dreamcamps" (theme camps) first, rather than releasing all tickets as individual tickets as had been done in the past. By doing so, we hoped to stimulate the transfer of knowledge from experienced burners to newbies within camp structures and foster healthy micro-communities among new and existing Dreamcamps.



# Dreamcamps

In total we grew from 14 to 26 Dreamcamps this year, offering our attendees a number of stage destinations; places and unplaced art; bars and party venues; shows and performances; craftsmanship and other creation programming; as well as educational workshops. Dreamcamps offered a comforting home base to approximately 500 participants. Camp descriptions are here: <https://sheep.burningman.nl/dreamcamps/>

@TTF (@ the trash fence)

Kniftig

Tiger & Wolf

Poflove

N.E.S.T

Ankleideraum & Meltingpot

Kamp Eus op de schapjes

Family love

De fundatie van Kamp Ellende

Zenergy

Circus of Life

Shama

Odd world

Let freedom reign

Leonardo

Ungezellig

Bambam (kids)

Lucifer

ZWNZ (Zij wilde naar Zeewolde)

Ye old advice booth

Care-A-Lot

Failed Telesheep Experiment (AKA)

Unicorn Island

Walhalleluha

Heartspace

Open Your Eyes



# Art

In total, 24 art pieces shone bright at Where the Sheep Sleep. We would like to start with a couple of special mentions BMNL supported in total € 15.534,99:

- Phoenix, Karavana, Alexander Strik and this team built “The Effigy”
- The “Willow Temple” was built by the Burning Man Netherlands community. This circular and communal art project was initiated in 2020 and was built and maintained by the Willow Temple crew in 2022. The Willow Temple, created from community-grown willow branches, is situated on The Island of Playa, a small natural island surrounded by calm water and connected to the main playa by a bridge, also built by the community. We also funded and restored a classic open boat to get to the island.
- “Heart Theater” is a recurring venue piece built by the Burning Man Netherlands community. The Heart Theater became one of the most gorgeous stages for live music, workshops, and a wedding.

There were no Mutant Vehicles on playa this year (as with every year), due to the land being unable to tolerate vehicle traffic.



# Art

An additional € 4.160 was reserved for Art Grants, we have supported the following artist:

- Mirror Forest (part of Oddworld), Tabea Sonnenschein
- Fish Stream, Daniella Rubinovitz
- People-Powered Music aka The Tinkle Drum, Bibi Blikendaal (Art Jump)
- Fire-Henge, Mike Wessling aka Cuddle bunny
- Boiling Man, Ronald Westerhuis
- 1m2 Art garden, Brenda van der Meulen
- De mens in een brandende wereld, Ton Kroes
- Vuurspuwende draak, Thijs Mikx
- Tiny Tiny House street, Emanuel van der Ven

Two projects won “Art Jump”, whom we financially supported to bring their art to the playa:

- Tinkle drum installation was also brought to the playa of Burning Man USA
- Arsov

Burning Man Netherlands has been supporting artist in transporting the works:

- ShowaTowa, Klaas Vader
- El Fidel DJ-Helicopter, Jan Wessels
- Led Torches, Reinder

Participants brought their Art Projects onto playa this year:

- Nebula Celesta, by Peter Koek
- Samurai Baby, Adrian Luz
- Natural artisans, Sabrina Schürger
- Xoclate orgasm, Sabrina Schürger
- The Witch broom, Alexander Strik
- WHO ARE YOU, Daniel Rakish
- Tree of Light, Hazard (Hollis)
- Garuda, Matthias Vijverman
- Tool-O-Theek and Art-O-Stuff, Emanuel van der Ven



# At least 40 performers offered us music, dance, plays and much more to the Center Camp and Heart Theater:

- Sheep Choir, consisting of 30 singers dressed in handmade costumes, accompanied the band during the Effigy ceremony
- Unspoken Dreams, Stemin
- Flaming Guitar & Garuda, Remco Visker & Mattias Vijverman
- Indio Blanco, Musical performance, Piet Jan Blauw
- Carly-E, Cello performance, Carlijn
- Marnix Lippmann
- Christiaan Lippmann
- Spellbound, Julie Scott
- Jurienne Live in Saxophone!
- Roeland Drost, piano concert
- HEZEN, Sarah Hezen
- Markus Mann
- Kim Van Roijen
- Rick Kuyper
- Krystl
- Stefan Blankensteijn
- Maaïke Peterse







# Workshops

- Fire performance, Linja Flux
- Japanese Burlesque dance at Boudoire Excentrique, Natalie Zaborska
- Yoni Yoga Workshop, Natalie Zaborska
- M, Identity alchemy
- Jeremy Shub / Brutus, Flirting Fun
- The Great Lord of Darkness and Misery, How to become utterly miserable in 10 easy steps
- Emanuel van der Ven, Leather Bikini and tribal skirt (make your own)
- Sugar, Trash or Treasure Shop
- Lily, Dance with your soul
- P-A-Trick, Impact Play Workshop
- Iris, Improv Theater
- Center camp, Midday Meditation



# DJ's

We programmed 26 DJs at the Where the Sheep Sleep stages, the Helicopters and the Black Sheep Circus, the night stage.

- DJ A Ka
- Faestos
- Daver
- Diego-ON
- Markmywords
- Linda
- M
- DJ Devmoon
- Sjoukje
- Jaime Musa
- Linda
- Juso
- Mike Seaver
- Luna
- Kay
- Friend of Juso
- DJ Marcus
- Broekman
- Kiwiiba
- Harmonia
- Hightower
- Pocahontas
- DeBodi
- Mauricio Lobao
- Gabor
- RA NUIT
- Cley van Dijk



# Ceremonies

The Sheep held two ceremonies, as we always do.





# The Effigy Burn on Saturday night

The Effigy burn is an actual burn where the effigy is ignited in flames. Within the possibilities from the municipality and the terrain we were able to create an eleven-meter high burn. The burn is part of a larger ceremony, where various artists co-create. This year Karavana realized the design and build of the Fenix, symbolizing rebirth after Covid. Julie Scott created a live music performance with a 30-person choir, DJs, and other live musicians. Light Design from VJ Jantra Jolantra and delicate laser effects from Martin Chambon. The magical one-hour ceremony helped the community to release all the pent-up energy from more than two years of pandemic-related separation. Weather note: The one-hour window on Saturday was the only dry hour that evening following several hours of showers that threatened to disrupt the burn ceremony. That we were able to continue more or less as planned added playa magic.







# The Willow Temple Burn on Sunday

The Temple Burn ceremony is a smaller and more delicate burn ceremony during which ribbons captured from the Willow Temple were sailed to the middle of the lake where they were burned over a floating fire. The ceremony was led by the music of two live musicians, Stefan Blankenstein and Jan Willem Slagt, that led into an intimate musical laser show over the water by Martin Chambon.



# Financials

See financial report at <https://burningman.nl/about-us/#reports>



# Some additional noteworthy accomplishments:

We are thrilled with all the things that went amazingly well at our event. This year's Where the Sheep Sleep was the biggest Dutch regional burn to date! And it was organized by our largest production team yet - this is an amazing accomplishment! And it was even more satisfying to gather together on our lush green playa after such an extended break!

This year we launched the first Dutch Burn Census, which enabled attendees to provide critical anonymous feedback in a way that will have a direct impact on the way future events are run. Our goal was to listen carefully to the needs of our attendees (past, present, and prospective) to ensure that future Burning Man Netherlands events uphold Burning Man values; foster greater community interest in Burning Man culture; offer new pathways and opportunities for community members to get involved and feel a sense of community belonging; and create unforgettable experiences that are accessible to all.



# ...and a few challenges:

Of course, growth also comes with its challenges and opportunities for growth. Learning how to keep Burner culture alive and thriving when so many beautiful new people are joining our family can be difficult. This was compounded by having a shorter production time due to our collective emergence from the pandemic.

Finding enough volunteers this year was difficult. LNT and Strike teams were lacking the most, and a small number of legends from our family had to work extra hard to make sure that we left the playa in better shape than when we arrived. Let's try hard next year not to leave a few dear souls behind to clean up after us!

Another challenge was a small number of attendees who did not respect consent. We hope that through continued efforts to educate each other and hold each other accountable, we can help create a space where everyone is free and safe to express themselves.



# Thank you all, and let's dream big for next year!

We are so grateful to each of you for all the gifts of time and magic and love and creativity that each of you selflessly gave to this event to make it so special. We simply could not have done this without all of you, and we want to thank you from the bottom of our crazy loving souls for helping to pull off this beautiful event. Whether you were a performer, a volunteer, an artist, a producer, a Dreamcamp organizer, a builder, a helping hand here and there - whatever it is that you did, we see you and we thank you. We are so proud of the diverse and thriving family we are building together, and excited to imagine what the future holds for our collective Burner community. If you've ever wondered how you can help create even more magic at Where the Sheep Sleep, this is it! Stay tuned next year so you – yes YOU! – can help make WtSS the most magical, wild, creative, wacky, transformative, regional cultural experiment ever!

And as always. Welcome Home.