

Open Call: Resident, Art Tech Nature Culture List



Art Tech Nature Culture is a global community of practice for creative practitioners across disciplines (from art, architecture and design to community organising and digital development) who care about social and ecological transformation. It was founded on the internet in Nov 2020 in a context of Covid-19 restrictions, and its 200+ members have started to connect on a classic discussion list to share work, make things, and support each other.

We are now pleased to announce a **curatorial & creative residency** for an individual with a creative spirit and a passion for community-building to take the lead in nurturing the ATNC network as it expands beyond a discussion list, into a series of ongoing initiatives that distribute leadership and foster co-creation. This role is funded by the [CreaTures](#) project, which promotes action for social and ecological sustainability by identifying the aspects of creative practices that contribute most effectively to positive social transformation.

The role will involve curating a portfolio of creative interventions, experimenting with new tools and methods of engagement, and working with the ATNC Steering Committee (consisting of representatives from co-founders and community members) to help guide ATNC's future. The ATNC Resident **will be funded at the rate of £5,000** to organise activities across a one-year period (likely from May 2021-May 2022). In addition, this role will be endowed with a **micro-award budget of £1,000**, which will be spent at the Resident Curator's discretion with the support of the ATNC Steering Committee.

The ATNC Resident will address these key CreaTures questions through creative community engagement as they see fit:

- 1) How can the ATNC community come together to understand itself - who's here and what are they interested in? How can we foster diverse and lasting transdisciplinary alliances between the fields of **art, technology, culture and nature/sustainability** through the umbrella of creative practice?
- 2) What matters do creative practitioners interested in ecological restoration care about the most? How are these concerns associated with **the community histories of other movements engaged in ecological and/or system change thinking** (e.g. more-than-human, alternative economies, sustainability transitions, commoning)?
- 3) How can **participatory governance** be productively fostered in a **virtual community**? What are the possibilities of collective non-hierarchical organising in blended virtual/physical settings?

What's happening already:

In response to community interests identified in the [first ATNC members survey](#), the Steering Committee is running a set of experimental engagements to support members working together in a variety of contexts: 1) **The Buddy System**, to set up 1:1 mutual aid networks; 2) **Natureculture Takeovers**, to foster discussions via email; 3) **Commissioned Co-creations**, where members join creative projects; and 4) **Fireside Gatherings**, where members meet and hang out. These engagements are still in their infancy.

What we'd like the Resident to bring:

The ATNC Resident will lead on the creative vision and organisation of new virtual/physical engagements for the year ahead. The ATNC Resident's role is to work in synergy with the existing activities run by the Steering Committee, introducing a further collection of opportunities for everyone. This role will be both practice and research-based, and involve regular interfacing with members of the [CreaTures](#) research project to share critical reflections along the way.

Documentation and reporting formats will be collectively negotiated with the CreaTures research team after selection, but might include: taking pictures and recordings; self-reflective journaling; creating observation notes; and/or attending regular meetings with the CreaTures research team and the Steering Committee.

How to apply:

To apply for this position, please send us a **1-page plan** for how you would address the themes, opportunities and concerns of the ATNC community over a year-long residency, with reference to your own background and aptitudes as a practitioner. We invite applicants who self-identify as creative practitioners and live anywhere in the world. The due date for proposals is Thursday 22nd April, Anywhere on Earth Time. Email your 1-page plan to Lara Houston: l.houston@sussex.ac.uk

Please respond to the selection criteria and tell us: about your proposal (~100 words), your proposed activities, methods and formats, how you imagine the outputs to look /feel like, how this residency might benefit your creative practice and include your bio (250 words max, with links to examples of work and/or social media).

Start date: as soon as possible after appointment.

Selection criteria:

- The creativity of the proposed activities
- The alignment of the proposal with the core areas of enquiry (above)
- How innovatively the proposal works with the medium of the mailing list (plus other blended digital-physical spaces)
- The willingness and availability of the Resident to work with the research team
- The benefit of the Residency to the applicant's creative/research practice.

Main contact:

Enquiries are welcome to University of Sussex Researcher Lara Houston, l.houston@sussex.ac.uk or the Steering Committee Chair Kit Braybrooke, hi@codekat.net

Support for applicants:

We welcome applications from everyone, without regard to race, colour, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, neurodiversity, age or religion. Contact us if you have any access requirements so that we can support you to apply.

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