Supre:organism

RESIDENCY OPEN CALL, GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

At Waag, we are pleased to announce an open call for artists to develop new work through an artistic residency together with the International Lunar Exploration Working Group (ILEWG). The Supre:organism residency aims to engage artistic perspectives on understanding living materiality in outer space with use of emerging AI technologies.

Outer space has presented itself as a contemporary condition where humanness is being redefined in the absence of arts, humanities and social studies. With this open call, we provide an opportunity to expand established human space activities with a multiplicity of artistic perspectives to broaden the understanding of human non-terrestrial becoming. With the Supre:organism we mark the 50th anniversary of the first Moon landing and 100th anniversary of Kazimir Malevich’s gaze into life emerging from the sentinel canvas, the cosmos:

»... all technical organisms are nothing but small satellites—the entire living world is ready to fly into space and take a special position. For each such satellite is fitted with reason and able to live its own life.«

Kazimir Malevich, UNOVIS, Vitebsk, December 15, 1920

A selected artist or a group will have an opportunity to work with planetary scientists and AI experts at ESA’s main research centre ESTEC in Noordwijk and Waag’s AI Lab in Amsterdam for up to five months with a total budget of €10,000; this may include travel costs, materials, fabrication and artists fees. The resident will be expected to work in close collaboration with an ILEWG and Waag and be in close contact with them throughout the project included visiting and spending time with the researchers as necessary and appropriate to develop concept ideas and complete artwork or body of art-

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work. Residents and collaborators will be expected to attend and participate in a series of (at least two) workshops to present and discuss work in progress and to ensure cross-topic and cross-project fertilisation.


The Supre:organism project is made possible within the European ARTificial Intelligence Lab, with support of the Creative Europe programme of the European Commission, Mondriaan Fund and CLICKNL, and is a collaboration between Waag (Amsterdam), International Lunar Exploration Working Group (ESA/ESTEC, Noordwijk), Vrije Universiteit (Amsterdam), Kunstfort bij Vijfhuzen (Vijfhuizen) and Cultural Centre of European Space Technologies (Ljubljana).

The Supre:organism residency calls for artists with an excellent track record of collaborative and innovative art practice with interest in using emerging AI technologies, not just creatively but also critically to develop novel perspectives on understanding life in outer space.

Waag invites artists with an interest in these field to submit a motivation letter, CV and a portfolio of relevant work (PDF not exceeding 10MB all together) online here. Please be sure to read all information about the call, deadlines and requirements detailed before submitting an application.

2. DEADLINE

The deadline for applications is March 11th 2019, 24.00 CET.

3. OBJECTIVES

The overarching objective of this residency is a novel understanding of what humanity is becoming in outer space. No existing institution is dedicated to the research of the human condition in outer space, while only art and humanities have developed methodologies with which society can obtain an understanding of how the outer space human activities influence a contemporary culture. With this paradigmatic shift of attention, we aim to contribute an understanding of not only what is out there, but what we—as humanity and as life in general—are becoming in outer space.

Supre:organism residency aims:
• to bring forward artistic perspectives of a contemporary conditions emerging from using space technologies in non-terrestrial environment;
• stimulate interest, excitement and debate about novel perspectives on human activities in outer space through high-quality, original artistic collaborations;
• examine the social, cultural and ethical contexts of the outer space through the arts;
• promote high-quality transdisciplinary practice and collaboration between art, science and technology.
Projects proposed for the Supre:organism must be new and not yet under-way or fully realized.

4. WHO CAN SUBMIT AN APPLICATION?

Artists with a keen interest in space science and emerging AI technologies, who have a proven record of working across technological disciplines, and who are able and willing to reside in the Netherlands in the proximity of the ESTEC and Waag for appropriate periods during the residency.

5. WHAT DO YOU SUBMIT?

Each participant can submit only one application for this call. The applications consist of:

- a completed Supre:organism residency application form,
- motivation letter,
- CV and
- a portfolio of previous work.

The application must be written in English.

6. BUDGET

The Supre:organism consortium will award one artist or a group with a maximum budget of €10.000. This figure must include all costs including travel, accommodation, materials, fabrication, attendance at workshops, transport of work and artists fees.

7. PROCEDURES

The procedure is as follows:

- Submission of applications by artists by March 11th 2019
- The residency and project production take place between April and August 2019
- Dedicated residency week at ESTEC Noordwijk is going to be 6th - 10th May 2019
- Residents will have regular meetings with the curators/mentors and attend workshops by agreement
- The final projects will be presented at final Supre:organism exhibition at Kunstfort bij Vijfhuzen in September 2019

8. SELECTION COMMITTEE

The selection committee of the Supre:organism residency consist of experts from the arts and sciences interactions field as well as experts from the space science and technology fields from project partner organizations, advised by a panel of six independent international experts.
9. CRITERIA

- Artistic quality of artist/designer (based on motivation letter, cv, portfolio), [+|+|+/--]
- Executive quality of artist/designer (based on motivation letter, cv, portfolio), [+|+|+/--]
- Expected collaboration approach (technological competence, interaction, availability of support staff and infrastructure)
- Societal impact artwork (potential public engagement)

The top ranked proposal will be selected. The selection committee will not select more than one proposal.

10. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Special conditions that apply to the award:
- The Supreorganism residency funding of €10.000 is sufficient to realise the residency, all outcomes, an artwork for the final exhibition and attendance at workshops.
- A time frame of 5 months is sufficient to realise the project.
- If awarded, the artist is available for the Supre:organism residency from April – August 2019, especially from 6th - 10th May 2019 at the expense of the project.
- Any visa requirements and travel arrangements are to be dealt with by the artist.
- The applications and provided information are made known to the representatives of the collaborative partners involved (Waag, ILEWEG and the advisory committee) and they are treated confidentially.

11. TIME TABLE

- Feb. 11th 2019 Opening call Supre:organism residency
- Mar. 11th 2019 Deadline applications artist
- Mar. 2019 Selection
- Apr. – Aug. 2019 Residency and project realization
- 6th - 10th May 2019 Residency week at ESTEC
- Sep. - Oct. 2019 The final exhibition

12. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

The Supre:organism residency application form can be downloaded on the website www.waag.org/en/event/supreorganism-open-call-ai-lab-residency. The applications can be submitted online here. You will receive a confirmation of receipt no later than March 13th 2019. If you have questions, please contact supreorganism@waag.org.