

# NAFAE CONFERENCE

Royal College of Art, Battersea,  
Dyson Building, 1 Hester Road,  
London SW11 4AN



**Royal College of Art**  
Postgraduate Art & Design



# LIVING RESEARCH: THE URGENCY OF THE ARTS

What does arts and humanities research have to offer in our current socio-political climate? This conference for research students takes as its focus the way arts research methods and practices might be put to use in our contemporary moment. We ask, what 'work' can a PhD do? By this we do not mean how might our research be instrumentalised or applied, but rather how might it lead our interactions with, and understanding of, the world.

Hosted by the Royal College of Art, London, the **LIVING RESEARCH** conference will run six strands of thinking around creative propositions engendered by a single word. The categories; Collaboration, Documents, Entanglement, Environment, Me and Reenactment, are currently in use within the RCA's School of Arts and Humanities, bringing together researchers across disciplines, developing creative methods to explore terms that demand urgent enquiry. It is hoped they will allow for a wide range of responses, in both content and form.

★ **15TH  
MARCH  
2019**

Beginning with **ENVIRONMENT** as both concept and site, we examine its multiplicity, as hostile, or in distress. In **REENACTMENT** we explore methods of return, repetitions and copying that often allow a habitation of the past in order to forge future encounters. The pleasures and difficulties of living and working together may be explored in **COLLABORATION** and further complicated as a kind of *passen werk* of erotic praxis, artificial intelligences and quantum consciousness in **ENTANGLEMENT**. The traces, artefacts and the problematic and violent histories of living with ourselves may be exposed in **DOCUMENTS**, taking us through to a spotlight on **ME** and the slippery subject of subjectivity, with the potential of subversive tactics and shifting, multiple positions and voices.

# Living Research: The Urgency of the Arts

NAFAE Research Student Conference

Royal College of Art  
1 Hester Road  
London  
SW11 4AN



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# Welcome and Introduction

The Royal College of Art is delighted to be hosting the 2019 NAFAE Research Student conference: **LIVING RESEARCH: The Urgency of the Arts.**

What does arts and humanities research have to offer in our current socio-political climate? This NAFAE (National Association for Fine Art Education) research student conference takes as its focus the way arts research methods and practices might be put to use in our contemporary moment. We ask, what 'work' can a PhD do? By this we do not mean how might our research be instrumentalised or applied, but rather how might it lead our interactions with, and understanding of, the world.

Hosted by the Royal College of Art, and with contributions from research students from universities across the UK and the world, the **LIVING RESEARCH** conference will run six strands of thinking around creative propositions engendered by a single word. The categories; Collaboration, Documents, Entanglement, Environment, Me and Reenactment are currently in use within the RCA's School of Arts & Humanities, bringing together researchers across disciplines, developing creative methods to explore terms that demand urgent enquiry. It is hoped they will allow for a wide range of responses, in both content and form.

# Programme

**9.30-10.00**

**Registration**

Dyson Building Reception, Ground Floor Dyson Building  
1 Hester Road, Battersea, SW11 4AN

**10.00-11.00**

**Welcome Address: The Urgency of the Arts**

Gorvy Lecture Theatre, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Dyson Building

With contributions from Jordan BASEMAN | Gemma BLACKSHAW | Zowie BROACH | Joel CHAN | Nicky COUTTS | Juan CRUZ | Brian DILLON | Catherine DORMOR | Anne DUFFAU | Chantal FAUST | Rebecca FORTNUM | Johnny GOLDING | Paul HAYWOOD | Jaspar JOSEPH-LESTER | Adam KAASA | Jonathan MILES | Rathna RAMANATHAN | Olivier RICHON | Aura SATZ | Shehnaz SUTERWALLA | Rebecca TADMAN | Joanne TATHAM | Victoria WALSH | Hermione WILTSHIRE

**11.00-11.30**

**Coffee / Tea**

Dyson Building Reception, Ground Floor Dyson Building

**11.30-1.30**

**Strand Breakout Sessions**

**DOCUMENTS**

DYS 111, Print Seminar Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Dyson Building

**Chair: Professor Olivier RICHON, Head of Photography, Royal College of Art**

Shannon FORRESTER, Royal College of Art  
Material Aliveness and Affective Projection in Reparative Painting

Anthony JACKSON, Glyndwr University  
Speaking Two Languages

Edward 'Jonnie' TURPIE, Birmingham School of Art  
Being vulnerable to the making, in the making

Bec WONDERS, Glasgow School of Art  
Unravelling Feminist Periodicals

**11.30-1.30**  
**Strand Breakout**  
**Sessions (cont.)**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

WOO 164, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Woo Building

**Chair: Professor Johnny GOLDING, Senior Tutor Research and Professor of Philosophy and Fine Art, Royal College of Art**

Aslihan CARAOUPAPOULLÉ, Kingston University / LDoc  
Creating balance between transformation and preservation within UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Belper as a Case Study

Martha Jean LINEHAM, Manchester School of Art,  
Manchester Metropolitan University  
Sensation and affect down at the seaside arcade

Alison MERCER, Royal College of Art  
Interchanges? How can participatory creative encounters sustain one's own artistic practice.

Emily OHLUND, Royal College of Art  
Dyspraxia in the Workshop

Adam J B WALKER, Royal College of Art  
Dark kitchens and desert cities: (dis)embodied resistance at the (non)site

## **ME**

DYS 126, Clore Seminar Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Dyson Building

**Chair: Dr Shehnaz SUTERWALLA, Tutor in History of Design, Royal College of Art**

Kirsten ADKINS, University of Wolverhampton  
Diamond Reynolds: A Journey from Social Media to Celluloid

Jenny EDEN, Manchester School of Art, Manchester Metropolitan University  
Opening up the Receptors

Eve GRUBIN, Kingston University  
The Poetics of Reticence

Di LAN, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai University  
Sometimes You Think You Are a Bird, But Actually You Are a Kite

Rafal MORUSIEWICZ, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna  
Reading Polish Film History through Auto-Ethnography and Remix

Muhammad Babar SULEMAN, Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford  
Possible Lives: Finding Consciousness Through the Art of Spiritual Penetration

1.30-2.30

## **Lunch + Viewing of Research Posters**

SAC 016, Painting Seminar Room,  
Ground Floor, Sackler Building

*Complimentary sandwich lunch available for all conference attendees*

With Research Poster contributions from:

Soha AL ZAID, Birmingham City University  
Yreilyn CARTAGENA, University of Huddersfield  
Antony HALL, Manchester Metropolitan University  
Jesse HOGAN, Tokyo University of the Arts  
Kathryn Lawson HUGHES, Swansea College of Art  
Di LAN, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai University  
Zhu LI, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai University  
Kukka PAAVILAINEN, University of the Arts Helsinki  
Eiko SOGA, Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford  
Victoria SUVOROFF, University of Brighton  
Yi (Joshua) WANG, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai University  
Ziwei WANG, Glasgow School of Art

2.30-4.30

## **Strand Breakout Sessions**

### **COLLABORATION**

DYS 126, Clore Seminar Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Dyson Building

**Chair: Dr Lisa STANSBIE, Dean of the Leeds School of Art,  
Architecture and Design, Leeds Beckett University**

Gill BROWN, London College of Communication, UAL

Creating scientific conceptual figures: using graphic design practice-based research  
in a collaboration with neuroscientists

Zhu LI, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai University

The Effectiveness of Participation:

Action Logic of Socially Engaged Art in Rural China

Carol MANCKE, Royal College of Art

Thinking together in public: Collaborative thinking as artistic practice

Helen McGHIE, University of Sunderland

Stargazing at the “Invisible”: Photography and the Power of Obscured Light –  
Collaborations Between the Commercial Sector (Kielder Observatory) and  
Photographic Practice

Gina NADAL-FERNANDEZ, Manchester Metropolitan University

The role of Repertory Grid Technique within the field of co-designed textile practice

Lesley RAVEN, Staffordshire University and Manchester MET

The complexities of collaboration through a lens of reflective practice

**2.30-4.30**

**Strand Breakout**

**Sessions (cont.) ENTANGLEMENT**

WOO 164, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Woo Building

**Chair: Professor Johnny GOLDING, Senior Tutor Research and Professor of Philosophy and Fine Art, Royal College of Art**

Anna ÅDAHL, Royal College of Art

Predicting Crowds: The Aesthetics and Politics of Digitised and Simulated Crowds

Clare BEATTIE, University for the Creative Arts

The Folded Space-time of Experimental Practice – Entangled Futures:

How Reification in Fine Art Practice Provides an Architecture for Understanding Quantum Ontology

Lara GARCIA DIAZ, Culture Commons Quest Office,

Antwerp Research Institute for the Arts

(DES)INHABITING THEORY THAT (DES)INHABITS ME

Anna NAZO, Royal College of Art

Green, Undulation. Viscosity of Sense.

Dario SRBIC, Royal College of Art

CAN A ROBOT BECOME A DESIRING BODY?

Despina ZACHAROPOULOU, Royal College of Art

Performance on a stage of trauma

## **REENACTMENT**

DYS 111, Print Seminar Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Dyson Building

**Chair: Dr Catherine MAFFIOLETTI, Research Fellow, Ravensbourne University London**

Qi FANG, Newcastle University

The metaphoric transforming environment in the semi-darkness

Marita FRASER, Royal College of Art

Speaking With

Xiaoyi NIE, Royal College of Art

Re-enactment? Or A Pilgrimage to Inhabit the Space?

Heather ROSS, Newcastle University

The Loud and the Soft Speakers;

A Contemporary Iteration of Kurt Schwitters' *The Silence Poem*

Diana TAYLOR, Sheffield Hallam University

Arts and Crafts: Back and forth, time and time again

Ada TELES, University of the Arts London

Copying the work of other artists: an inquiry into artistic identity and authenticity

Caroline WARD, Royal College of Art

Pre-enacting Artificial Intelligence

4.30-6.00

## Performances + Screenings

Gorvy Lecture Theatre, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Dyson Building

**Curators: Anna NAZO (RCA) & Despina PAPADOPOULOS (RCA)**

*This session brings together researchers from across the six strands.*

Murat ADASH, Goldsmiths, University of London  
One in the Other

Maya AMRAMI, London College of Fashion  
Thought-Work: Thinking Through Entanglement

Rose BUTLER, Sheffield Hallam University  
Vital Vagueness

Annabelle CRAVEN-JONES, Royal College of Art  
[User.Pending] Does my algorithm have a mental health problem?

Ada Xiaoyu HAO, University of Brighton  
NAUT-ADA: (m)other eye

Yifei HE, Royal College of Art  
Reenactment: Paint Against Waves, If All The Waves Can Be Saved

Clareese HILL, Goldsmiths, University of London  
The Hyper Present - The Manipulation of Time and Space

Zosia HOLUBOWSKA, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna  
Magic as Queer Activism

Anna NAZO, Royal College of Art  
Viscosity

Sarvenaz SOHRABI, Winchester School of Art, University of Southampton  
Dancing in the Silence: Representing Iranian Women Through Pop Art Aesthetics

Matt WILLIAMS, Kingston University  
Soundwalk Version: West Indian Centre – Eclipse (2019)

**6.00-9.00** *There's something lurking in the shadows that might be interesting*  
**RCA School of Arts & Humanities MPhil/PhD Research Exhibition**  
 Dyson Gallery, Ground Floor, Dyson Building



*‘There's something lurking in the shadows that might be interesting’* features the most wide-ranging enquiries of 39 MPhil and PhD students from the RCA’s School of Arts and Humanities. From the 15th until the 23rd of March, the Dyson Gallery and its surroundings will be inhabited by researches in different stages and forms - bringing the artistic process in contact with the external world. Showcasing artworks in various media: from painting to sound, moving image, sculpture and performance, the audience will witness new-born ideas and intentions, reimagined experimentations and grounded practices. Questioning the dissonant nature of displaying a wide range of artistic processes in the same space, *‘There's something lurking in the shadows that might be interesting’* highlights the commonalities belonging to the figure of the artist as researcher, and the subjective reactions which can occur when presenting the product of an investigation to wider audiences. Speaking to the search in research, peering into the shadows in order to expose something to light: the exhibition is a call to the overlooked, the subtle, and the raw.

Curated by Linda Rocco

Artists: Anna Adahl | Cradeaux Alexander | Rana Al Ogayyel | Be Andr | Sharon Boothroyd | Anja Borowicz | Sophie Cero | Annabelle Craven-Jones | Caroline Douglas | Paula Fitzsimons | Shannon Forrester | Maria Gafarova | Chang Gao | Anna Flemming | Ajamu Ikwe-Tyehimba | Seungjo Jeong | David Johnson | Amira Kawash | Sarah Kelly | Sung Eun Kim | Melanie King | Yushi Li | Mayra Martin Ganzinotti | Liz K. Miller | Ruidi Mu | Liz Murray | Anna Nazo | Joana Maria Pereira | Gareth Proskourine-Barnett | Alison Rees | Cole Robertson | Joanna Rojkowska | Armelle Skatulski | Marina Stavrou | Dario Srbic | Jeroen van Dooren | Adam J. B. Walker | Messua Poulin Wolff | Despina Zacharopoulou

Poster design by Maria Gafarova