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Expanded Ecologies an open call to CTSA MFA students



Curated by Zachary Korol Gold May 27 — June 10, 2023

Deadline: March 20, 2023 11:59PM

Ecology has become generalized.ⁱ What began as a natural science discipline that investigated the relations between an organism and its environment has become a general worldview that posits relations themselves as ontological. Karen Barad's "intra-action," Bruno Latour's "actor-network theory," Donna Haraway's "string figures," Jane Bennett's "vital matter," Deleuze and Guattari's "rhizome," and Rachel Carson's "web of life," each focus attention on the interactions, communications, and exchanges between beings and things. With relations as foundational, things start to disintegrate. Beings become porous, their boundaries indistinct, as organisms are understood to be contingent within kaleidoscopic webs of life. How do these conditions open the field of art production? How do they foreclose it?

This exhibition seeks work that crosses boundaries: between art and nonart, technology and ecology, culture and nature, the human and the nonhuman (and/or the posthuman), the individual and its environment. Work should address the relationality, porosity, fluidity, and/or ecology of the present.

Work can take any form: digital or traditional media, site-specific interventions, or live performances. Performances can be staged during our opening reception on May 20, 2023.

Please submit up to five images of your proposed artworks/performances accompanied by a description of no more than 250 words. A short overview of your practice and CV are also welcomed if available. If applicable, please also include any specific equipment or installation requirements.

All submission materials should be sent to Zachary Korol Gold <u>zkorolgo@uci.edu</u> by 11:59pm on March 20, 2023. Notifications of acceptance will be sent by mid-April.

Beall Center for Art + Technology's new Art + Ecology offerings recognize that sometimes technology isn't the only "art plus" intersection worth exploring. We're approaching our 25th anniversary and—like the world around us—we will need to adapt to thrive. Expanded Ecologies is the third event in a sequence of programming experiments that began with our <u>Winter/Spring 2022 speaker series</u> and continued with sponsorship with the graduate seminar <u>Arts at Burns Piñon</u>.

ⁱ Erich Hörl, "Introduction to General Ecology: The Ecologization of Thinking," in General Ecology: The New Ecological Paradigm, ed. Erich Hörl and James Burton, Theory (London: Bloomsbury Academic, an imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Plc, 2017), 1–74.

Image: A tree that looks like a human, 2009 (planted in 1998). Photo by Becky Northey. www.pooktre.com.