

Transformative relations

Throughout history, we have been observing and learning from the nonhuman. Through biomimicry, exploitation, and reappropriation we reshaped this *other* knowledge and life forms into many scientific, cultural, and technological achievements. Our anthropocentric perspective conditioned us to operate as if any form of relations is an execution of power and not of respect and mutual listening. We managed to lose sight of the ecological entanglement, that we are all interconnected, affecting each other and the environment.

Interdisciplinary and cross-pollination of knowledge in hybrid endeavors of art/science/tech practices have shown us that we need and can (un)learn how we have been listening, observing, and acting. By collectively weaving different perspectives, other voices, and knowledge forms we can break this power relation dynamic and nurture the changing nature of the flow that this transformational relations between human and non-human brings upon.

Transformative relations navigate this flow and seek to awaken us toward the possible symbiotic relationship that brings about earthly well-being. Awakening us to adopt the position of relations in the posthuman world that unlearns binary relations of human / nonhuman.

We invite you to join us for an experiential walk that will provide insights and methods so we can step into the possibilities of a not-so-distant future of earthly, multispecies well-being. It is a walk on the borderlines exploring other ways of seeing, thinking, doing, and being that the hybrid practice of cross-pollination art+science+technology brings forth.

Day 1 - Friday, 17th May

Practice-based session I

Transformative relations - intertidal moment

Experiential research - identifying relational signals with data sampling

Number of participants: 20

Location: Bečarac

During the first day, you are invited to identify and learn from transformational relations of human and nonhuman agential sensing. Using Danube shores as a case study, we will explore the *intertidal moment* (Ari Wallach - futurist) of our Anthropocene era where our feet are sinking but on the horizon, all seems still, yet nothing is the same. A walking path and different research methodologies will navigate you toward the flow that might lead us to a symbiotic multiplicity of diverse relations.



Co-funded by
the European Union

+ Direction I - DIY bio methodology +

In this part, you will be using DIY chemicals and digital technologies to discover and analyze the invisible world of contemporary microscale and nanoscale/molecular water pollutants and water life forms. You will be able to register the smallest but potent residues of human activity, unsustainable consumerism, urbanization, and exploitation of the world waters, and to explore the effect on life within waters. By sampling water from the Danube, you will engage in on-site research on the effect of invisible anthropogenic molecular pollutants in the waters and emerging remediation methodologies.

Facilitators: Gjino Šutić, Filip Grgurević

Gjino is a biotechnologist, post-modern new media artist, biohacker, innovator, and educator. Founder & director of Universal Research Institute for applied scientific research, and development of related culture and art.

Filip is a research assistant and a coordinator of educational activities at UR Institute. A graduate student of Ecology and Conservation with a focus on freshwater ecosystems at the Faculty of Science in Zagreb.

Credits

The workshop was developed by Gjino Šutić and [Robertina Šebjanič](#) through the framework of STARTS4Water project – Zero pollution Adriatic residency at UR Institute, co-funded by the STARTS program of the European Union.

+ Direction II - embodied methodology +

In this part, you will be prompted to join an experiential sensorial walk around the Danube shore. The walk is designed to facilitate (un)learning process and reposition the familiar body movements as an observational tool through which we map and gather experiential samples from our environment.

This learning and data sampling is based on practices of embodied and tacit knowledge and is guided by the approach of implementation of *other knowledge and views* in the discourse and practice of science. It is informed by the familiar, (non)human and ancestral approaches to earthly, multispecies well-being that have been recontextualized through contemporary philosophy and art.

Facilitator: [Sunčica Pasuljević Kandić](#)

Sunčica is an antidisciplinary practitioner. She explores the triangular relationship between society-technology-nature. She has been teaching at the Department of New Media Art at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad since 2016.

Credits

Conceptual framework of Post Anthropocene relations is designed and moderated by Sunčica Pasuljević Kandić under the framework of the project Bio Awakening co-funded by the European Union.



Co-funded by
the European Union

Day 2 - Saturday, 18th May

Practice-based session II

Transformative relations – intertidal zone

Collective ideation of our future relations

Location: Creative District, SKUP

During this practice-based session, participants will exchange what they have learned, and transform various samples gathered during the walk into a collective response.

Through this final collaborative gathering, we seek to draft a map that traces transformational flow from now to future(s). Where/what direction/scenarios do we want this transformational flow of mutual change - symbiotic relations to flow to? How can we achieve this with what we have (un)learned and known so far?

The goal is to create a collective output that imagines life in an earthly, multispecies well-being way, a symbiotic relationship of human & nonhuman entities.

In this way, multiple points of view, experiences, and knowledge come together fostering a process of (un)learning that often emerges from hybrid practices that incorporate art-science-tech methods.

Moderator: [Jelena Joksimović](#) with facilitators from the *Transformative relations*

Jelena Joksimović is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Education in Jagodina, University of Kragujevac, and the Faculty of Media and Communications, Belgrade. She is a psychologist, researcher and activist in the field of education. Her field of research includes critical pedagogy; the relationship between maker culture and education; art and science as well as the phenomenon of the quality of the teaching/learning process. She is a co-founder and an active member of the Škograd (Schoolcity) collective.

Credits

The methodological approach to Practice-based session II is developed by Jelena Joksimović with Sunčica Pasuljević Kandić under the framework of the project Bio Awakening co-funded by the European Union.



Co-funded by
the European Union