

algorithms that matter

Artistic Research Residency - Call for Applications

<https://almat.iem.at/call>

(please distribute)

Algorithms that Matter (ALMAT) is an artistic research project funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF, PEEK AR 403-GBL, and based at the Institute of Electronic Music and Acoustics (IEM) in Graz, Austria.

Almat is happy to announce a call for three artistic residencies to take place in 2017/18!

What

Algorithms that Matter is an artistic research project by Hanns Holger Rutz and David Pirrò. It aims at understanding the increasing influence of algorithms, translating them into aesthetic positions in sound, building a new perspective on algorithm agency by subjecting the realm of algorithms to experimentation.

ALMAT is grounded in the idea that algorithms are agents that co-determine the boundary between an artistic machine or “apparatus” and the object produced through this machine. The central question is: How do algorithmic processes emerge and structure the praxis of experimental computer music? The hypothesis is that these processes, instead of being separated from the composer—as generators and transformers of infinite shapes—exhibit a specific force that retroacts and changes the very praxis of composition and performance.

A series of systematic experiments is carried out by the project team together with the artists in residence. Over defined periods of time, artists develop series of interrelated sound pieces that interrogate specific aspects of algorithmicity. The work process is observed and transcribed into complementary forms of presentation and discourse, including concerts and exhibitions, an online public “continuous exposition”, and gatherings that connect artists-researchers across various institutions in Europe.

The project not only aims at extending the praxis of experimental computer music using algorithmic processes, but also at contributing to the scope and methodology of artistic research.

Who

This call is directed at experienced practitioners in sound art and experimental computer music, for whom algorithmic and computational strategies represent a central element in their work. Applicants should be able to demonstrate this through their past work. They are capable and interested in exposing and reflecting their process and work through writing, discussion and other forms of discourse. During the project, they are expected to either engage with software frameworks that the project team has developed, or with software they have developed in open source environments.

Residencies

The project offers three residencies in the period from October 2017 to December 2018 (see possible periods listed in the application form).

The project is conceived in such way, that applicants will work collaboratively with the project team. Each residency will be preceded by an online preparatory process in cooperation with the project team (this will begin at latest two months before the start of the actual residency). The applicants are then expected to spend the two months of the residency *in situ*.

The residency's aim is to carry out algorithmic experimentation (in the form of compositions, installations, etc.) in an iterative setting, with focus on process and specific constraints. Applicants are expected to work both independently and collaboratively during the residency. An additional researcher will observe and document the work process and contribute to the public exposition of the traces.

The tangible outcomes will be presented locally and internationally by the project team, and the artists are invited to attend events related to the project. We want to emphasise that research is the prime focus of the residency, but that we intend to provide opportunities for public presentation of the works and artefacts created through the process.

Application

The applicants are commended to carefully read through the summary, research questions and methodology provided on the project's website: <https://almat.iem.at>

Please fill out the form provided at <https://almat.iem.at/call.html> and send it to almat@iem.at along with the required accompanying documents.

We aim at a balance of gender and background of the applicants, asserting the diversity of the project.

Conditions

- Duration of residency: 2 months
- Start date (in situ): October 2017 (select time slots in form)
- Remuneration: c. 5,000 EUR total (contract for work; subject to taxation where applicable). This sum is meant to cover all expenses, such as travelling, living costs and accommodation.

Application deadline: 16 April 2017 (e-mail reception, 24:00 CET)

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at almat@iem.at.

Additional Information

The Institute of Electronic Music and Acoustics is a department of the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz, founded in 1965. It is a leading institution in its field, with more than 25 staff members of researchers and artists. IEM offers education to students in composition and computer music, sound engineering, contemporary music performance and musicology.

What we offer:

- 24/7 access to the facilities of the IEM (<http://iem.kug.ac.at/en>).
- A desk in a shared office space for the entire period and access to studios including the CUBE which has a 24-channel loudspeaker system and motion tracking, according to availability.

What we cannot offer:

- We can not provide any housing, although we will try to help with finding accommodation.

