

## **Mycelium Network Society**

### **ELEONORE summer residency 2017, Linz, Austria**

JULY 1 -SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

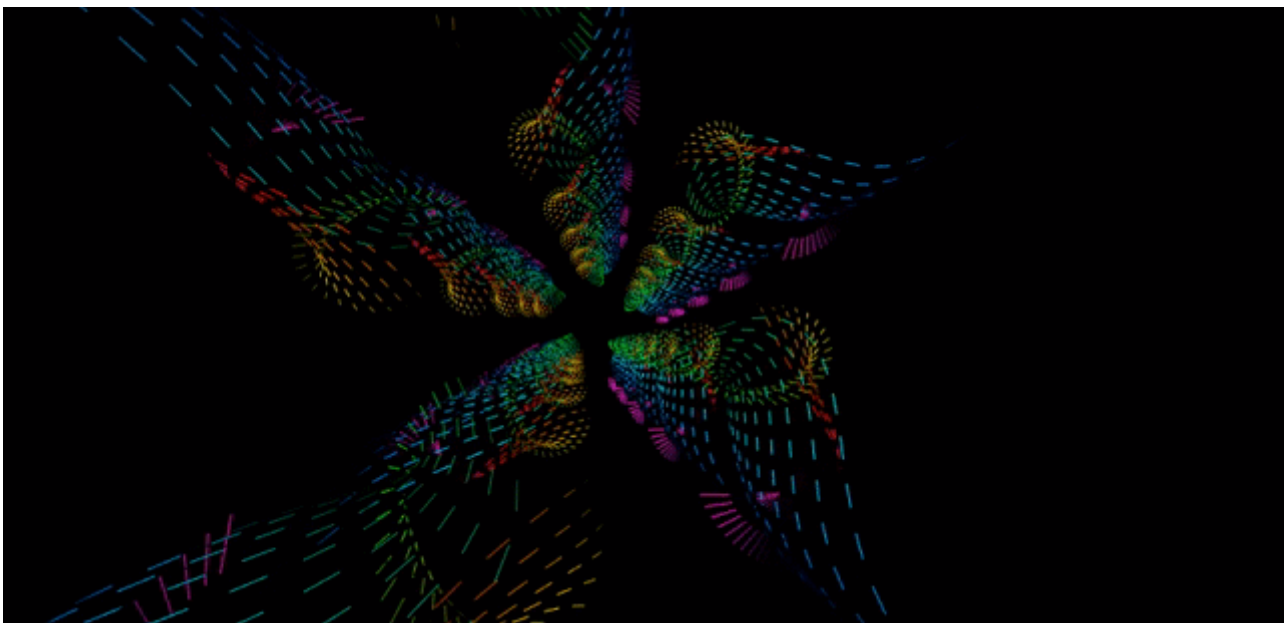
open call: <http://www.stwst.at/index.php?m=2&sm=0&pid=388>

### **Chosen Artists/Projects:**

#### **Servando Barreiro**

<http://servando.teks.no>

Servando Barreiro it's a traveling artist that does workshops, audiovisual performances and installations. Being nomad since 2015 and now exploring alternative ways of living, moving and working abroad. He will be in Linz on board of Eleonore from July 17 - 31.



Artwork done in puredata by Servando, inspired by ayahuasca intake

Projekt:

#### **Experimental Documentary / spiritual field trip**

The project consists about video-documenting insights gained during observation and ingestion of mushrooms. My goal is to bring to light the power of the intuition gained thanks to altered states of consciousness versus a traditional way of documenting and researching with fungus. I want also to make a generative soundtrack for the documentary using just real sounds and also guided by the gained expanded intuition.

**Mary Maggic**

<http://maggic.ooo>

Mary Maggic is an artist and nomadic biohacker working at the intersection of biotechnology, cultural discourse, and civil disobedience. She will be in Linz on board of Eleonore from July 2 – 16.



Project:

### **Toxicological Embrace: the Industrial Modulation of Sex**

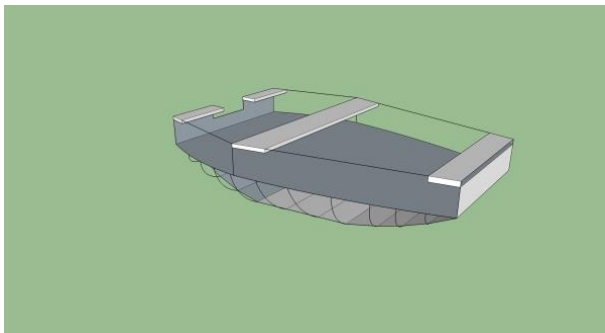
The project proposes to work with `Schizophyllum commune` (otherwise known as split gill or white rot fungus, if perhaps the most world's most widespread fungus and possesses over 28,000 sexes) to develop new narratives of toxicological embrace, prompting us to let go of the concept of fixed genders and sex panic. During the residency, I want to experiment with the mushroom's bioremediation properties, which can be done by foraging local fungus in known areas of pollution such as the Danube, or deliberately exposing the fungus to estrogenic compounds and tracking its elimination of them. My hope is that these experiments lead to gastronomical interventions - a kind of toxic mushroom cuisine of fungus born out of gender-bending chemicals, a history of geopolitical contamination embedded in its flesh. Although the fungi itself will not be hormonally active, the project hopes to both bring industrial pollution to the forefront as well as create a cultural discourse where bodies are acknowledged as changeable substrates, where gender has no final destination.

## Callum Caplan

[www.callumcaplan.com](http://www.callumcaplan.com)

Callum Caplan is a final year undergraduate student of Fine Art at Newcastle University. His practice explores the themes of sustainability and the unimagined future. Living in a time of great uncertainty, his aim is to question and reimagine the structures and foundations on which we build our society. By challenging the fundamental grounds of civilisation, he hopes to present a way in which humanity can progress, with less environmental and socio-political issues.

He will be in Linz on board of Eleonore from August 1 – 8 and from September 1 – 11.



### Project:

My main interest in mycelium material is its potential to be used in the fabrication and construction of houses or transportation. With sustainable materials being discovered at a rate like never before, why is architectural and transportation design not adapting at a similar pace? Are large corporations utilising their position for sustainable usage or private and financial gain? Unfortunately, it would appear to be the latter. However, in my opinion, more education and public exposure to sustainable materials can create a shift in the material choices of future design.

Therefore, my proposal will demonstrate and communicate the potential of mycelium as a building material. This will be an example of one of the many sustainable materials that we are yet to fully embrace in design today. I would like this example to be literal and show how this material could function in modern design. I propose to build a small rowing boat out of mycelium and wood. The boat's main structure will be made from lightweight wooden dowels. The boat will be made in sections, to allow the mycelium covering to grow, and be dried to create the waterproof resultant shell. The sections will be attached together and be made water tight with a water-resistant sealer. The boat will be floating on the surface of a large tank of water. It will be fully functional, allowing the public to see limitless potentials in a range of sustainable, natural materials that we should exploit.

## Azucena Sanchez

<http://azusnz.com/>

Azucena Sanchez is a mexican artist currently based in Weimar. For the last two years she has been working on a DIY BioLab where she has worked with organisms such as plants, bacteria, Physarum Polycephalum and mycelium. She will be in Linz on board of Eleonore from August 25 - September 11.



### Project:

Mycelium is a communication network which in this project I would like to relate to journalism in Mexico. Journalism is one of the most dangerous professions in Mexico. I see mycelium as the perfect analogy of people and hope. Mycelium is not afraid of growing just like many journalists in Mexico are no longer afraid to tell the truth of the cruelty and misbehavior of our government and the mafia regarding drug trafficking. Mycelium is a network, journalism is collaboration and taking care of each other. For the last months I have been working with mycelium in an in vitro environment, I have been experimenting with the color of agar and if mycelium can retain it or fight against it. I added blue food coloring to a malt extract medium and mycelium started to get the color but in the end it let it over grew it. The agar I created is quite dark, it creates a bit of struggle for mycelium but in the end it roots through the whole environment. Showing us an analogy of hope been born from the dark.

Jae Rhim Lee has proposed for several years the idea of a mushroom burial suit ([https://www.ted.com/talks/jae\\_rhim\\_lee](https://www.ted.com/talks/jae_rhim_lee)), this led me to think: Which part of our body would mycelium consume first in relation to our biome and the bacteria that we find in our skin, mouth and even brain? For this project I want to create a subtle sculpture made either of malt extract medium or straw of the human body where the bacteria (similar bacteria or a resemblance of it) found in our biome will be placed where it belongs in our body. Mycelium will be left out to grow freely, showing us which parts of our bodies would it consume first. Its growth will be track day by day in order to see where is it growing stronger (even fruiting) and where it is not. Mycelium will work as a metaphor of hope, maybe it will fruit mushrooms in our mouths, showing us that we do not need to remain silence when we are in struggle. Maybe our hands will be the first ones to go, the writer's and journalist's main weapon; or maybe our heads will show us that decadence rises when we do not think. The whole installation will be placed as an evidence scene, with the subtle structure of the body lying there while the report of its growth lies ahead.