EMERGE 2018

LUNA CITY 2175

ARRIVAL: MOON

Call for Artists / Request for Proposals

EVENT DESCRIPTION

EMERGE, the festival of futures, interweaves art, science and technology to explore the future in evocative ways. Since its inception in 2012, EMERGE has pushed the envelope of performance, technology, and critical thinking by building, sharing, and experimenting with visceral experiences of the future.

On March 17, 2018, Emerge will transform the state-of-the-art Galvin Playhouse on ASU's Tempe Campus into a rich theatrical experience grounded in space science research and the inspirational vision of our Writer At Large, Kim Stanley Robinson. Come see, hear, touch, smell, and play the future in our unfolding story of human habitation beyond Planet Earth.

PROPOSAL SUBJECT

In 2018, the festival explores ideas about "habitat" in the form of an immersive visit to a Moon habitation, Luna City, in the year 2175. Some of the history and physical characteristics of the town are pre-established (see attached Brief History, below). At this time we anticipate the audience will play the general identity of visitors from Earth or Mars, and self-assign specific roles based on their willingness to talk about their own history (see attached Audience Roles, below). We are looking for proposals about audience experiences that build upon this speculative platform and evoke interaction and reflection about humanity, its desire to explore, its inherent (or not) connection to its home planet, and what makes a place habitable or inhabitable.

By way of examples only, a proposal might celebrate or mourn a key event in lunar history; engage the audience in a necessary ritual of lunar life; encourage (or discourage) thoughts of emigrating to the Moon; explicate features of the Luna City landscape and biosphere; and so on. To the extent that a proposal interacts with the audience, it should be in accordance with the audience member's self-assigned role. We hope to curate a set of experiences that create a rich multi-threaded texture of the alien-yet-familiar world of human life in Luna City in the year 2175, a life in which living in space and on other planets has become commonplace.

INTERACTIVE EVENT ON STAGE

Your proposed work will coexist with, and may serve as prologue for, the immersive experience we are developing for the main stage of the Galvin Playhouse. This experience may center around an emergent oral history of Luna City, where audience members leaving the exhibit leave in-story messages describing what they learned about the city for visitors coming after them. We will work with the successful proposals to integrate these experiences as appropriate.

PROPOSAL SUCCESS AND COMMISSION

We will select up to 5 proposals for fuller development and inclusion in the festival; each will be awarded a stipend of \$1000. We also intend for our co-development experience with you to be intensely creative, edifying, and fun.

Request for Proposals

EXPERIENCE SPACE AND DURATION

Experiences will be situated in the Galvin Playhouse lobby and connected areas in the Nelson Fine Arts Center at ASU. The floor and wall spaces of this area will accommodate many different experiences, and we will work with successful proposals to accommodate the unique needs of the art. The festival runs for two days: **Friday evening, March 16, and Saturday, March 17, 2018**.

CALENDAR

Application Due - December 15, 2017

Winners Announced - January 8, 2018 Progress Update 1 - February 5, 2018 Progress Update 2 - February 19, 2018 Installation / Load-in - March 13-15, 2018 Festival - March 16-17, 2018

Load-out - March 18, 2018

HOW TO APPLY

We hope that you will join us and add your imagination and experiences to the texture of Luna City.

Please supply us the following information in one PDF:

- 1. Name(s)
- 2. Contact Email (if different from sender's email)
- 3. Contact phone number
- 4. Artwork/Project title
- 5. Description of Artwork: 250-500 words
- 6. Artist Statement how the work connects with Luna City 2175: 300-600 words
- 7. CV or up to three images / links to videos of previous work (or other portfolio)

To apply, email the PDF containing the above to Visiting Artist Ken Eklund:

ken.eklund@asu.edu

Questions? Email them to Ken Eklund.

Request for Proposals

LUNA CITY A brief history

ARRIVAL

First habitations are company mining facilities in Shackleton Crater

> These consolidate into Luna City, a multi-megacorp town

Hydrate and titanium mining

Adverse climate change impacts on Earth impel aggressive targets for resource extraction and population transfer

Companies encourage long-term residents to experiment with genetic modifications to ease what is a relatively harsh life for humans

Settlers also adapt with new meditation practices, conflict resolution rituals

. Advances in space technologies enable regular travel from Earth to Luna City

Robotic mining and excavation open new, roomier living areas

Rogue food-growing ecosystems flourish; lunar neobotany finds a botanical that enhances musical enjoyment

Music festivals in sonically engineered excavations

Backlash against virtual and imported entertainment and experiences

Boom time in tourism and immigration

 Lunar rail gun is built and provides key support for the growth of habitations on Mars

> Denishov pit mine collapses, causing concatenating system failures: huge lunar tragedy

Megacorp-driven economies lose their momentum; megacorp support for Luna City begins to wane

> "Communities of Distinction" (communities centered on common interests) gain status

> > Lunar literature achieves award status

DISRUPTION

Demand wanes for the products of lunar mining

Tourism ebbs

Epidemics: mandatory genetic sequencing imposed on all incoming settler candidates

Breakup of the last megacorp business structures on the moon

The population of the child-enabled (through genetic modification) becomes big enough to sustain the population through childbirth alone

Cultural shock waves as Luna City lurches into a post-scarcity economy (there is plenty of almost everything)

Exodus: many established moon families relocate to Mars, seeking adventure and to continue in a familiar scarcity economy

Luna City declares itself to be an independent city-state; there is turmoil over the terms of governance

Communities of Distinction begin to isolate themselves; some move out of the city into lava tube habitats

Resurgence in lunar Celestial Music, meditation practices

REINVENTION

EXPANSION

Vestigial "company town" mentalities and systems live on

Terroir: hyperlocal lunar cuisines emerge

Adaptive post-scarcity economies are evolving

Influx of the enabled: people with disability on Earth can be enabled by low lunar gravity, tech aids, robotics

Some Communities of Distinction begin tentative reconnection with city life

New governance ideas are being tried, aided by artificial intelligences

Challenges due to systems obsolescence and deferred maintenance

Earth is recovering from ecological chaos

Request for Proposals

AUDIENCE ROLES

At entry, audience members will select a role and be asked to wear its badge while in the exhibit. Backgrounding/prebriefing is encouraged for audience members taking on more advanced roles (see below).

Significant History Impact (SHI) or Remote Biped Telepresence (RBT)

SHI is the default role. SHI visitors can be assumed to have come from areas of the Earth, Mars or elsewhere on the Moon that prefer not to be approached about their history. (They may come from a situation of trauma, or be shy about their relative lack of knowledge about the moon, or have privacy concerns.) Lunar residents are encouraged to be open about lunar matters with SHI visitors, but not to press them for details about their own history. RBTs are observe-only bipedal droids controlled by a human still on Earth; lunar residents are encouraged to ignore them entirely unless they speak.

Collective Unity Representative (CUR)

This is a step up from SHI. CUR visitors have undergone a cursory briefing about lunar life and are comfortable sharing general information about their own histories. As with SHI, CUR visitors can be assumed to have come from areas of the Earth, Mars, or elsewhere on the Moon that are divergent culturally from Luna City. Lunar residents are encouraged to be open about lunar matters with CUR visitors and to ask them for reciprocal openness about their own histories, but advised to be gentle in their inquiries for answers beyond what is volunteered.

Possible Lunar Applicant (PLA)

This is an advanced role. A PLA visitor can be assumed to be open to questions about their personal background and qualities, as the beginning stages of negotiation for possible relocation to the Moon. Lunar residents are encouraged to be open about the pros and cons of lunar life with a PLA visitor, and to ask relevant questions about how the visitor will integrate into the rhythms and structure of Luna City.

Ambassador of Multicultural Affairs (AMA)

This is the most advanced role. AMA visitors come self-prepared with extensive histories and lunar residents may engage with them freely in exchanges about those histories and life choices and how they compare with lunar histories and cultures.

NOTE: Proposals are not required to be interactive with the audience: an artwork or performance, for example, may present to all audience members equally. We intend the audience roles to be a feature available for proposals to leverage as appropriate for increased audience immersion and impact.