Control Shift

Call Out Information

Propose an artwork, workshop, or provocation.
Work with us.
Join the Control Shift Network.

Launching on 5th June, *Control Shift* will incorporate a weekend of events (including performances, workshops, and talks) and an exhibition sited across different locations in Bristol (UK) that will run until 19th June.

Context

We live in a world where machines increasingly collect information about us, reducing our bodies and the things around us to streams of data. In turn the digital realm can feel abstract, and out of our control. The stuff of computers and digital infrastructure is often hidden out of sight and huge power imbalances exist around who is making technology and who benefits from it. Yet the impacts of our interactions with machines and technologies are very much rooted in the body, materials, and emotions.

Control Shift
Control Shift asks how we can reframe and rethink our relationships with technology. How could we conceive of new possibilities beyond neoliberal versions of computing? What might happen if there was more space for poetic or tactile engagements with the digital? Can we reconsider our connections, responsibilities and embodied entanglements with technology?

Situated, affective, and connected approaches to technology might include:

- illuminating who is making the design decisions
- asking questions about the materiality of data
- playfully reimagining our relationship with machines
- subverting abstract technological processes
- challenging normative assumptions
- speculating on technological futures
- provoking new conversations about computing
- creating safe spaces to experiment and fail

We are looking for:

We are seeking artists, designers, performers, activists, coders, makers, researchers, facilitators, or creative technologists whose work relates to the theme of the programme to submit proposals for artworks, workshops, or provocations.

Artworks
- That critically engage with or relate to the themes explored in Control Shift
- Are completed or partly completed
- Consider different audiences and modes of engagement
- Are able to be installed in non arts-venue sites around the city (such as Bristol Central Library Foyer, empty shops, or the Redcliffe Caves)

Mediums could include, but are not limited to:
E-textiles / Socially engaged work / Code based art / Embedded electronics
Performance / Sound / Installation / Ubiquitous computing / Video
Mixed reality experiences / Mobile experiences / Sculpture / Data / Soft robotics

Workshops
- Clearly targeted to a specific audience (this could be family or adult)
- Drop-in or timed (no longer than 2 hours)
- Attention to accessibility

Provocations
- Topics or provocations fitting with the programmes themes (these could be in the form of performance lecture, talk, posters, discussions)

We particularly welcome work from South West based artists and practitioners fully considering and integrating attention to accessibility into the content of their work.

We encourage applications from those currently underrepresented in the arts, particularly working class people, people of colour, LGBTQ+, and people with disabilities. We are committed to managing a fair and equitable recruitment process.

How to apply:

To apply please download the questions in the HOW TO APPLY document and send as a single PDF to **martha.kng@gmail.com** by 15 March 2020. *Please do not send separate CVs or attachments.*

Fees and Support

We can offer:
- Fees
- Additional materials budget
- Travel and expenses to attend Control Shift
- Full installation support
- Support booking travel and accommodation
- Dialogue with producers and production team
- Cost of shipping artwork
- Opportunity to be part of a growing network at Control Shift
- Access bursaries

Fees:
Varying fees and materials budgets available depending on the scale and form of work:
- Artwork presentation fee of £500 with negotiable production budget
- Workshop fee of £220 plus materials
- Speaker fee of up to £120

Key dates:
15 March (23:59): Deadline for submissions
20 March: Artists / facilitators / speakers notified
1-4 June: Installation and set-up
5-7 June: Control Shift weekender
5-19 June: Public presentation of artworks

Curatorial panel:
Charlotte Frost, executive director of Furtherfield
Becca Rose, artist working with socially engaged tech
Martha King, Senior Producer at Knowle West Media Centre
Rod Dickinson, artist and Senior Lecturer in Digital Media at University of the West England
Janez Jansa, Artistic director of Aksioma Institute for Contemporary Art, Ljubljana

Further information:
Visit our website: www.control-shift.network

If you would like any further information about this project or have any questions, please contact Martha King martha.kng@gmail.com