

# Luciolinae

## Project Proposal for a 12-week Residency at Kiberpipa

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## Concept

Luciolinae transforms a blacked-out chamber into a liminal space. Patterns of light and sound merge and transcend their pure physical qualities, becoming physical traces of the consciousness and communication, intelligence and contemplation, of machines structures and beings beyond our ability to comprehend. Referencing Morse code, the Trans-Atlantic Telegraph Cable, coded pulses of light transmitting digital data on fibre optic cables, and the vast quantities of data that are collected, analysed and processed in the day-to-day operation of technological-capitalist society, Luciolinae draws new experiences from the gap between perception and comprehension: within its space we know that *something* is happening in front of us, but we lack the ability to understand it fully, and with this moment of confusion our experience slips beyond the physical facts of light, sound, and surround, exploring the space between sacred and profane.

In Luciolinae, light and sound emitters are distributed throughout a darkened space, and emit patterned bursts of light and pulses of sound surrounded by periods of darkness and silence. The bursts seem to be a form of communication between the emitters: there are repeated arrangements detectable in the light, and the sounds show wandering harmonic relationships with each other. It is as if the emitters are holding conversations, sharing ideas and emotions; to a person standing in the space, it feels as though one is witnessing communication between living beings, even as the content of the communication lies tantalisingly out of reach.

## Kiberpipa residency proposal

I propose to do the following:

- . Assemble the hardware and create the software necessary to realise Luciolinae as proposed in the Concept. Use open-source tools and libraries wherever possible.
- . As it evolves, make the software framework available as an open source project.
- . Produce bi-weekly drafts/prototypes, and make them open to the public in the form of a bi-weekly open studio session for several hours.
- . Document each draft/prototype with a video to be released on YouTube/Vimeo and on the project website at <http://luciolinae.frey.co.nz>.

# Timeline

(based on a 12 week residency)

## **Weeks 1-2: Develop a basic technical framework for Luciolinae.**

- Construct prototype emitters (light-only, with sound produced using external speakers).
- Develop laptop-based control system: sound environment, light pattern programming environment, A-Life or similar software simulation.
- Black out the prototype space.
- Set up documentation hosting at <http://luciolinae.frey.co.nz>, using blog-like software with Vimeo/YouTube links etc.

## **Weeks 3-10: Create a bi-weekly series of drafts/prototypes.**

- Produce one fully-developed prototype every second week.
- Video and text documentation: video of the draft, (perhaps) discussion text proposing developments/improvements, and comments by the artist.
- Small informal public exhibition/open studio for each prototype for a couple of hours, in order to gauge audience response and guide further development.

## **Weeks 11-12: Produce a final piece for exhibition.**

- Tidy up presentation of prototype emitters or rebuild if necessary. Make rugged and exhibition-ready.
- Black out the exhibition space.
- Reconstruct the final piece in the exhibition space.

# Budget

**Note:** budget does not include accommodation in Ljubljana.

cost, euro €

<b>Return train ticket Vienna-Ljubljana</b>			<b>€ 70</b>
<b>Light emitter unit</b>			
6x BlinkM MaxM	€20 x 6		120
Arduino + Xbee Wireless Adapter			60
Wires and Connectors			20
Housing			100
Total per emitter			370
<b>Total for 5 light emitter units:</b>	<b>€370 x 5</b>		<b>€ 1,850</b>

<b>System support</b>			
	Power supply		200
	Blackout materials (paint, cloth)		200
	Cabling		50
	Computer upgrade to handle video editing		250
	Documentation video equipment hire		300
	Documentation consumables		100
<b>Total support costs:</b>			<b>€ 1,100</b>
<b>Open studio sessions:</b>			
	100 beers	€0.5 x 100	50
	10 bottles wine	€2 x 10	20
	100 plastic cups		10
	Total per session		80
<b>Total for 4 open sessions:</b>			<b>€80 x 4</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>€ 3,340</b>