

RESET> MAR MENOR 2018

Call for Arts, Science, Technology and Ecology projects in Mar Menor

Project title: out of sight out of mind

Artists: Paul Sermon (contact), Charlotte Gould, Jeremiah Ambrose

<http://arts.brighton.ac.uk/staff/sermon>, <http://arts.brighton.ac.uk/staff/charlotte-gould>,
<http://arts.brighton.ac.uk/re/doctoral-centre-arts/student/ambrose>

School of Art, University of Brighton, UK

p.sermon@brighton.ac.uk

+44 7753 167726

Project description

This proposal would involve three main phases of production, which would commence with the 10 day residency on Mar Menor in September 2018, where the majority of the secondary and primary research would take place by gathering data from scientific evidence, through interviews and recording material from observations and experiences. The second phase of the project would involve collating the material and the development of a complete interactive installation in post-production ready for the final exhibition phase of the project in Murcia in March 2019.

The project proposal has been developed by a team of three artists from Brighton, UK, each bringing specific experience and knowledge of 360° video to undertake the research and create a unique understanding and manifestation of the changing ecosystem of Mar Menor. This includes Paul Sermon who is currently working on collocated telematic experiences in 360° live video environments, Charlotte Gould's work on developing immersive 360° animated augmented reality and Jeremiah Ambrose who is working on gaze controlled navigation through 360° video narratives. This practice-based team of artists are currently undertaking research using a range of video and gaming software and advanced hardware devices, including Insta360 Pro 8K video cameras and Oculus Rift head-mounted-displays in conjunction with live video switchers. This has produced a range of ultra HD 360° outputs involving stereo 8K and real-time 4K environments with augmented live 360° video and animation sequences through live chroma-keying effects.

The overarching aim of this proposal is to create a unique interactive 360° video experience of Mar Menor that manifests the anthropocene effects on this natural landscape as augmented surreal and metaphysical interpretations of the artist's experiences during the residency and available scientific data of the Mar Menor ecosystem. Through environmental, social, economic and cultural observations and encounters the team will create an immersive 360° environment that incorporates both video and audio recordings with augmented imaginary and predicted realities transformed from scientific data in obscure and profound guises. Following the residency the team will collate the gathered material to produce a 360° telematic installation in Murcia in March 2019, that will incorporate live audience interaction within the original 360° video experience.

The material would be generated through an intensive stage of data gathering using the aforementioned 360° video techniques, as well as spatial audio recordings, generated through both interviews/conversations and observation/experience methods of research. By conducting interviews with local Mar Menor residents, land owners and policy makers the team would aim to build a unique picture of Mar Menor's memories, histories, tragedies, myths, aspirations, regrets

and possible futures. Through discussions in parallel with the scientific collaborators the team aim to better understand the specific ecological effects on the Mar Menor lagoon and surrounding landscape, as well as the environmental predictions and forecasts of the worst and best case scenarios for Mar Menor in the future. Of specific interest will be the “Servidor de Datos Científicos del Mar Menor” and the data available on the lagoon’s water temperature, salinity level, turbidity quality, chlorophyll and oxygen levels, radiation levels and water currents. Available data such as this would make a significant contribution to how the team manifest and communicate a unique experience of Mar Menor as a bizarre uncanny encounter of a landscape proliferated by familiar animated objects representing this data. For example, a mountain made of bags of salt indicating the salinity level in the lagoon, green clouds in the sky representing its chlorophyll level or a tower of suitcases signifying the increase of tourism. This technique of augmenting animated elements in 360° video has been developed by Charlotte Gould and is illustrated in the Figure 1 mock-up below, exemplifying augmented data that causes the user to question the very environment they inhabit by aiming to offer alternative experiences to our pervasive anthropocentric perspectives.

The scientific analysis and interviews/conversations will be further explored through the team’s own observations and experiences of Mar Menor, captured through a range of unique approaches to 360° video recording. This will include underwater filming in the lagoon and drone controlled aerial recordings over the lagoon and land areas of Mar Menor as well as other unique filming opportunities that arise. Using a technique of gaze-controlled interaction it will be possible to link the 360° video shots together to explore a non-linear narrative of the entire Mar Menor area to create movement between and interaction with the 360° film content and embedded overlays. They will also be combined with spatial audio and post-production techniques to explore layered immersive experiences. For example, a 360° recorded conversation with a participant on the shoreline of the lagoon could involve them pointing across the water, at which point it would be possible to look in the same direction and enter another 360° video sequence that travels over the lagoon to the location they were pointing at. This 360° navigation technique, developed by Jeremiah Ambrose has been successfully used in previous projects and is further explained in Figure 2 below.

The post-production stage of the project will follow the Mar Menor residency, from late September 2018 up until the exhibition in Murcia in March 2019. During this time the team will be reviewing the gathered data and editing the material to construct the non-linear interactive 360° video experience, complete with augmented animated elements. This will also incorporate the development of the immersive 360° telematic environment allowing public participants the opportunity to observe their own presence within the interactive 360° video experience of Mar Menor. Using a system of live 360° chroma-keying between two separate locations, possibly Murcia and Mar Menor, the participants will be able to encounter each other in this obscured landscape of recorded and imagined realities by standing within a constructed 4 x 4 metre blue box space installation. This 360° telematic technique is currently being developed by Paul Sermon and is further explained in the installation workflow diagram Figure 3. The intension is to provide the participant with a greater sense of presence and objective responsibility for the environment they exist within and are connected to. The final installation will seek to present the consequence of the anthropocene as a direct result of our own interventions, rather than being an ‘out of sight out of mind’ experience of Mar Menor.



Figure 1. Mock-up of equirectangular 360° environment with augmented animation elements



Figure 2. Virtual gaze interaction to create movement and interaction with 360° film content

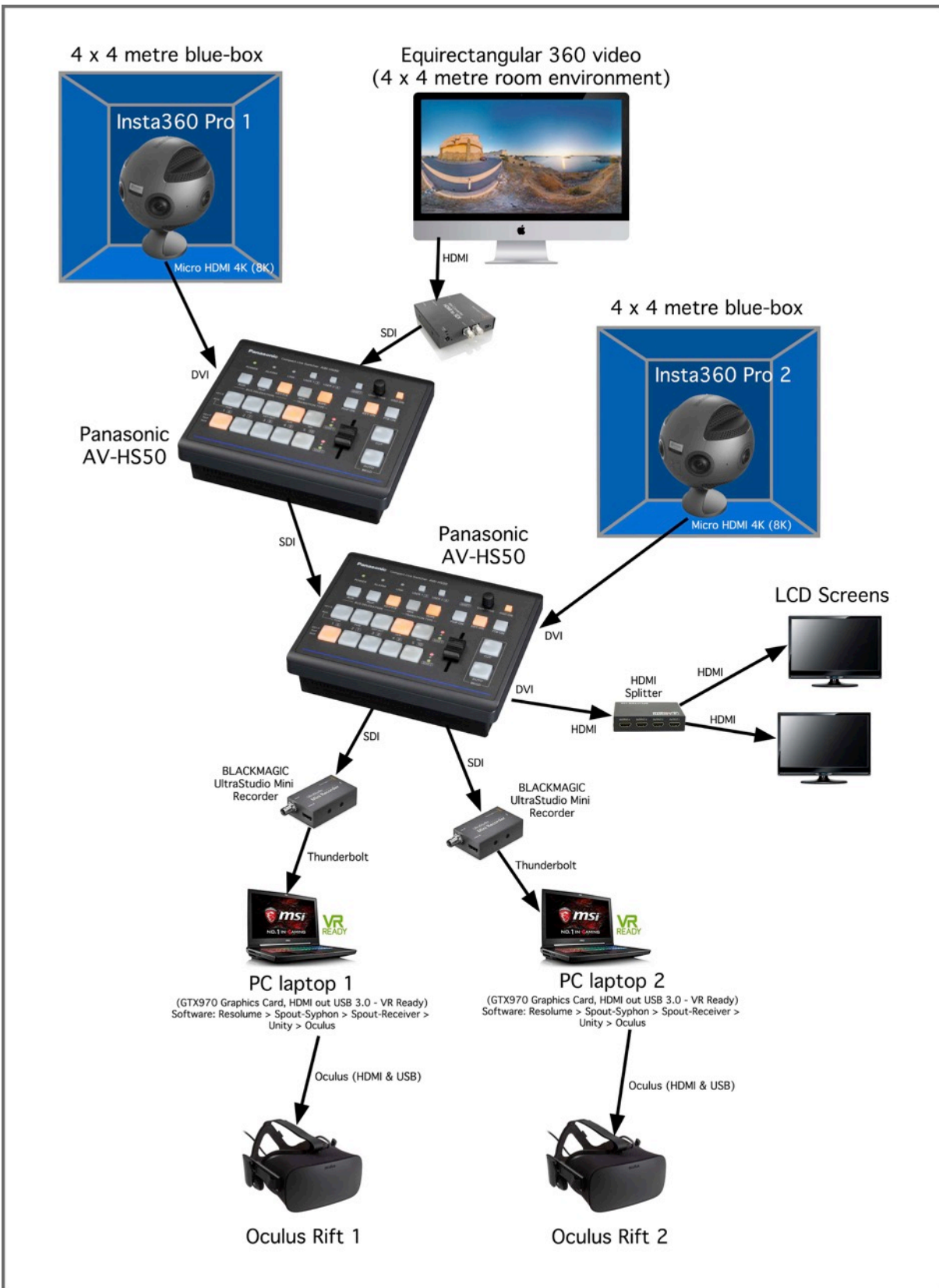


Figure 3. Installation workflow diagram for exhibition in Murcia

Project equipment and materials for residency and exhibition

Provided by the artists:

- 2 x Insta360 Pro camera
- 2 x Monopod
- 1 x Ricoh Theta V 360 Camera
- 2 x Panasonic AV-HS50 HD video switcher
- 2 x Blackmagic UltraStudio Mini Recorder
- 2 x PC Laptop (VR Ready)
- 2 x Oculus Rift

Purchased or hired locally:

- Portable video lighting
- Sound recording equipment
- Portable green screens and stands
- Portable hard drives and SD cards
- Lightweight Drone and 360 camera mount
- Underwater housing case for 360 camera
- Cables: 2 x Micro HDMI to HDMI, 5 x 4K HDMI 6 to 8 metre, 2 x 4K SDI 6 to 8 metre, 2 x Thunderbolt 2, 2 x USB extension 6 to 8 metre, 4 x HDMI coupler

Additional equipment and materials for exhibition of installation in Murcia:

- 2 x 4K 65" LCD screen
- Video lighting
- Chroma-key green screens and paints
- Installation construction, MDF wood, and paints etc.

Estimated budget

Residency in Mar Menor:

- 3 x Return flight London Gatwick to Murcia San Javier 630.00 euros
- Hire of audio/visual equipment 800.00 euros
- Purchase of peripherals and media storage 400.00 euros

Exhibition in Murcia:

- 3 x Return flight London Gatwick to Murcia San Javier 630.00 euros
- Hire of audio/visual equipment 1000.00 euros
- Purchase of installation materials 1000.00 euros

Project timeline

June and July 2018: Develop working plan for residency project.

August 2018: Prepare materials, equipment and travel for residency.

10 to 20 September 2018: 10 days residency in Mar Menor.

October and November 2018: Collate materials generated/gathered during residency.

December 2018: Develop and prototype installation outcomes.

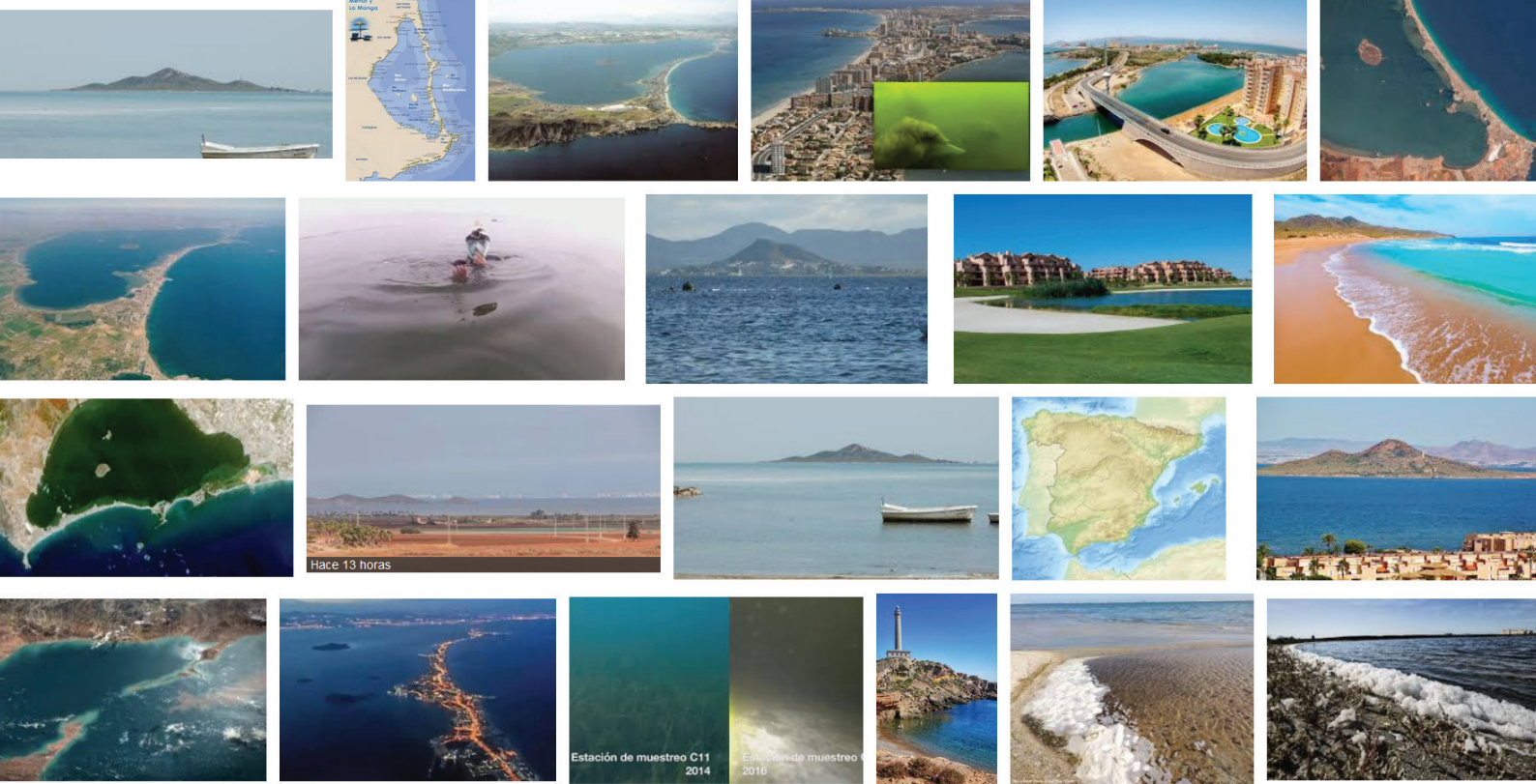
January and February 2019: Complete installation and documentation outcomes.

March 2019: Install work for Exhibition in Murcia from March to April of 2019.

May 2020: Install work for collective exhibition in Murcia.

Artist's websites of previous work

- Paul Sermon <http://www.paulsermon.org>
- Charlotte Gould <http://www.charlottegould.org>
- Jeremiah Ambrose http://www.jeremiahambrose.com/index_2.html



RESET> MAR MENOR 2018

Call for Arts, Science, Technology and Ecology projects in Mar Menor

Deadline for applications,
3rd of June at 24:00 hours

Reset> Mar Menor 2018 Open Call is part of the activities of Reset>Mar Menor. Laboratorio de imaginarios para un paisaje en crisis, a I+D project of the Universidad de Murcia, with the support of Daniel & Nina Carasso Foundation



Introduction

The Mar Menor, a coastal lagoon located in the Region of Murcia, Spain, deserves five figures of protection at regional, European and world levels. It is an environmental enclave with a characteristic flora and fauna, which provide the landscape with great beauty and uniqueness. Around it, its particular idiosyncrasy was forged: traditional fishing, the extraction of salt and spas under the protection of calm and shallow waters.

Its special characteristics, together with the temperate climate of the Region, have caused the area to have had a strong economic development, mainly due to intensive agriculture, the real estate boom and uncontrolled tourist exploitation. This situation, together with other factors of economic, political and environmental nature, has led the lagoon to an unprecedented state of deterioration: the ecosystem has lost its equilibrium and the human impact in the territory is increasingly alarming. The Anthropocene shows its effects in the Mar Menor.

In this context, this call raises the need to collectively think of a new story for the lagoon from the confrontation of its different imaginaries: tourist attraction, productive garden, dumping deposit, sports space, resort, natural oasis; complex system of hybrid material in which nature and art, biology and technology, tradition and progress are amalgamated.

Through the articulation of knowledge and interdisciplinary collaboration, this call also proposes to use the capacity of contemporary art and the practices of visualization as a vehicle to collectively imagine the future of the Mar Menor.

Goals

The objective of this call is to provide two residence and production grants for the realization of an artistic project whose scope of work is science, technology and ecology in relation to the Mar Menor. We will support the development of two original projects inspired by and related to the Mar Menor, both in its environmental, scientific, social or cultural aspects.

The resulting works will be exhibited in the Region of Murcia (space to be defined) from March 2019 and later may be included in the final exhibition of the research project Reset: Mar Menor. Imaginary laboratory for a landscape in crisis planned for the year 2020.

Who can apply

Creators* of any age and nationality residing in a European country at the time of this call.

We expect proposals from artists who:

-are interested in the relationship between knowledge and disciplines of art and science.
-that work with concepts, methodologies and artistic or scientific technologies.

-interested in environmental processes and in the possibilities of artistic practices to generate alternative stories for this natural environment.

-that approach artistic research from diverse and plural perspectives, in relation to political, social and cultural issues.

* In the case of artists who work collectively, the budget viability of the proposal will be studied according to the number of members of the collective and the place of origin. In no case may the funds destined to travel and residence of the selected ones be increased but alternative ways to share those funds among the team will be studied.

Topics of interest

- Toxic environments (natural and artificial)
- Anthropocene imaginary
- Eutrophication processes
- Marine biology
- Environmental data
- Environmental changes and extreme landscapes
- Marine exploration
- Cohabitation between species
- Systems and ecology
- Science and myths
- Close explorations
- Environmental predictions and forecasts
- Environmental contemplation
- Possible futures
- Creative geoengineering
- Extractive systems
- Mining basin
- Intensive agriculture
- Salt production
- Touristification and artificial landscapes
- Political ecologies and natural politics
- Ecofeminism and environmental rights
- etc.

Financial conditions

The aid has an economic endowment of:

-1200 euros in concept of fees, to which the corresponding taxes will be applied according to the legislation in force.

-2000 euros for the production of the selected project after approval of its corresponding budget.

-2 Return tickets from and to the European country of origin of the artist.

-10 days of residence in the Mar Menor (from 10 to 20 September 2018). If the artist's project requires an extension of the stay, its viability will be studied from the production budget of the project.

-3 days of residence in Murcia for the assembly of the exhibition in March-April 2019.

In addition, depending on the feasibility of the proposal and its availability, the artist will have access to the technical resources of the research group and will have the collaboration of researchers from the Reset: MarMenor. Laboratorio de imaginarios para un paisaje en crisis project.

Key dates

30th of March 2018

3rd of June 2018 at 24:00 hours

14th of June 2018

June-July

10th to 20th of September 2018

March-April of 2019

May 2020

Call for applications

Call's end

Selection communication

Working plan definition

Residency in the Mar Menor

Exhibition in Murcia

Presentation of the results

Collective exhibition in Murcia

The residence will have a duration of 10 days in the month of September 2018 and will be held in a lodging arranged by the organization in the Mar Menor. In case the artist's project requires an extension of the stay or its division in several periods, its viability will be studied from the production budget of the project.

For greater use, before the stay in the Mar Menor, the artist together with the members of the organization will develop a work plan that includes foreseeable actions, necessary materials, possible collaborators, etc. The organization will try to facilitate the artist's development of his proposal in the best conditions.

The resulting project will be shown in an exhibition that will take place between March and April 2019 in a place to be defined by the organization.

In 2020 and coinciding with the completion of the research project Reset: MarMenor. Laboratorio de imaginarios para un paisaje en crisis, the work can be shown again in the context of a collective exhibition.

How to apply

To participate in the competition, artists must fill in the online application form to which they must attach an initial proposal of the project to be developed and complementary information on their artistic career. All the information will be sent through the online questionnaire that can be found at the following address:

<https://goo.gl/K6tvX9>

Each request must include the following information:

- Application form duly completed
- Initial project proposal that includes a description, images and all the necessary material for better understanding.
- Estimated budget adjusted to the call.
- Web page or dossier with images and information about the artist's previous work.

The deadline for sending the documentation by email ends on Sunday, June 3, 2018 at 24:00 h. Incomplete applications will be dismissed.

Evaluation criteria

The project's evaluation will be done by the members of the jury following the next criteria:

- Artistic and cultural valor of the proposal, its innovating formal or conceptual character.
- The freshness and appropriateness of the proposal in relation to call's objectives and the fit to the Mar Menor context.
- Other agents connection and knowledge in the project that operate on the local territory. Will be positively appreciated the projects in collaboration or working together with scientifics, activists or entities that are working in the Mar Menor.

- Project viability to be done period and under time and budget fitting of this call.
- The artist's ability to develop its proposal according to its professional trajectory, knowledge and prior experience.

Jury

The selection of the winning projects will be the responsibility of a jury formed by:

Pau Alsina, professor at the Open University of Catalonia, researcher in artistic practices and techno-sciences, director of Artnodes, art, science and technology magazine.

Clara Boj, artist, teacher and cultural researcher. Professor at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the Universidad de Murcia and director of the Reset: Mar Menor. Imaginary laboratory for a landscape in crisis project.

Karin Ohlenschläger, critic and curator of exhibitions specializing in contemporary art and new technologies. With a long career in the development of art and science projects, since 2016 she is the director of activities at Laboral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial.

Ángel Pérez-Ruzafa, Professor of Ecology at Universidad de Murcia and member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Mar Menor.

Christa Sommerer, pioneer artist in the field of interactive art and evolutionary software. His work has been the subject of exhibitions and recognitions of international prestige. Director of the Interface Culture program at the Art University of Linz.

Communication of the selected projects

The results of this open call will be announced to the interested party in their contact address, they will also be communicated on the website www.marmenorlab.org and on the different social networks of the organization.

Terms

The projects must be original, specific and unpublished. Those works that have been made, presented publicly or previously awarded will not be accepted in this call.

The authors of the selected projects will transfer to the convening entity, through an agreement, the rights of public communication during the exhibition period and the dissemination of the work for promotional purposes and for incorporation into the web and the project archive. for didactic and research purposes. This agreement will also regulate the terms, review of compliance deadlines and payments.

The resulting works will be the exclusive property of their authors.

During the period of residence in the Mar Menor and in coordination with the artist, different public activities will be carried out to show the process of creation and production of the work.

These activities will include:

-A presentation of the project in the summer course Mar Menor Lab which will take place in the Mar Menor from 11 to 16 September 2018 coinciding with the artist's residence.

-Recording of an interview for the edition of a video that shows the production process of the project that will be available on the web www.marmenorlab.org and will be used as communication material of the project and its results.

-Conference-presentation of the work during the opening activities of the exhibition in March-April 2019.

Information and inquiries

For any additional information or questions about the call:
info@marmenorlab.org

Participation in this call implies acceptance of these rules.

From: info@marmenorlab.org
Subject: Paul Sermon (Out of sight. Out of mind) selected for Reset: Mar Menor Open Call 2018
Date: 17 July 2018 at 17:41
To: p.sermon@brighton.ac.uk



Dear Paul Sermon, Charlotte Gould and Jeremiah Ambrose,

We are glad to inform that your project 'Out of sight, out of mind' has been selected at the Reset: Mar Menor 2018 Open Call.

We will contact you soon to organize all the details regarding your travel to Murcia and the production of your artwork.

Congratulations.

Best regards.

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Reset: Mar Menor
Laboratorio de imaginarios para un paisaje en crisis
www.marmenorlab.org
info@marmenorlab.org
@marmenorlab

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RESET LABORATORIO DE IMAGINARIOS MAR MENOR PARA UN PAISAJE EN CRISIS

INFO

ENGLISH ▾



Winners open call Reset> Mar Menor 2018



Mock-up of equirectangular 360° environment with augmented animation elements” (Paul Sermon).

A total of 47 projects have been submitted to the Reset> Mar Menor 2018 call, whose main objective has been to promote artistic creation as a tool to understand and work on the problem of the Mar Menor. The proposals have come from Italy, Sweden, Chile and other points of Europe and the United States and from areas as diverse as science, technology or ecology.

The jury composed by Pau Alsina, Karin Ohlenschläger, Ángel Pérez-Ruzafa, Christa Sommerer y Clara Boj

has decided that the two grants are for:

- Paul Sermon, Charlotte Gould and Jeremiah Ambrose with 'Out of sight, out of mind'. The overarching aim of this proposal is to create a unique interactive 360° video experience of Mar Menor that manifests the anthropocene effects on this natural landscape as augmented surreal and metaphysical interpretations of the artist's experiences during the residency and available scientific data of the Mar Menor ecosystem.
- Pinna Nobilis with *Pinna Nobilis and the mitigation of species extinction by direct assistance*. It is a video piece following a trans-disciplinary art/science approach. The theme of the documentary is the Noble Pen Shell, a large mollusk living in the Mediterranean Sea and who has been declared critically endangered. The proposed artistic intervention comments on the rapid ongoing climate change, the loss of habitat and the concept of mitigation of species extinction addressed by scientists and conservationists.

From the organization they thank all the participants for their interest and hope to have them in new open calls, which will be held soon.

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