

The jury assessing applications for «Synergies» is made up of:

Lilian Fraiji is a curator and producer based in the Amazon, Brazil. She is the Co-Founder of Labverde, a platform dedicated to the development of multidisciplinary content involving Art, Science and Ecology. As an independent researcher, she is interested in how culture is related to nature and how language is expressing the Anthropocene. She has collaborated with many exhibitions and Festival projects in Brazil, Europe and USA, bringing to light topics like climate justice, social innovation and transdisciplinary approaches. Currently, under the umbrella of Labverde, she coordinates Fungi Cosmology, an Art and Science collaboration focused on the promotion of the Fungi Kingdom; Labsonora, an art research focused on Sound and Activism; and Speculative Ecologies, an international art residency stimulating environmental awareness. She is also collaborating with the Forest Project (Invisible Flock-UK) and with The International Music Week of São Paulo (SIM). Fraiji received her degree in Communication from the Superior School of Marketing, a postgraduate degree in Cultural Policies from Barcelona University, and she holds an MA in Curating Arts from University Ramon Llull, Barcelona.

Ariane Koek is an independent strategic cultural consultant, creative producer, curator and writer on art, science, technology and ecology. She is internationally recognised for initiating in 2009 the Arts at CERN programme – based at the world’s largest particle physics laboratory outside Geneva, Switzerland – designing and directing the Collide, Accelerate and Guest artists programmes for the first five years.

Koek now works independently, specialising in the creation of new transdisciplinary programmes for foundations, cultural institutions, science laboratories, museums and universities around the world, including the Endowment fund of the International Red Cross Committee (FICRC), The Exploratorium, San Francisco, USA; Cavendish Physics Laboratories, Cambridge University, UK; Science Gallery International Network; and Google Arts. Curatorial work includes: invited creative director of the first virtual official Italian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale for architecture 2021; Related Realities – Art, Science and Technology for Backlight the Nordic Photography Triennale 2020; Real Feelings: Emotion and Technology, HEK, Basel, Switzerland, and MU – Hybrid Art House, Eindhoven, Netherlands (2020–21), which she co-curated; and Entangle: Physics and the Artistic Imagination, Bildmuseet, Umea, Sweden (2018–2019).

Koek is on the cultural boards of the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre for environmental science and policy (Ispra, Italy), HeK (Basel) and the Edgelands Institute (Harvard/Geneva).

www.arianekoek.com

Radha Mahendru is a curator and arts manager based in New Delhi. Focusing on socially engaged and public art practices, she is interested in the forms of engagement art produces outside of an exhibition space. She is interested in ‘publics’ that are produced by internet and telecom infrastructures and the possibilities of artistic interventions at the fringes, where the online and offline meet. She was the senior curator at Khoj till 2019 and is currently a part of the out-of-line collective and curatorial member of Abr Circle, and Art Chain India- artist support networks that emerged as a response to the COVID 19 pandemic in May 2020. In her current full-time role, she works with Asia Society India Centre, leading their new initiatives and development work across policy, arts and culture.

Luc Meier, born in Vevey in 1981, studied International Relations in Geneva (University of Geneva / Graduate Institute). From 2008 to 2012, he developed swissnex San Francisco’s and the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia’s common art and technology program and directed it out of San Francisco. Upon his return to Switzerland in 2013, he coordinated the curatorial development of ArtLab (now EPFL Pavilions) at EPFL, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne, and was its director of programs until June 2018. A programmatic and architectural initiative, ArtLab/Pavilions brings together art, science and technology in an exhibition infrastructure designed with architect Kengo Kuma.

Since August 2018, Luc Meier is the inaugural director of La Becque | Artist Residency, an initiative of Fondation Françoise Siegfried-Meier. He defined and launched the institutions’ programs, which is open to a wide range of disciplines and anchored by a focus on themes of nature, ecology, and technology.

In addition to its own Principal Residency Program, La Becque has developed several partner residency programs, with the likes of Pro Helvetia or some of the public art universities in Switzerland, such as ECAL and EDHEA. La Becque also develops its own public programs (taking place both on site and at partner venues), and helps several local/regional/national institutions (theaters, music venues, festivals) by providing hosting capacities for some of their projects.

labecque.ch

Ga Zhang is a media art curator. He is Distinguished Professor and Vice Dean of the Institute of Sci-Tech Arts, China Central Academy of Fine Arts. He has curated numerous exhibitions including Beijing International New Media Art Exhibition and Symposium (2004- 2006) and three editions of the Media Art Triennial (National Art Museum of China, 2008-2014). His recent curatorial projects include Topologies of the Real: Techne Shenzhen 2023 (MoCAUP , forthcoming), We=link series of online programs (2020-2021), The 6th Guangzhou Triennial (co-curator, Guangzhou, 2018), Machines Are Not Alone (Zagreb Contemporary Art Museum, 2018), unREAL: The Algorithmic Present (co-curator, HeK Basel, 2017), Datumsoria: The Return of the Real (ZKM, 2017) and Wrap around the Time (co-curator, Nam June Paik Art Center, 2016). Ga Zhang has lectured on media art and culture around the world and published essays and edited books with the MIT Press, October, Flash Art International, Liverpool University Press, among others. Since 2015, he directs Chronus Art Center in Shanghai and currently is also co-curator of ZKM | Hong Media Art Collection.