



Call For Proposals
Deadline Midnight 31 March 2016

Critical Animals
Creative Research Symposium
Madness of Many (M.o.M.)

“Do more. More nonsensical, more crazy, more machines, breasts, penises, cunts, whatever – make them abound with nonsense. Try and tickle something inside you, your “weird humour.” You belong in the most secret part of you. Don’t worry about cool, make your own uncool. Make your own, your own world. If you fear, make it work for you – draw & paint your fear & anxiety.”

- Sol Lewitt to Eva Hesse, April 14th, 1965

The [Critical Animals Creative Research Symposium](#) is an annual conference, part of [This is Not Art](#), one of Australia’s leading contemporary and emerging arts festivals, celebrating emerging and experimental practices. The symposium brings together students, researchers, writers, artists, academics and thinkers who are critically engaged in creative and experimental art practices.

We are now calling for proposals from individuals and collaborators to participate in Critical Animals 2016. This year the festival program will take place in various venues over Newcastle, NSW from 29th September - 2nd October 2016.

Submit your proposal here: <http://goo.gl/forms/epMdnSjWm4>

2016 Theme: Madness of Many

Critical Animals is in its 13th year and now that we're a teenager we're feeling all grown up. But we couldn't have gotten to this point without a small army of creative collaborators nurturing our wild ideas from prototype to fully formed phenomena. With the success of last year's Out Of Place Symposium fresh in our minds we want to explore ideas around folie à plusieurs - the madness of many that gives momentum to your seemingly absurd schemes and outlandish ideas. Think collaboration, the collective consciousness and the incubation of insanity beyond the silo of a single mind.

As always, our applications are open to anyone whose work experiments within the experience and interpretation of critical research. We aim to present an intellectually robust yet accessible program of audience-focused events - conversation is key. Critical Animals in particular endeavours to catalyse, strengthen, and explore the links between creative practice and theory. We have a flexible definition of research that encompasses creative, experimental, interrogative, discursive, and practice-led approaches.

Focus

Critical Animals is about exploring curious and uncharted niches in contemporary art and critical thought - we are very open to various experimental and creative avenues. Unsure if your idea fits? Flick us an email at criticalanimals@gmail.com - we'd love to hear from you.

As an objective, we are particularly interested in facilitating connections across disciplines and encourage collaborative approaches. In assessing your proposal we will consider how your work may form interesting connections with other applicants, artists and thinkers or even take on new forms. Want to present as a pair or a group? Go right ahead!

Format

Experimental and non-traditional presentations are encouraged. We have previously held panel discussions, poetry readings, film screenings, interactive performances, dance jams, workshops of all creative persuasions, exhibitions, installations and music events. We will consider applications from all creative fields and are open to applications for full and/or curated events.

Proposals

In your proposal please outline your practice, your project (if applicable) and the way in which you'd like to present it. Please clearly indicate the format of your work and any technical requirements it may have (eg. Essential materials, equipment, display

concerns etc.). We're also looking for artists who can be involved in cross festival events and panels with artists from the other TiNA programs.

Word Limit: 250

Submit your proposal here: <http://goo.gl/forms/epMdnSjWm4>

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1 - In your proposal please include:

- Name
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Website (if applicable)
- University or Affiliated Institution (if applicable)
- CV
- Short Bio (25 Words) – this will be published on our website
- A link to a bio picture for website and/or print publication (300dpi with credits where applicable)

If you have any images of your work please feel free to add them as well. Please note that all images supplied may be used for both Critical Animals and TiNA publicity.

2 - Have you applied to other This is Not Art Programs? If so, which?

- National Young Writers Festival
- Crack Theatre Festival

3 - What if I want to be involved without presenting?

We are always looking for volunteers, installers, invigilators, and tech gurus. Contact us with your interests or areas of expertise and get involved!

So join us for Critical Animals 2016 - The Madness of Many, where creativity comes with a method, albeit unconventional.

We can't wait.

Julia, Justine & Laura

Co-Directors

Critical Animals 2016

www.criticalanimals.com