

## Call For Proposals Deadline Midnight 31 March 2018

### Critical Animals Creative Research Symposium 2018: *Give and Take*

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 2018. This year the festival program will take place in various venues over Newcastle, NSW from Thursday 27 to Sunday 30 September, 2018. Submit your proposal online [here](#) or e-mail us at [criticalanimals@gmail.com](mailto:criticalanimals@gmail.com)

#### **Theme: Give and Take**

Do you feel like the world is in the midst of significant change? We do! While this uncertainty might be making us a little nervous, we're ultimately excited about what's in store for the future and the role we, and of course you, can play in igniting discussion and action around the issues most pertinent to our time.

Considering this, the Critical Animals 2018 program will explore the theme 'Give and Take'. If your recent research has been exploring this concept or the individual terms within it we encourage you to consider how you might be able to share your ideas, questions, processes, and reflections to provoke discussion at the Critical Animals' 2018 Symposium.

While your work might not fit within this year's theme, as always, we invite anyone whose practice experiments within the experience and interpretation of 'critical research'. We love programming creative responses of all shapes and sizes and have a flexible definition of research that encompasses creative, experimental, interrogative, discursive, and practice-led approaches. Remember, Critical Animals is about igniting and expanding conversations, so don't be afraid to pitch your original and unorthodox ideas.

#### **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](mailto: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: 500** Submit your proposal [here](#).

**Proposals due: Midnight, 31 March 2018**

**If e-mailing us your proposal, please include the following information:**

- Name
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Website and social media links (if applicable)
- University or Affiliated Institution (if applicable)
- Samples of your work
- 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). Please note that all images supplied may be used for both Critical Animals and TiNA publicity.
- A link to a picture relating to the event for website and/or print publication (no smaller than 2014px x 576px 300dpi with credits where applicable). 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!

## Artist Fees

Critical Animals will provide an artist fee to all artists participating in the 2018 Symposium – fee to be confirmed.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch via email:  
criticalanimals@gmail.com

We can't wait to hear from you!

Chiara, Holly and Jenna.

Co-Directors Critical Animals 2018

[www.criticalanimals.com](http://www.criticalanimals.com)

Octapod and The Lock-Up present Critical Animals as part of This Is Not Art.

Critical Animals acknowledges the generous support of The Lock-Up, Newcastle, NSW through their Artist in Residence Program in the development of the Symposium.

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The University of Newcastle is the Program Sponsor of Critical Animals.

