(un)COMMONING RESIDENCIES

Proposal for Timelab.org

22-24th May 2017 meeting in Ghent
with Timelab residents and guests
Live version https://goo.gl/DbU5Qr

Summary

This is where summary goes…

Starting points …with Constituents, Relations and Contexts

...on Commons

*"Commons are shared resources that are produced and maintained by a user community, according to their own rules and norms. This means a commons is defined by 3 aspects: 1) a shared **resource** 2) the **activity** of commoning 3) **rules and norms** that must at least be partially autonomous from the public and private sector."* - D. Bollier

...on Timelab.org

Aims: city research lab creating new models of organizing, working and living through concrete prototyping as examples that generates trust and resilience. Open knowledge, peer-learning and a contributive attitude are the main characteristics of the Timelab way of life. ;)

Ecosystem: core staff (3), team (+3), contributors as volunteers commoners (+7), Board (5), community of makers (90), Core makers (10) Residents (6), Associates, networks of partners (local/regional/international in academia, culture, business, social economy, education, public and private ...), city institutions and public... - infrastructure/hardware and know-ware...?

Activities: Residencies, Festival/Bootcamp, Workshops, Weekly shared lunch on Friday, Lectures/debate/screenings, presentations, makerscafé, peerlearning, show & tell, Open lab (4 days a week) community (innovation) projects (ADEM, HAP, RUIMTE, RECYCLE BOT, KNOTPLEX), Processing/coaching on new community based and value driven business modeling.

Role within the flemish art network: function in the flemish landscape of the arts: development and reflection (not focused on 'production', nor 'presentation', nor 'participation'.)

The aim of the function **'development'** is R&D of the arts. Focus on experiment, process, self reflection, innovation in production, education, participation, communication, organisation. Life Long Learning for the artist.

The aim of the function **'reflection'** is art critics and stimulating reflection and making this accessible. The meaning of arts, an oeuvre or art in society are topics of discussion. The reflection focuses on artistic, cultural or art critical content and must aim at the contribution of knowledge on the development of the art scene or aims to strengthen the discussion about this development. There is always a publication, symposium, lecture or debate.

...on Residencies

Supporting structures for art practices.

This can be both in terms of **development** and/or **reflection** (infra).

Open knowledge

Sharing knowledge through online platforms, meetups, actions, sprints, writing, reading

Shared production

Open lab infrastructure

Shared expertise

New practices

Livelihood

Logic of Contribution (vs economical vs representation)

Collaboration with other domains

Sustainability of the oeuvre after the residency

Role of the artist in the hosting organisation

Periodic coordinator

coach, innovator, negotiator of the model itself

Research on the residency itself? Organise a roadtrip? (arles, utrecht, bristol?) to build common knowledge on what a residency can be?

What is to (UNder)Common-ing in RESIDENCIES (Timelab residency as an experiment)

REASONING:

- collecting/sharing/questioning knowledge (norms)

- Constantly altering process that is up for negotiation
- exchanging (marginalized) experience and (non-dominant) perspectives
- using resources of time and lab for interaction and innovation

RELATIONS:

- along different times/process-stages relations of all involved with residents are change
(call commissioner, residency curator, core staff, board, community, associates, net, city...)
- ideally these changes should evolve as: fluid yet articulated, transparent and explicit
- in terms of values the '(un)commoning relations' should be: mutually generous (non-exploitative), inspiring (not just formal), careful (empathic) and authentic (honest)
- known issues with: (non) (accepted) applicants, (non) (clear) communication, (non)

Commented [1]: it occurs to me that you are arguing for a mainstream residency program in timelab instead of rethinking the whole concept. maybe we don't share the same ambition? Maybe I did not put the question right? Maybe my question was more about 'what 'a' residency could be in terms of resilience or in terms of opportunities through commons'

Commented [2]: of course there is a vacuum. it was created on purpose to make sure there is time and space for a fundamental transition. Also the pressure on time was created deliberate to create that vacuum.

Commented [3]: I think we are rethinking the whole concept only we did not collectivly articulated it far...also our visions cristalize at different moments on different issues ;-) Wait a bit more!

Commented [4]: ;)

Commented [5]: Transparency =
-- Funding (where, how much, where to - transparent as far as visible for public online?)
-- Selection ´process of participants (feedback for people who got selected and those who didn't)
-- Reflection on aims /goals / failures
-- liquid documentation

Commented [6]: Yes - these things need to be elaborated in more details

Commented [7]: _Markeren als opgelost_

Commented [8]: _Opnieuw geopend_

Commented [9]: hey zeljko. I saw you restructered the brainstormed point in this timeline structure. Maybe it could be more interesting to again do the outline through keypoints (spatial aspects, transparency, liquid structure...) for me it is easiert o think that way. how do you feel?

Commented [10]: SURE - we can have both - this is a working document just go for it - whatever helps personal or collective articulation

Commented [11]: great. I strted it below. please feel free to add things there as well

(articulated) processes, (non) (evaluated) follow-up, (non) (explicit) commitment...

PROCESSES:

- before

    - Structuring the call for applications

    - Announcing the selection (transparency)

    - Defining Timelab's expectations

    - Information on the place in english // Reflection on a common language *(you are not an artist if you do not speak English)* -- translation as an active process

    - Converging structures and perspectives (different backgrounds and disciplines) - not stacking

    - Parallel processes (multiple residences at the same time)

- during

    - Link resident with Timelab's members (Introductory sessions, daily activity etc)

    - Place for residents to present the progress of their work

    - Inform resident on Timelab's ongoing projects

    - Link between resident working together (or from different organisations)

    - Connection to broader network
- after

    - Dissemination of outcomes (openness)

Commented [12]: Internal presentation / introduction to members at the beginning of each residency

Commented [13]: Taking the chance to alter the new timelab space in a possible modular working space that can be adjusted to individual needs (for both members and residencies)

Commented [14]: Weekly update meeting

Re-Thinking/Co-Organising residencies as Commons

-- Vision for emerging A.I.R. programs --

During a **3 day meeting a group of artists and researchers in residence from various backgrounds got together at timelab** (footnote timelab / timelab.org) **to reflect as a "think tank" on possibilities, new models and methods of residency program that is to transform.**

In relation to timelabs overall strategic interest in commoning and on *the Commons* the initial approach of this ad-hoc research session was based on a bottom-up approach - inviting artists to discuss the means of a program they would potentially use themselves.

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We will summarize the departing points of this session and propose a model/vision for future AIR Programs as seen by participants in their individual or collective visions.

The key points are based on the following:

1. Spatial aspects

    a. Modular work / research space (inside existing infrastructure): adjustable for individual needs. Open for constant re-negotiation with other users of space.

    b. 'Settlement' as a model / spatial proposal for calibrating social interaction and processes of care in commoning (Vladimir Miller / https://apass.be/settlement-11/)

2. Converging structures

    a. Prevent stacking: overlay/intersect perspectives through a network of residencies with different backgrounds and disciplines

    b. Parallel processes.
    Multiple residencies at the same time (reflecting on simultaneity and delay)

3. Transparency as a method of acting

    a. Making all structural processes visible / public / accessible / shared

        i. Application Process: Open call, detailed positive answer or refusal,

        ii. Funding (how transparent can it be on all levels, online documentation)

        iii. Expectations / reflecting on the process through routinely meetings // Dealing with "failure" - setting aims and goals

        iv. Question any given need for production and documentation

4. **Implementing commons structure in the planning process**

   a. Constant re-negotiation of all structural processes. No fixed rules, just general guidelines

   b. Non-hierarchical system / bottom-up / flexible and resilient structures

5. **Practical example / research proposal for timelab, Gent**

   a. Basic organisational structure of Timelab vzw - incorporating residents

   b. Relational constellations with other city, regional and international partners
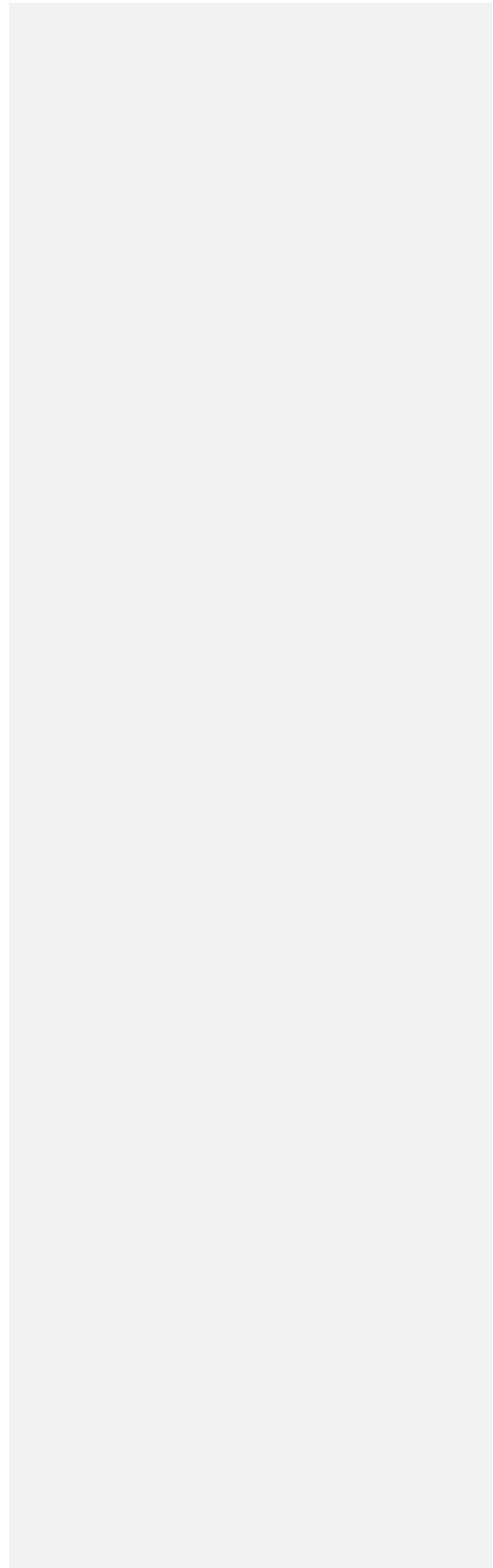
REFERENCES

Commoning and P2P

Commons Transition and P2P: a Primer
A new primer explains the origins of the commons and P2P, how they interrelate, their movements and trends, and how a Commons transition is poised to reinvigorate work, politics, production, and care, both interpersonal and environmental. Co-published by the P2P Foundation and the Transnational Institute.
https://www.tni.org/files/publication-downloads/commons_transition_and_p2p_primer_v9.pdf

Commoning and ART as (artistic) research

Spaces of Commoning: Artistic Research and the Utopia of the Everyday
'...volume eighteen of the series. The book presents the results of a research project that has been conducted at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna over the last two years... ...brought together an international group of artistic researchers who developed case studies as tools for research into the question of "commoning," case studies that looked closely at the history of commoning practices.'
https://arepository.akbild.ac.at/view.php?uid=2006&t=c85b10e294c5bd1cb2ab650674413ca5&org=%2Feyebase.data%2Fdokumente%2F1024%2F4%2F00010961_m.pdf

ARIA (Pascal Gielen)

SUSTAINABLE CREATIVITY IN THE POST-FORDIST CITY

FWO 19 August 2015

The overall aim of this research is to gain theoretical as well as empirical insights into the urban conditions for sustainable creativity for both the 'classic' arts and the creative industry. Earlier research has shown that the urban context is the most important breeding ground for creativity. This study will address the social, economic and political conditions that cities (may) generate in order to develop a sustainable creative biotope. It revolves around such questions as: How do social conditions (for instance, networks, the creative class), economic conditions (for instance, competitive relationships, business models, creative commons), and political conditions (for instance, (cultural) policy, subsidies, democratic decision-making) affect urban creative biotopes? What kind of creative processes are viable, or not, under specific social, economic, and political circumstances? And, what are the 'needs' of artists and creative individuals or organizations to stay creative in the urban context?

Interrupting the city (Pascal Gielen)

https://www.artecontemporanea.com/product/interrupting-the-city-artistic-constitutions-of-the-public-sphere/

New Civil Roles and Organizational Models of Cultural Organizations

Reviewing the potential of contemporary cultural practices and alternative working structures as drivers of civil society in Europe and its neighbourhood

Pilot Research – 14–04-2016 Pascal Gielen & Thijs Lijster

(un)Common RESIDENCIES

f0.am
'*At FoAM we offer residencies to people whose work, interests and lifestyles are aligned with ours. Our motivation for this programme came from a perceived need of our peers for opportunities to pursue concentrated research and experimentation without the immediate pressures of production.*' https://fo.am/residencies/

http://www.parckdesign.be/projects/spirit-of-coalition

http://www.visibleproject.org/blog/

https://apass.be/settlement-11/

https://apass.be/hearsay/

http://www.luma-arles.org/

http://www.formsofcouncil.org/en/productions/260_deseos

http://commons.art/

Arc Residency (custom made residency)

http://arc-artistresidency.ch/en/home

OUTPUTS

Seismopolite: Article proposal

http://www.seismopolite.com/call-for-papers-the-art-residency-in-context

Note: to make sure you are considered for the upcoming issue, please send your proposal/ draft, a brief bio and samples of earlier work to submissions@seismopolite.com within June 14, 2017

proposal/ draft : format? Size? Spaces? visuals?

characters with spaces
14.000 http://www.seismopolite.com/on-the-fallacies-of-useful-art-tania-brugueras-immigrant-movement-international

http://www.seismopolite.com/in-flux-interview-sparck-and-lowave 15.700

bio: