

MEDIA RELEASE

May 2017

CLIMATE CHANGE – ARTIST CALL OUT

Vitalstatistix and Country Arts SA are now seeking proposals for a regional South Australian work, to be commissioned for Climate Century.

Climate Century is a five-year project (2014-2018) inviting artists to respond broadly to provocations: how will we understand and remember the climate century? And in considering this question, how might we imagine the condition of climate change, and dystopian or utopian futures, beyond our lifetimes?

Through *Climate Century*, Vitalstatistix and Country Arts SA are partnering to commission a new artwork by an artist/s connected with regional South Australia.

Country Arts SA Creative Programs Manager Merilyn De Nys said: “Country Arts SA is passionate about making art in regional South Australia. We want artists with a regional perspective to contribute their point of view because they provide unique and innovative ways to engage with both the challenges and opportunities arising from climate change. This is a great opportunity to stimulate new art and refresh the cultural air we breathe.”

Vitalstatistix Director Emma Webb said: “Vitalstatistix has a long-term commitment to exploring and reflecting the condition of climate change in our artistic programs and *Climate Century* has been one part of this. The initiative culminates in 2018 with the presentation of six new works, including this new commission from an artist connected to regional South Australia. It is a fantastic opportunity to be part of this national program of experimental art about climate change, and comes with significant cash and in-kind support for the selected artist.

“Embedded in *Climate Century* is the recognition that we are likely past the ‘tipping point’, which has been widely acknowledged by global climate scientists in the past two years. Living with, and surviving, this condition is perhaps the great experimental challenge of our times, culturally and scientifically. The artworks we have been commissioning through *Climate Century* use frameworks that include speculative thinking, post-colonialism, counter-intuition, queer ecology, comedic interventions, body-centred practices, and research processes with non-artist environmentalists and First Nations communities. The works express a profound sense of grief and the necessarily preposterous, while grappling with pasts and futures.”

The selected artist/s will explore the broad themes of *Climate Century* and the experience of climate change in regional and remote South Australia, through experimental processes and in any art form. They will join five other works that are in development for *Climate Century* in 2017 and 2018.

One project will be selected for this final commission. The selected artist/s, who must have a connection to regional South Australia, will receive investment of \$20,000 over two years and significant in-kind support. They will participate in a lab at Vitalstatistix from 29 November – 3 December 2017, presenting

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artist talks and showings of the work-in-development. All works will then be presented at the culmination of Climate Century in late 2018.

What are we looking for?

We're interested in projects that:

- Broadly explore ideas and provocations that underpin *Climate Century* – see more information <http://vitalstatistix.com.au/projects/regional-commission/>;
- Provide a methodology for genuine experimentation with ideas and forms alongside consideration of space, technology, interdisciplinary practice and social/community engagement, as relevant, as well as the project's own carbon footprint;
- Are new works that have not been presented before (although may have undergone early creative development or extend an existing practice).

You must be available for the *Climate Century* lab, 29 November – 3 December 2017 at Vitalstatistix, Waterside, 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide, 5015.

Applications close on Friday 9 June. Apply at <http://vitalstatistix.com.au/climate-century-regional-artist-call-out/>

For enquiries contact Becci Love, Program Coordinator, at program@vitalstatistix.com.au or phone 8447 6211

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.



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