

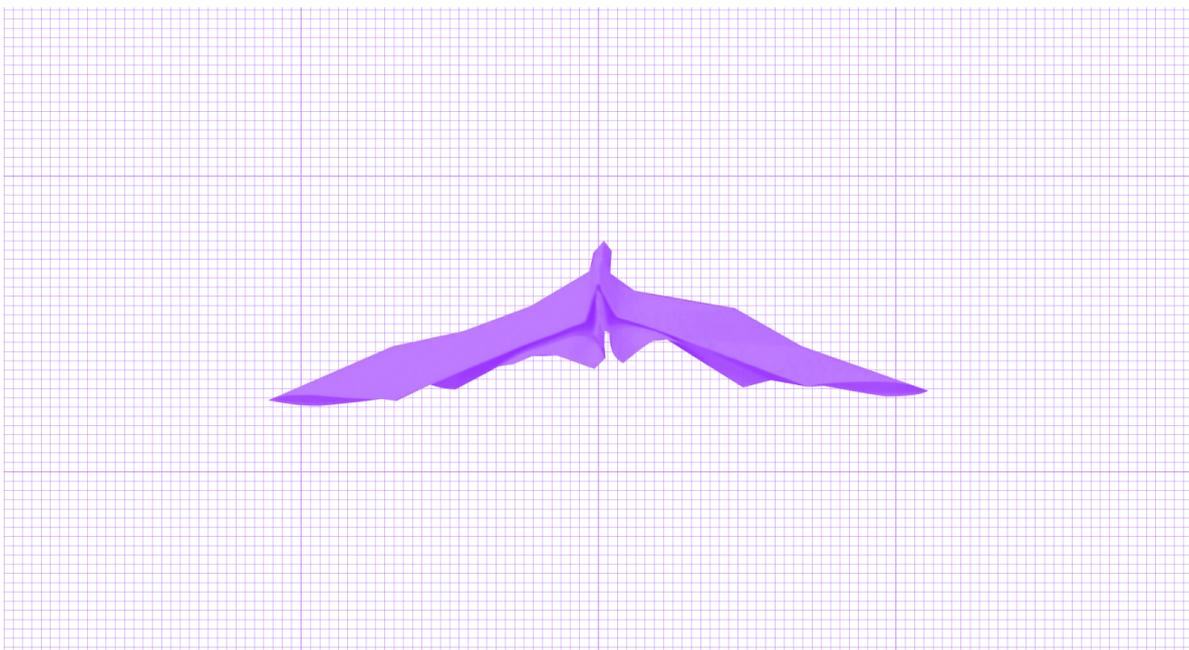


Future Focus: Money and Environment ONLINE ART micro-commission open call & brief

[Future Focus](#) is FutureEverything's online space of critical conversations, talks and debates, as well as cross-sector exchange, networking and collaboration. Launched during the first pandemic lockdown in May 2020, the programme invites people to reflect and respond to current and ongoing challenges and crises, and the role of arts and culture, exploring ideas for kinder, more considerate future worlds. Future Focus aims to offer a space for sharing inspiring work and ideas, a space to explore peer support and feedback, but also one to enable new connections, creative cross-pollination and critical discourse. With Future Focus, we are inviting our creative community, partners, collaborators, colleagues, friends and anyone else to join us, connect, share work and explore future collaborations. The sessions have been taking place online and are live streamed and recorded.

The next session (Money and Environment series) will take place in March 2022 as part of [Mozilla Festival](#), a unique hybrid: part art, tech and society convening, part maker festival, and the premiere gathering for activists in diverse global movements fighting for a more humane digital world.

As part of the session at MozFest, we are thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity and open call for artists to develop an online artwork that responds to themes of this programme. We are inviting artists/art collectives to apply. The selected artwork will launch at MozFest in March 2022 as part of Future Focus: Money and Environment III.





MONEY AND ENVIRONMENT SERIES

Money and Environment is a digital debates programme as part of Future Focus bringing together scholars, artists, economists and other professionals in a creative exchange. Through conversation and networking around topics related to economics, technology and environmental change and exploring how finance impacts on the environment and how finance could be reimagined to contribute to the environmental and social agenda.

From examining the complex and sometimes unknown ways in which money and environment might be related throughout history, to opening up discussions around issues surrounding tax havens and offshore economies, algorithms, labour, opaque markets and climate change, we are investigating ideas and questions including whether money and finance can be green or regulated for environmental change, what strategies we can create for ecological good and what knowledge systems we might need and from/with whom.

Previous sessions focussed on [money production and environmental impact](#) (from silver coins production, human labour, colonial mining and extraction of natural resources to crypto currencies), and [economy, environment and ethics](#) (possibility / impossibility of a “green” economy, whether money can be ethical or socially responsible to decision making systems that manage finance and knowledge in the context of ecological issues).

Money and Environment is co-curated by [Ismail Ertürk](#) and [Irina Papadimitriou](#).

Money and Environment III: Uncertainty and Risk - MozFest

The next Money and Environment session will take place on **Wednesday 9 March 2022** (5-6PM GMT / 4-5PM CET) as part of the Mozilla Festival programme.

This session will explore climate risk, and the fact that “risk” is not a universal measure, concept, or value- even in economics where the difference between “uncertainty” and “risk” is an unresolved debate in economic thought, and financial and economic crises cannot be predicted by using sophisticated computer technology and risk modelling. In fact, we cannot talk about some “objective” measure or meaning of “risk” as “risk” is a value-ridden notion that varies by cultures, societies, disciplines. So, when the financial sector and financial regulators announce commitments to fight climate risk, as seen at the last COP26 pronouncing a seemingly gigantic USD 130 trillion for this purpose, we should realise that finance and money have a very narrow financial understanding of climate risk.

Central bankers are concerned about financial instability risk if investors and bankers go bankrupt after a sudden collapse of valuations of carbon-related businesses in financial markets. Financial institutions develop new investment strategies using sophisticated



computer modelling of risk to generate high financial returns as the economy transitions to a carbon-neutral one. Climate scientists, on the other hand, use different conceptualisations and measurements of risk in assessing the impact of global warming on earth's materiality.

Risks to society from global warming and transitioning to a net-zero economy are altogether different and complex. Geographically, intergenerationally, ethnically, gender-wise, income-wise, etc. we face risks and uncertainties that are not homogeneous. Societal risks are not quantified and computer-modelled like they are in the finance sector but politically mobilised through various discourses and actions.

Art and artists have a long tradition of approaching and dealing with risk and uncertainty in aesthetic and conceptual forms that question universality. Financial institutions and money managers can enter into a fruitful dialogue with the art world to re-think risk and uncertainty for climate risk and environmental risk purposes.

At this session we aim to bring together a multi-disciplinary group of people to explore the concept of climate risk and how risk discourses in finance and society need to talk to each other for common good.

ARTISTIC BRIEF and EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We are inviting artists/art collectives to submit proposals for an online artwork that responds to themes explored in the Money and Environment programme as outlined above. We are interested in artworks that stimulate alternative ideas and critical thinking about relationships between finance, economies, environmental issues and climate crisis.

This piece will be submitted and displayed at Mozilla Festival from the 7th of March (when the festival goes live) as a digital piece. The artist should be available on the 9th of March to attend the session, and talk about the work.

The artistic fee is £1,000 inclusive of all development costs, materials, and expenses.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups including artists with disabilities (both seen and unseen), LGBTQ, artists who identify as Black, Asian and from ethnic minority groups.

Interested applicants should submit (single PDF document, max 1x A4 page):

- a response to this brief - proposal for the online artwork they are planning to develop
- reasons for interest in this project e.g. links with existing work/practice
- Your timeframe for development and delivery of the proposed artwork
- links to current artistic practice (portfolio) and relevant work



Please send applications to info@futureeverything.org by 30th January 2022 (5PM GMT). We will notify applicants by 6th February.

About FutureEverything

Established in Manchester in 1995, [FutureEverything](http://FutureEverything.org) is an award-winning innovation lab and cultural organisation that has helped shape the emergence of digital culture in Europe. Through a curated programme of art commissions, exhibitions, participatory events, critical conversations, and collaborative projects, FutureEverything pushes creative boundaries and stimulates new ways of thinking, across a diverse range of sectors, disciplines and audiences. Taking an action-research, artist-led and human-centred approach, FutureEverything is passionate about bringing people together to discover, share and experience new ideas for the future, creating opportunities to question and reflect on the world around us.

FutureEverything have been delivering national, international projects & partnerships in UK, Europe, Qatar, China, India, North/South America with partners such as British Council, National Trust, GM Arts, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Manchester, Onassis Foundation, Ars Electronica Linz, Elektra, Cisco, as well as museums, galleries and other organisations.

Recent commissions and productions include *YOU and AI: Through the Algorithmic Lens*, *Atmospheric Memory* by Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, *Trickle Down, A New Vertical Sovereignty* by Helen Knowles, *EVERY THING EVERY TIME* by Naho Matsuda, *this place [of mine]*, *By The Code of Soil*, *(de)COMPOSITIONS* and *Positively Charged* by Kasia Molga, *108 Steps* by Matthew Rosier and many more.

Future
Sessions

Future Focus