

Practicing New Imaginaries: 'Re-presencing' Venice in the Time of Climate Change

July 3-8, 2023

Venice International University Isola di San Servolo, Venice



# VIU International PhD Academy

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Imaginaries:
'Re-presencing' Venice
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Scientific Coordinator: Gabriella Giannachi University of Exeter The PhD Academy interrogates the contribution of the performing arts towards building an understanding and tackling the climate crisis observed from the viewpoint of the city of Venice.

The Academy includes a program of problem-based learning activities consisting of lecture presentations, seminars and workshops, concluding in show-and-tell and dissemination activities. As self-documentation will form part of the learning process, students will be encouraged to create archivable resources that will be available to VIU students further afield as well as future VIU students.

This PhD Academy will be led by:

- University of Exeter, UK
- Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy
- IUAV University, Italy

#### **Faculty**

Susanne Franco, Ca' Foscari University of Venice Gabriella Giannachi, University of Exeter Annalisa Sacchi, luav University

#### **Guest Speakers**

Cristina Baldacci, Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Niche

Marco Baravalle, researcher, curator, and activist, La Sapienza University of Rome and Sale Docks Eva Neklyaeva, curator Sara Wookey, researcher and choreographer

#### Methodology

This interdisciplinary program will include looking at climate change from a range of disciplines while developing practical skills so as to build an understanding of Venice as a social imagery. Students will participate in lectures, seminars and workshops and develop their own practice and its documentation over an intensive period of work which will see them encounter some of the major theorists and stakeholders working in the field in Venice.

The focus is deliberatively placed on the performing arts, on presence and practices of presencing and re-presencing, though methods and scholarship will draw, characteristically for the performing arts, from a range of disciplines, empowering students to use innovative practices and explore strategies for knowledge production.

## **Topics**

- Key terms in environmental and ecological art
- Art and climate change: the theme of water
- Performing the future of the planet
- Choreography as epistemology

## Learning outcomes for participants

- A clear sense of the impact of climate change on Venice and the planet
- A nuanced understanding of the skills and competences in environmental humanities (in theory and practice) that can help us to address the communication, mitigation and adaptation to climate change
- An appreciation of the ways in which humanities, the performing arts in particular, can advance knowledge that addresses societal challenges.
- An understanding on how to work ethically, interdisciplinarily, collaboratively and remotely with beneficiaries in Venice and beyond

#### Who can apply?

This international PhD Academy is offered to PhD students who have completed at least one year of their PhD and junior researchers from all disciplines, in order to work together and learn from each other in the attempt to offer solutions to one of the most urgent and impactful global challenges of our times. Open to candidates from all the VIU Member Institutions; applications from excellent candidates from non-member institutions will be also considered and evaluated.

## **Fees & Grant Support**

Students from the VIU member institutions will pay no participation fees. Grant support is also available to support, partially or fully, the costs of international travel and accommodation. The participation fee for students of non-member institutions is Euro 1.150 incl. VAT. The fee is inclusive of tuition, course materials, accommodation, lunches, social events and taxes. Students from non-member institutions are not eligible for VIU grant support. VIU Alumni are eligible for a reduced fee.

Selected participants will be asked to present a paper.

# The program is available on the VIU website

Applications
December 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023
via the VIU website

Applicants must submit the (1) application form, (2) a letter of motivation – which should include a short bio and a brief description of the candidate's research project, (3) PhD thesis/research abstract (4) a curriculum vitae and (5) a photo.

For further information: phdacademy@univiu.org

#### **VIU International PhD Academies**

Venice International University is a consortium of 20 universities, representing 14 countries throughout the world.

The mission of VIU is to foster cooperation among VIU member institutions while facilitating the exchange of knowledge and ideas, by developing, promoting and organizing joint academic, research and training/capacity-building program. Students from non-member universities may participate in selected academic programs.

The academic programs at VIU are distinguished by a markedly interdisciplinary approach to the topics, and by the international perspectives that the participants contribute to the discussions. The VIU campus is on the island of San Servolo in Venice, Italy.

Venice International University holds two/three International PhD Academies each year. They are intensive training opportunities open to PhD candidates from the member universities of VIU.

A PhD is the highest diploma awarded by universities in the world, and PhDs are naturally expected to take on major responsibilities in their professional life. Apart from the disciplinary scientific skills acquired during doctoral study and research, it is the ability to respond to the requirements of creativity, innovation and project management, that produce the significant added value of a doctoral degree.

Whether they will work within or outside academia, PhDs must be able to develop a forward-looking vision of the challenges they have to face. The interdisciplinary approach of all VIU activities is adopted also in the PhD Academy, where the participants have the opportunity to meet their peers from all over the world, and to tackle transversal topics.

www.univiu.org/study/phd-academy

#### Location





# **Venice International University**

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