

[the REVERENCE solution]

NARRATIVE RESEARCH EXPLORATORIUM

IMAGINÉ:

[that our global crisis is the natural result of a present collective attitude or posture.]

[that the most efficient solution to this imminent crisis can be found not within plans of action proposed by institutional bodies, but rather by a shift in this collective posture.]

[that reverence is one such possible shift; or even that reverence is the only possible posture capable of responding fully to this imminent crisis.]

an explorative approach to examining the function of reverence, allegorized as an imaginary expedition to extract requisite insight from a long-forgotten subterranean source, with the expressed (and actual) purpose of saving the world from impending collapse.



THE PRACTICAL CONTEXT:

February 19 - March 19, 2023

La SOURCE Centre de Recherche & Création - Brittany, France

A month-long exploratorium initiated to uncover methodologies of genuine reverence as actual solutions to both immediate and anticipated crises - through days split between phenomenological, psychological, philosophical, theological epistemology [mornings] and narrative/analogical research [afternoons].

THE DISCURSIVE FRAME:

an intensive,
residential,
experimental,
immersive,
collective
vision quest

resulting in the redaction of a co-created book, [the REVERENCE solution], in which the [expedition] team maps a clarified vision of the implications, points of access and various possible practices to cultivate reverence as a proposed postural shift.

OPEN CALL : applicants may apply for one or several of the following in accordance with their interests and abilities; the following descriptions are analogical guidelines; *evocative* and non-exclusionary. Respond to what draws you *into the story*.

A GEOLOGIST

fluency in the language of the elements; ambitious, driven by understanding, severely determined, uncompromising, willing to sacrifice (self or others) for greater good.

MOTIVE: discovery of a new element that will change perception of everything; quest to save the world.

EXPERTISE: variable analysis/interpretation; accuracy in projecting ultimate consequences of various imminent options - anticipation of causality in reality-shaping; logical coherence

MISSION: to lead the expedition's basic direction;

EVOKES the **historical & planetary** stakes of the expedition.

Possible domains include - philosophy, art, mathematics, advanced physics, environmental studies, sanitation systems.

A DOCUMENTARIAN

storyteller; gifted at unveiling the exact architecture of human connection; observant, in/discreet, curious, sly, charming, taste for drama.

MOTIVE: fame; capturing "the ultimate story" > the discovery that will save the world

EXPERTISE: asking questions, omnipresence; documenting and sustaining narrative continuity; translation of interior dynamics to future publics; sustaining awareness of frame and movement toward culmination

MISSION: to frame & record the expedition's development and progress

EVOKES the **relational** stakes of the expedition.

Possible domains include - history, anthropology, sociology, critical theory, cinema studies, visual culture, storytelling (writers, directors, etc.), marketing strategist

A TECH EXPERT

knows what's needed and how to get it; master of tools; prepared yet unpredictable, quick and practical, tricksterish, impatient, clever problem-solver

MOTIVE: good stories to tell in case of survival (particularly useful as pick-up lines)

EXPERTISE: cultivated collection of various methodologies and tools of inquiry; awareness of each tool's precision and particularities, a talent to introduce tools in the most needed way at the ripest moment

MISSION: to provide and introduce necessary tools, methodologies and strategies

EVOKES the **functional** stakes of the expedition.

Possible domains include - entrepreneur, explosives expert, programmer/IT, human systems engineering, biochemist, professional chef, mechanical and/or digital technologies, solutions strategist

THE NARRATIVE FRAME:

The year is 2037. We have exhausted all known and possible paths to resolve our energy crisis. There has never been greater need or urgency to uncover a new model of intelligence that will allow us to access resources yet unknown to us.

In France, in the far reaching corner of Finistère (*finis terra* - at 'the end of the earth') - a team is gathering to venture into an only recently discovered cave wherein lies, as ancient legends indicate, the presence of a secret source, an inexhaustible source of energy.

The assembler of this team - a hopeful and widely respected archaeologist / fortune-hunter - is **enlisting the necessary voices** for this expedition's imperative success.

and... AN INTERN

ready and willing; a reminder for the necessary and explicit yes of the process; innocent/naive, clumsy, enthusiastic, uninhibited, helpful, fully engaged, into action

MOTIVE: wide open to the encounter; growing, learning, expanding; purpose

EXPERTISE: shape-shifter - able to take on the form requested by needs of the whole; a fountain of energy and dedication; trusting of the process. diffuses cynicism.

MISSION: to care for the practical durability of the frame

EVOKES the **experiential** stakes of the expedition.

Possible domains include - student (in theater & performance, artistic research, phenomenology, project management, ethnography or hospitality)

AN INDIGENOUS GUIDE

fingers on the pulse of underlying, essential aspects; consistently underestimated, grounded know-how, only voice of a responsible *how*. Unexpected humor.

MOTIVE: overtly - to assist in the necessary navigating; secretly - to protect the sanctity of the place

EXPERTISE: fluency in systemic consequences of decisions beyond motives of the team; imagination; knowledge of legends, myths, tales and imaginal forces at play (or at least ability to invent / evoke as necessary)

MISSION: to navigate practicalities of environmental constraints

EVOKES the **systemic** stakes of the expedition.

Possible domains include - nature or hiking guide, folklore historian, pathfinder, scout, conservationist, environmentalist, beekeeper, park ranger, survivalist, mythologist, poet, amateur comedian

A CARTOGRAPHER

comfortable with the descent into the unknown; tempting fate; passionate, hungry, reckless yet precise, adventurous, able to assess danger and risk.

MOTIVE: pioneering; to go where no one has before; conquering the unknown

EXPERTISE: mapping of time, space, relation and movement/action dynamics; inclusion of emergent concepts into previously constructed infrastructures; propulsion to move the plot forward

MISSION: to diagram / map / track the expedition's movement and findings

EVOKES the **dynamic** stakes of the expedition.

Possible domains include - psychology, psychoanalysis, game theory, architecture, human or political sciences, geography, travel, study of altered states of consciousness, creativity studies

AN EMERGENCY MEDIC

guided by availability to intensive listening; instinctive, impulsive, sensitive, reactive, unexpectedly clear vision of the whole circumstance, overly earnest

MOTIVE: care of the whole; drawn by an inexplicable and irrational force

EXPERTISE: intuitive understanding of group dynamics; subtle listening skills; willingness to intervene with candor; graceful crisis response; voice of faith. Keeper of the red thread.

MISSION: to respond to emergent needs (both individual and in the group as a whole).

EVOKES the **psychoemotional** stakes of the expedition.

Possible domains include - education, social work, natural disaster or conflict zone crisis relief, theology, human resources management, activism, professional psychic, botanist, nurse

MAPPING THE DETAILS:

WHO (are we looking for)?

8 international participants with the following qualities:

- fluency in English - as well as abstract, poetic/symbolic, and critical language
- ever-sharpening critical and systemic reflection
- ability to connect and integrate concept with experience
- devotion to actual solution-seeking (in the world, and not only in the mind)
- depth of exposure to a field of thought (any discipline)
- willingness to collaborate: capable of receiving differences as opportunity & nonrigid attachment to one's own perspective
- able to synthesize diverse materials/sources into potentially new meaning, and to articulate that meaning in a compelling way for a general public
- interest in contributing (or at least ease in engaging with) diverse forms of communication - drawings, schematics & diagrams, maps, images, video, music, performative acts, active experimentation, etc.
- an appreciation of intense and rigorous exploration; recognition of discomfort and challenge as a natural part of discovery and distillation
- willingness to laugh amidst the seriousness
- observing the distinction between passion and aggression in debate or exchange (accompanied by a wish and will to fuel the former and prevent the later)
- a shared general value of kindness and consideration

WHAT (do we ask of you)?

Arrival on: Sunday, February 19, 2023

Departure on: Sunday, March 19, 2023

Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from La SOURCE. (Pick up or drop off to local stations and airports can be organized through project coordinators.)

To prepare in advance:

- 60 - 90 minute lecture/presentation on reverence as the most viable solution to crisis (from within the frame of the participant's field/universe/expertise)
- 1 - 2 hour workshop related to the presentation (including at least one practical exercise that turns the theories presented in the lecture into graspable experience)
- 5 - 20 pages (or 20+ minutes) of reference materials for everyone to review prior to the start of the conference (sent by Jan 19, 2023) - can include texts authored by participants or others; includes any form of media - texts of diverse nature, art, music, film/video, audio recordings, etc.

Agreement to contribute to collective domestic tasks in alignment with the mission and structure of La SOURCE as a participation-based frame. This includes the weekly cleaning party (1.5h/wk), domestic care-keeping (2h/wk), and collective dinner preparation (1 meal/wk).

Participation fee: Housing & facilitation/programming of the colloquium are fully funded. We ask simply:

- 15€/day to contribute "the collective pantry" for food provisioning (to which all participants have open and continuous access)
- the donation of a book to the Love-Studies Library (a book that has taught you something vital about love)
- a pressure-free, open donation to the research center upon departure if the experience of the exploratorium feels generative, if/as personal circumstances allow

WHY (are you doing this)?

We welcome a diversity of WHYS amidst the participants. Diversity is a requirement for the health of any ecosystem, biological or conceptual.

Having said that, Reverence should be clear and compelling enough in the applicant's universe to deserve profound engagement with a belief that it promises a necessary and vitally useful posture in the generative shaping of individual and collective realities.

PROGRAM



WEEKS 1 & 2

THE EXPLORATION OF POSSIBLE PATHS

Mondays, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday * (one participant per day)

- 9 - 10:30h : lecture/presentation (60-90 minutes)
- 11 - 13h : workshop (1-2 hour)
- 15 - 17h : co-created analogical / narrative research [the Expedition] as open construct (fluid facilitation)

Initiating
[the Expedition]:

WEEK 3

NARRATIVE EVOLUTION

Mondays, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday *

- Session hours : 9 - 12h & 14 - 17h

Generation and synthesis of already presented materials

(Particular attention to proposing practices/exercises to illustrate, invite and integrate ideas experientially)

Integration of the expeditions ongoing development

Synthesis:

WEEK 4

THE IMPLICATIONS OF DISCOVERY

Mondays, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday*

- Session hours : 9 - 12h & 14 - 17h

Revision & Editing;

creation of cohesion and preparation for transmission

Assembling
& Distilling:

* Wednesdays are reserved for hikes or outings.
Weekends are unprogrammed.

APPLICATION

- 1 Introduce yourself.
- 2 Describe your vision of reverence as a discipline.
- 3 What is your story about the point of origin of the present *crisis*?
What blockages prevent sourcing stable solutions?
- 4 Give an example of when and how changing an underlying story or myth has provided a *real* solution to a *crisis*?
- 5 Name 5 of your favorite movies.
- 6 Complete this statement:
I want to _____ the world.
- 7 Indicate which role/s you are applying to fill:
 - The Geologist
 - The Documentarian
 - The Tech Expert
 - The Indigenous Guide
 - The Cartographer
 - The Emergency Medic
 - The Intern

DEADLINE: Candidate review will begin November 20, 2022 and will continue on a rolling basis until all places (of the expedition team) have been filled.

Send a document (maximum 2000 words) with these responses and your CV to info@la-source.org with the subject: [the REVERENCE solution] application.

Alternatively, you may choose to respond to these questions (or some of them) spontaneously through video (maximum 30 minutes). Please send the video to the same email address either by link or WeTransfer.

For more information about La SOURCE Center for Research & Creation, visit www.la-source.org