

Where are we now? How can we imagine our future? What is the future we want to build together?

Four partners - **Liv.in.g.**, **Kultura Nova Foundation**, **Creative Scotland**, **On the Move** - have been working since the start of the pandemic to create a model to bring professionals together to imagine our future. Through an online and live path, from June 2022 to January 2023, Life on Mars will pose some key questions around cultural cooperation and the role of the international community in a critically transformed world.

Ece Temelkuran, **Mikey Martins**, **Shahram Khosravi**, **Ceyda Berk-Söderblom**, **Creative Carbon Scotland** are some of the guests who will share with us ideas and practices and who will help us promote exchanges, networking, mentoring, cooperation during our journey.

The process is tailored on artists, cultural operators, cultural managers, public and private cultural organizations and public institutions; part of it will be held online, with a live gathering in Bologna from 13rd to 16th October, with keynotes, dialogues, Open Space Technology formats.

The activities will be held in English and the entire process will be reserved for no more than 100 participants, with an entry fee.

The full updated programme is available on [the project website](#).



Concept

In the last two years opposing tensions have emerged such as hyper-connectivity versus localism, international solidarity versus nationalism, international cooperation versus monolithic representation. The Covid 19 virus crisis and new international conflicts reveal that old approaches are no longer fit for purpose. We need to explore new ways of working to build our future together.

Life on Mars 2022 will look at the meaning of international cultural cooperation. It will be a creative lab where participants will question the obstacles of our present and look at possible methodologies to address these.

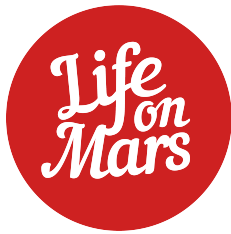
The so-called new normal must deal with some crucial issues: digital transformation, sustainability, a new idea of welfare. For that reason, Life on Mars will have a cross-sectorial approach. Its participants will co-create new cooperative international adventures. We will experiment with working online and offline. The notion of care will be central: care in our relationships, care towards the environment, care in the processes that we will use.

Life of Mars will put all of these topics at the core of the debate among established and independent artists, cultural professionals and researchers, representatives of different organisations which work co-operatively and collaboratively.

Partners

Life on Mars is coordinated by *Liv.in.g* (Italy) and in partnership with *Creative Scotland* (UK), *Kultura Nova Foundation* (Croatia), *On the Move network* (Belgium/France).

Italian partners for Bologna events are: *Fondazione Innovazione Urbana*; *ATER Fondazione*.



Life On Mars 2022 timeline and activities

Life on Mars will be structured in three different phases:

(a) September 2022 / a 'digital' road map which aims to start placing a few initial questions and to provide a first moment of encounter among the participants applying for the entire journey. Two interactive webinars will take place in September;

(b) 13 - 16 October 2022 / a live creative laboratory will be held in Bologna.

The Open Space Technology methodology will aim to stimulate the co-creation of ideas and cooperative projects. 7 working sessions (90 min each) between the participants will aim to define the urgent topics on which to start with the co-design of cooperative concepts.

In Bologna 2 keynotes and 3 dialogues will have the aim to inspire, and give for tackling key concepts such as:

- the perception of reality between the geopolitical tension and emotions
- the philosophy of information
- the role of communication in the cultural and political activism
- sustainability in the urban context and rural development
- culture between monolithic and pluralistic representation

A *mentoring* programme will accompany the three-days networking event.

(c) November 2022 - January 2023 / a digital follow-up organized with a set of online mentorship sessions to finalize the co-creation process. After the Bologna live event, Liv.in.g. will provide an online platform where the participants will find all the collected materials and in addition digital tools will be provided in order to continue the exchange among the participants and proper networking.

This follow-up will be coordinated by On The Move network which will organize an ad hoc final mentoring sessions to the participants of the event.

Finally, after one month and half the live event, an only session with all the participants will aim to have an evaluation of the entire process. It also aims to check if real opportunities of cooperation have arisen and which have been the main issues and strengths of the collective work.



How to take part

Capacity for Life on Mars will be a maximum of 100 participants. Participants will be artists, cultural operators, cultural managers, researchers and representatives from public and private cultural organisations and public institutions.

In order to guarantee geodiversity and internal balance of the group, the Partnership will select the participants through an **open call**, deadline 20th July.

The activities will be held in English and will require a participation fee of 300,00 for an organisation and 250,00 for an individual (VAT included). No fee is required to enter the application process.

Kulturanova and Creative Scotland are offering **special grants** for participants for their area.