

CALL [OCEAN-ARCHIVE.ORG](https://ocean-archive.org)  
DIGITAL RESIDENCY 2023/24

# OCEAN/UNI

CULTURING THE DEEP SEA

*TOWARDS A COMMON HERITAGE FOR ALLKIND*

**Proposal submission deadline:** October 1, 2023

The Digital Resident will be announced in mid-October 2023.

**Residency period:** November 2023 – May 2024

**Presentation of final work:** June 2024

**Keywords:** Deep ocean exploration, Extractivism & deep sea mining, Advocacy & conservation, Environmental law & rights of nature, Biodiversity & sustainability, Pacific methodologies, Deep ocean literacy, Economy & blue degrowth, Green washing & green bashing

The upcoming semesters of TBA21–Academy's online educational program, OCEAN / UNI *Culturing the Deep Sea: Towards a common heritage for allkind*, will adopt a cross-disciplinary lens to think from the remotest spaces of our expansive body of water. Through unlearning as a radical act of ocean literacy, we hope to empower ourselves as a community to intervene in dynamic decision-making environments around deep-sea mining that proceed alongside the program.

The Ocean-Archive.org **Digital Residency 2023/24** is thought to run alongside OCEAN / UNI, as an opportunity to realize a participatory project around the deep sea, exploring modes of "deep ocean literacy" rooted in artistic and design research approaches.

The Digital Resident will engage the ocean comm/uni/ty through live moments or calls for collaboration, producing a final work to be presented on TBA21–Academy's digital platforms.

We encourage projects that cross geographies and traditional disciplines to ask fresh questions about value, representations and voices of the deep.

## // RECOMMENDED RESEARCH AREAS

- » Deep ocean exploration
- » Extractivism & deep sea mining
- » Advocacy & conservation
- » Environmental law & rights of nature
- » Biodiversity & sustainability
- » Pacific methodologies
- » Deep ocean literacy
- » Economy & blue degrowth
- » Green washing & green bashing

## // CHARACTER OF THE RESIDENCY

The proposed project can be a new project or continue an existing one. The Residency should engage with the digital and be collaborative in nature:

- » Digital: must be facilitated through digital tools and/or platforms, or engage directly with the digital as a medium.
- » Collaborative: must involve some aspect of co-creation or collaboration with the ocean comm/uni/ty, and output shall be presented on the [Ocean-Archive.org](https://ocean-archive.org).

## // FOR WHOM

We are looking for an artist / curator / designer / researcher / writer.

Individuals, groups and collectives may apply.

## // EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- » Research cluster or artwork released on [Ocean-Archive.org](https://ocean-archive.org)
- » A piece of writing introducing and narrating the research

## // ABOUT THE DIGITAL RESIDENCY AND TBA21–ACADEMY'S OCEANIC DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM

The [Ocean-Archive.org](https://ocean-archive.org) **Digital Residency** is a digital fellowship opportunity that investigates the potential of storytelling and transdisciplinary collaboration within and beyond archival practices. Residents are invited to engage with the Archive as a digital ecosystem; explore and re-interpret its depths, add new research material, and interweave it into their own curatorial narrative. While interacting with each of the [Ocean-Archive.org](https://ocean-archive.org)'s digital tentacles—the **Archive**, **Journeys**, **ocean comm/uni/ty**, and **OCEAN / UNI**—the residency aims to question the notion of archives as repositories of the past, locked and inaccessible; but rather to understand them as living organisms where elements constantly resurface, active and in dialogue with each other.

## // PRACTICALITIES

**Application deadline:** October 1, 2023, midnight Central European Time

The Digital Resident will be announced in mid-October 2023.

**Residency period:** November 2023 – May 2024

**Presentation of final work:** June 2024

**Offer:** Fee of 1,000 EUR; any production costs are included in the fee.

Production support is provided by the TBA21–Academy team, e.g. for online events, promotion, and other aspects (to be discussed).

### To fulfil during the residency:

- » 1-2 moments of togetherness in the ocean comm/uni/ty, preferably live (e.g. an online event, a programme of posts, a call for collaboration)
- » A final output to be published on the [Ocean-Archive.org](https://ocean-archive.org), in the form of artwork accompanied by research material

**Apply and send us your proposed abstract by October 1 via this [Google Form](#).**

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out via [info@ocean-archive.org](mailto:info@ocean-archive.org).

## The selection process:

To be carried out by the TBA21–Academy digital team, based on:

- » Strength of concept
- » Suitability and potential for the project to engage the ocean comm/uni/ty and make use of digital platforms

## // ABOUT

[Ocean-Archive.org](http://Ocean-Archive.org) is an online platform that investigates the potential of storytelling and transdisciplinary collaboration within and beyond archival practices. It strives to expand critical ocean literacy in a time of great necessity and catalyzes collective action for a living Ocean. The aim of Ocean-Archive.org is to bring together the multitude of voices and [journeys](#) around the Ocean and connect those striving to nurture and protect it. With [ocean comm/uni/ty](#), the platform instigates conversations around the Ocean so that the members can connect and co-create. Designed as a storytelling and pedagogical tool, Ocean-Archive.org translates current knowledge into a shared language that fosters synergy among art, science, policy, and conservation and enables us to make better decisions for urgently needed policies.

**OCEAN / UNI** is an **initiative dedicated to art, activism, art, and science that invites fluid thinking with the Ocean** as a way to move beyond the binaries of land and sea. OCEAN / UNI's curriculum provides students, researchers, and the public access to wide-ranging ideas and explorations through regular live sessions, reading groups, small-scale workshops or activations, and other online material, free and accessible to everyone on Ocean-Archive.org

Aiming to complement and enhance land-based understanding of the Earth, it covers a wide range of ecological, political, aesthetic, ethical, and scientific topics around the realities and futures of the Ocean.

To learn more about the upcoming semester and each session, [click here](#).

## // WHO IS BEHIND

[OCEAN-ARCHIVE.ORG](http://OCEAN-ARCHIVE.ORG)

**TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary**—based in Madrid and Vienna, with situated projects in Venice and Cordoba—is a leading international art and advocacy foundation created in 2002 by the philanthropist and collector Francesca Thyssen-Bornemisza. All activity of the foundation is fundamentally driven by artists and the belief in art and culture as a carrier of social and environmental transformation and change. TBA21 is continually extending its advocacy work by sparking new collaborations across the arts, humanities and sciences, partnering with other research and educational organizations, and municipalities and communities around the world.

In 2011, TBA21 established the research center **TBA21–Academy, a cultural ecosystem fostering a deeper relationship to the Ocean through the lens of art to inspire care and action**. For a decade, the Academy has been an incubator for collaborative research, artistic production, and new forms of knowledge by combining art and science. In 2019, TBA21–Academy inaugurated Ocean Space in Venice, a planetary center for exhibitions, research, and public programs catalyzing critical ocean literacy through the arts, and Ocean-Archive.org, a digital organism for a living ocean; a platform in the making, an archive and framework for collaborative research.