



National Research  
**Tomsk State University**



LAPIN YLIOPISTO  
UNIVERSITY OF LAPLAND



**ASAD**  
Thematic Network on Arctic  
Sustainable Arts and Design  
UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC



## ***Relate North: Everyday Extremes***

### 9th Annual Symposium & Exhibition

You are invited to submit artworks and/or an abstract for the virtual symposium and exhibition ***Relate North 2021: Everyday Extremes***. The event is a collaboration between the University of the Arctic's Arctic Sustainable Arts and Design thematic network (ASAD), National Research Tomsk State University, and University of Lapland. This will be the ninth symposium in the series hosted by ASAD. The ASAD network aims to identify and share innovative practices in learning, teaching, research and knowledge exchange in the fields of art, design and visual culture education. The network promotes cooperation and collaboration between academic institutions and communities with the purpose of working towards a shared understanding of critical issues relevant to people living in the north.

Every year, the ***Relate North*** symposium attracts leading scholars and artists from around the circumpolar north to present research and debate issues of concern in the north through the lens of art and design theory and practice. ASAD seeks to investigate questions such as: How might design practices respond some of the challenges facing those living in northern and Arctic areas today? What role might art play in chronicling and communicating issues important to people in the north? How might the visual arts represent a northern sense of place?

For further information about ASAD: [asadnetwork.org](http://asadnetwork.org)  
University of the Arctic: [uarctic.org](http://uarctic.org)

### **Symposium and exhibition theme**

In addition to the broad concerns outlined above, ***Relate North: Everyday Extremes*** will focus on a more specific perspective of human and non-human wellbeing in the Arctic region. The concept of extremes aims to highlight and describe the particular sensitivity that enables and supports creative and sustainable interaction between human/non-human actors and the everchanging, severe, environment of the Arctic. Moreover, with the current speed of climate change, when the notion of the extreme environment is to be expanded towards most parts of the "Spaceship Earth" in the next 20-50 years, the challenges of nature and their social and cultural implications will call for a creative response. In search of visions and insights, along with locally appropriate solutions, we will focus on the wider perspective of collaborative practices in design, art, research and education within the Arctic region. This includes art and design projects within and between communities, schools, universities, and business, culture, tourism and wellbeing.

The exhibition call is open to artists, designers and makers using any media in traditional and/or contemporary art & design, in addition to presentations of community-based work, environmental art, or art education projects. Please note that the symposium will be held online in a webinar format with a virtual exhibition.

### **DATES**

Symposium: 11 or 12 November 2021  
Symposium side events (online): Pecha Kucha, online tour around Tomsk downtown, etc.  
Exhibition: 10 November – 31 December 2021 (*or permanent web-address*)  
Exhibit Opening Reception (online): 10 November

### **VENUE**

Tomsk is a city and the administrative centre of Tomsk Oblast in Russia, located on the Tom River, with slightly over 500 thousand. Founded in 1604, Tomsk is considered one of the oldest

towns in Siberia. On the national scale, the city is a notable educational and research centre. With six state universities, over 100,000 students, it ranks THIRD (after Moscow and St. Petersburg) by the number of students per 10,000 residents: every 8th city resident is a student.

Tomsk State University (TSU) is the oldest university in Siberia. Since 1878, the university has been making a tremendous impact on the development of science, education and culture in the Asian part of Russia, and it is rightfully considered as one of the best national universities. Within the TSU, the Research and Educational Center "Siberian Design Centre" was founded in 2017. Today it is one of the leading Russian research centres in design and the key player in the Siberia market of design education.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

Artwork proposals (for exhibition):

- Use indigenous or contemporary aesthetic practices to communicate insights and offer exciting representations of northern cultures and communities
- Explicitly engage with the theme of the exhibition and symposium: Everyday Extremes
- Are exhibition ready in digital format
- The artist agrees to take responsibility for the delivery, insurance and return of their own artworks

**ABSTRACTS** (for symposium):

- Explore, investigate and respond northern or arctic issues of dealing with / adapting to extremes through art or design;
- Seek to develop and engage people in issues connected with northern places;
- Explicitly engage with the theme of the symposium.

**DEADLINES** (may be subject to change)

- Submission of artwork proposals and/or abstracts by 20 June 2021
- Successful contributors will be notified by 2 August 2021
- Detailed information about exhibition venues and conditions by 20 September 2021
- Receipt of artworks 1 October 2021

### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- **Timo Jokela**, Professor of Art Education, University of Lapland. Chair of Thematic Network of Arctic Sustainable Arts and Design
- **Svetlana Usenyuk-Kravchuk**, Senior Research Fellow, Siberian Design Centre, Tomsk State University
- **Glen Coutts**, Professor of Applied Visual Arts (Education), Faculty of Art and Design, University of Lapland
- **Sofia Prokopova**, Junior Research Fellow, Siberian Design Centre, Tomsk State University

### CURATORS OF THE EXHIBITION

**Anastasia Voronina**, Junior Research Fellow, Siberian Design Centre, Tomsk State University

Please complete and return the following **CONTRIBUTOR APPLICATION FORM** by e-mail to [timo.jokela@ulapland.fi](mailto:timo.jokela@ulapland.fi), [glen.coutts@gmail.com](mailto:glen.coutts@gmail.com) and [arctic@siberia.design](mailto:arctic@siberia.design).

## CONTRIBUTOR APPLICATION FORM

I intend to submit an (please choose + it is possible to submit both)

Artwork proposal: Yes/No

Abstract: Yes/No

Please delete as appropriate and note that it is possible to submit in both categories if desired.

### BIOGRAPHY

- Authors/artists (list the names of all authors/artists including yourself if you are the author/artist in the order in which you wish them to appear in the printed text.)
- Short biography, please include affiliations, contact details including email, and/or website (maximum 100 words)

### EXHIBITION: Artwork proposal

- Please list title, technique, medium, year, and size of the artwork;
- Limit to 3 artworks, or one educational project;
- Artist's Statement (please explain in no more than 150 words how the work meets the criteria.) Please note this statement is vital and will be used in the exhibition catalogue. If the artist's statement is missing, the applications will not be considered;
- A clear description of space and devices needed for showing the artwork;
- Please attach max three (3) photos of the proposed artworks. Artwork photos must be print quality, as they will be used for the exhibition catalogue (resolution 300 dpi, jpg format, file size max 8Mb). If artists do not supply images at high resolution, the organizers reserve the right to decline the submission;
- **EXHIBITION:** Artist's statement (150 words):

### SYMPOSIUM:

Please provide a title (up to 10 words) for your presentation

**SYMPOSIUM:** Abstract (150 words):

Information about registration will be posted on the ASAD web pages at the beginning of June:  
<http://www.asadnetwork.org>

For further information, please contact:

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Svetlana Usenyuk-Kravchuk: [arctic@siberia.design](mailto:arctic@siberia.design)

Glen Coutts: [glen.coutts@ulapland.fi](mailto:glen.coutts@ulapland.fi)

**BIOGRAPHY** (name first please) (maximum 80 words)