

## **Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World (CCANW)**

### **Brief for the Soil Culture residency at Schumacher College, Dartington June 2014**

#### **Background on Schumacher College**

For nearly quarter of a century Schumacher College has been inspiring, educating and supporting change-makers, innovators, activists and practitioners for a more sustainable and equitable world.

Satish Kumar co-founded the College in 1991 and since then it has provided transformative education and a supportive hub for like-minded people of all ages and backgrounds. The college attracts progressive leaders from across the world who teach cutting-edge material in small-group settings, for example Fritjof Capra, David Orr and Polly Higgins. As well as a world-class short-course programme, the college offers four pioneering postgraduate courses accredited by Plymouth University: Holistic Science, Economics for Transition, Sustainable Horticulture and Food Production and Ecological Design. There is a programme of craft-level courses, including an Apprenticeship in Sustainable Horticulture.

The college now has more than 15,000 alumni from over 70 different countries working across the world in many exciting roles, including Senior Advisor at Natural England, Chief Innovation Officer at The Carbon Disclosure Project, Head of the School of Design at Carnegie Mellon University, Holistic Scientist and Ocean Ecologist at Oceanswatch and Editor of Transition Consciousness in Brazil.  
[www.schumachercollege.org.uk](http://www.schumachercollege.org.uk)

#### **Residency Brief:**

Schumacher College is inviting an artist to explore soil from a holistic and ecological perspective, creating a deep engagement with the earth. The work needs to have a strong connection to nature, with at least an element of exploring soil in an outdoor, living context. The journey will be a fusion of science and art, potentially probing our emotional relationships with soil too and the importance of soil conservation.

The artist-in-residence will contribute sessions to an exciting international short course on soil and involve postgraduate students in the project. The artist will be fully integrated into the college community at Schumacher and will work within the ethos of the college. This will include contributing to community life through rota'd work groups for cleaning, cooking and gardening. The residency will also require a small amount of advance engagement with postgraduate students.

**Date:** January/February 2015 (10 day block)

#### **Location of the residency:**

Schumacher College, Dartington, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6EA, UK

**The residency includes:**

Travel budget (up to £300)

An artist fee of £1500 (£150 per day for 10 days)

Materials and production budget of £1200

Studio space and various options for outdoor spaces and environments

An opportunity to work closely with the Schumacher College team

Accommodation on site and meals

An opportunity to be fully integrated into community life at Schumacher College, a leading international sustainability community, and the Dartington Estate

Support from staff at the Schumacher College and the CCANW team

Inclusion in a CCANW touring exhibition of the residency outcomes (from Spring/Summer 2015)

**The artist will:**

Undertake a 10-day residency at the host organisation

Organise (with the host organisation) a public participatory session (e.g. an interactive talk or workshop)

Create work or documentation (as appropriate) to be included in a touring exhibition

Donate a work to the host organisation for their collection

**How to apply:**

Please complete the application form and return it together with up to 6 images of recent works and an up-to-date CV or biography (totaling 10MB max.) to Sally Lai, Residency Coordinator at [s.lai@ccanw.co.uk](mailto:s.lai@ccanw.co.uk) by **30 July 2014**.

Short-listed artists will be invited to attend an interview on 26 August 2014 or they may be conducted on Skype.

The Soil Culture residency at Schumacher College is being kindly supported by the hosts and by: Arts Council England and South West Water