

A Cultural In(ter)disciplinary Lab

Exploring and Embodying other
Ways of Living on this Planet

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1. Foreword

2022 was a crucial year for Baltan, a turning point representing the maturation of a new direction that developed over the last few years. The change of direction was also marked by the new co-directorship of Marlou van der Crujsen and Lorenzo Gerbi, who have contributed to this ongoing transformation, respectively, as program leader and curator in the last years. Their new roles offered the pretext and agency to formulate this new vision and make it public through our website, social media, and contributions to events and publications.

From “a lab experimenting at the crossroads of art, science, design and technology” to a “cultural interdisciplinary lab focusing on societal issues through a relational approach”: a transition rooted in the interdisciplinary DNA of Baltan but deeply influenced by the permanent status of the systemic crisis we are currently living through. We started the year in lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic. In February, the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the following war brought with it a great deal of uncertainty. The consequences were also tangible for Baltan, not only because it concerns us as an organisation in our topics and affects our team members but also because price increases entailed higher costs for the organisation. Nevertheless, we managed to create a 2022 program that, in its projects and trajectories, tried to deal with these uncertainties with hope, a radical hope through which instability is seen as a possibility to re-imagine the systems we are part of and rehearse living otherwise.

For example, this attitude was central to the second edition of **Make Economy Yours Again (MEYA)**, an online learning community to create a new knowledge base for rehearsing economic change. We widen the reach of these discussions by publishing a zine about the format (**Make Economy Yours Again | Tactical tools for alternative economic narratives**) and organising an online reading group called **Marginalia**: an occasion for the general audience to get a feeling of the topics discussed in **MEYA** and to experience a new format of collective reading, using margins as a space where the readers connect the text with their personal reflections and stories.

Through the publication **Co-emerging Economies: Exploring radical perspectives on post-anthropocentric economies** (in collaboration with Philips Experience Design and Avans Hogeschool), we focused on two opposing co-existing narratives for our economy: Gaia, in which humans are an integral part of the natu-

ral ecosystem and Etheria, in which they aspire to become part of a larger post-biological intelligence. And exactly artificial intelligence and its relationships with its human counterpart was the starting point of another publication we supported, **HumaniTies and Artificial Intelligence**, edited by our artistic advisor Freddy Paul Grunert and published by the European Commission. It includes an in(ter)disciplinary reflection on the topic consisting of 45 short essays by artists, historians, sociologists, scientists and computer scientists, among others: Lev Manovich, Warren Neidich, Carlo Rovelli, Ellen Pearlman, Arthur I. Miller, Derrick de Kerchove, Josephine Bosma and Lorenzo Gerbi.

Some of these threads were picked up by the two **artistic residences** we had in 2022. Marta Beauchamp's fascination for language and its material translations gave us another pretext to reflect on it as a medium to facilitate or limit the exchanges between disciplines through the different interpretations it opens. The ongoing research of Ianis Dobrev allowed us to intertwine the threads of economy and artificial intelligence. Through his work, we explored how non-human-based artificial intelligences could allow for different algorithmic trading beyond the neoliberal notion of individual interest.

Finally, we condensed the learnings, discussions, references and inputs gathered through MEYA in a learning trajectory called **Raise Your Voice**, intended for Netherlands-based designers and artists who focus their practice on social, economic, political and environmental challenges so that they can develop their voice and position on these issues. The 3-month trajectory consisted of bi-monthly gatherings, a symposium during the Dutch Design Week, a trip to Budapest to meet the other partners and was concluded with a podcast series, where the participants shared their learnings and process in finding their voices in these complex topics. The project was supported by the internationalisation scheme of Creative Industries Fund NL and developed in collaboration with Sineglossa (IT) and ProProgressione (HU).

As you will see from the report below, 2022 was a very dense year for Baltan: for the shifting into a new direction, evolving our mission and vision to adapt to today's challenges a cultural institution should act upon; for the new formats developed that engaged with audiences/participants for more prolonged periods; for the number of publications produced (3 only in the past year) that allowed our research and approach to travel, meet new audiences and other interested institutions; and finally, for the resonance, response and recognition we received for our projects and programs (the **Honorary Mention at STARTS Prize 2022** for the

co-production with Valery Vermeulen, just to mention one), that continue to give us energy and keep us sharp on our mission to explore and embody alternative ways of living on this planet.

Lorenzo Gerbi, Marlou van der Cruisen
Co-Directors Baltan Laboratories

2. About Baltan Laboratories

Baltan Laboratories is a cultural interdisciplinary lab based in Eindhoven. We focus on societal issues through a relational approach, creating spaces to rehearse living otherwise. We believe that the increasing complexity of our world and of the challenges we have to face no longer allows for a strictly disciplinary, reductionist and western-based approach. In a world full of uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity, the interactions and exchanges between different disciplines are fundamental to achieving a relational approach that responds to the environmental, political, social, economic and technological issues we must address today. We can no longer divide a problem into its parts, deal with those in separate disciplines and then recompose them in a solution.

Disciplines separate those considered qualified to think from those who are not; for this reason, we rather focus on indisciplinarity: an approach which transgresses disciplinary boundaries to achieve intellectual emancipation and evades disciplinary specialism and hierarchisation. Indisciplinarity is not undisciplined. It opposes what, in the discipline, limits the process of discovery and the free movement of serendipity. That means that we shouldn't get rid of disciplines but instead design ways for their borders to be more permeable and for a new collaboration attitude to emerge.

We try to achieve this attitude by designing learning trajectories, projects and collaborations that bridge different ways of knowing (not just the artistic and the scientific ones) through creative strategies, including embodied, sensory, intuitive and performative techniques. The core of an interdisciplinary approach is de-organising knowledge, temporarily dismantling how it operates to reveal that we are not really touching the complexity of reality but just scraping the layers of abstractions that we put on it to feel in control. In this way, we can become aware of some of the assumptions and ideologies that shape our understand-

ing and action in the world, especially the hegemonic ones that become natural, automatic, unconscious and apparently unquestionable.

We acknowledge the importance of creating a non-hierarchical and safe space where people from all kinds of social, ethnic, discipline, and cultural backgrounds can talk to each other on an equal and non-judgemental level. We strive to include diverse knowledges and value systems in our projects and collaborations, not relying solely on a western perspective.



2. Rehearsing the Revolution Workshop (Credit Barbara Medo)



3. Workshop Disentangling Text (Credit Marta Beauchamp)

3. Towards a New Vision

From 2017 to 2020, Baltan has worked on human-centred themes wherein we reflected philosophically and artistically on humans' role in today's world. We were inspired by the idea of *Homo Universalis* to think about new archetypes of humans in our contemporary context. Focussing on the four themes *Homo Socialis*, *Homo Economicus*, *Homo Sensorium* and *Homo Ludens* the discussion evolved to questioning the human-centred character of Western society. We acknowledged the need to go beyond a human-centric approach and even the term human since it does not encompass all humanity but a smaller group of people entitled to discuss and unrealistically solve the issues of our time.

These issues are not restricted within the borders of the countries that caused them but have consequences globally. We need a global approach that values other unheard voices in the discourse, a non-western approach that is primarily intercultural rather than international. In fact, different cultures bring different traditions and value systems, relationships between man and nature, and ways of looking at technology, for example. We need to consider these contributions in re-thinking the (economic, environmental, societal, technological, and geopolitical) systems we are part of. In concrete, that means we aim to go beyond the Western-centric knowledge system by exploring alternative ways of knowing through feelings, myths, indigenous knowledge and embodied knowledge.



4. Raise your Voice—Exchange in Budapest

4. Positioning and Mission

Baltan has always been identified as a lab experimenting at the crossroads of art, science, design and technology. In the first years of Baltan, art and technology were the primary focuses, together with media art. Over the years, we have progressively moved away from a technology/media-based discussion and critique in art and design to focus on societal challenges and how art and design could contribute to those. We recognise where we come from but move forward to remain meaningful and contemporary to the renewed cultural landscape and current urgencies. We think that especially today Baltan should fulfil its social role as a cultural institution in the permanent state of crisis we live in, by becoming a site of discussion, learning and organising towards the challenges we need to deal with. Culture in our vision should be one of the prominent agents of change, as we believe that change is primarily cultural and behavioural before political, infrastructural and solution-based.

There are new urgencies and we feel that Baltan has to reply to those, using its interdisciplinary expertise to facilitate collaboration between different fields, not only with science and technology: in the last 6 years also social innovation (*Age of Wonderland*) and economy (*Economia Festival*, *Make Economy Yours Again*, *Co-Emerging Economies*) became primary topics of our cultural program. This expertise emerges from our experience in art and design research, two disciplines that are by nature more-than-disciplinary since they already mediate with different fields in their creative outputs. We use artistic strategies to facilitate these in(ter)disciplinary discussions. Through this approach, art and design could become tools to question and destructure our society, expanding their more-than-disciplinary disposition beyond their specific fields.

Also, in terms of outputs, we experienced an exciting evolution. We are more frequently engaged in long-term trajectories rather than event-based presentations (festivals and exhibitions). The nature of the topics we work on (such as alternative economics, de-organization of knowledge, questioning the ideologies that shape our life on this planet, etc.) pushed us to work with smaller groups of people for a more prolonged and more frequent engagement, with the aim to make these reflections present and lived in their everyday routines. It's about rehearsing and training different ways of being, such as the way we listen to

each other, the way we do not exclude, the way we go beyond the stereotypes associated with our backgrounds, the way we do not judge others, the way we could live together, the way we are concerned with the issues of our times, the way we stay with the trouble and do not avoid it, the way we share with and care for the human and non-human other, the way we see happiness in the connection with each other and the planet we live on. These ways cannot be practised and embodied in a 2-day festival or an exhibition, they need time and repetition. For these reasons, we see the impact of our work in creating long relationships with our participants that could evolve from participating to becoming an active part of our program, for example, by creating artworks, projects, and interventions originating from the learning and discussions we had together. This way of working also implies another approach to curating: harvesting and supporting projects from the learning ground Baltan provides, besides selecting them from the outside world.

These discussions are significant for designers and artists approaching societal topics. We noticed that they need to explore alternative ways of understanding themselves and their position as designers. Especially for starters who find themselves after graduating in the 'real world', a soft landing and a group of peers are needed to share their struggles and hopes and to exchange ideas and feedback.

5. Collaborations

Baltan operates on a local, national and international level. We are strongly rooted in the Dutch cultural field through partnerships and collaborations with fellow institutions (such as Make Eindhoven, de Fabriek, United Cowboys, Natlab, Broet, AiR Brabant network, Open Set, Fossil Free Culture, Zone2Source a.o.) and have a close connection to the art and design students and academies in the Netherlands (Design Academy Eindhoven, AKV st Joost, Piet Zwart Institute a.o.). On a European level, we are active in multiple European projects, working together with academia (University of Bologna, LUCA School of Arts Brussels, University of Dublin, KU Leuven, Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, Aalto University, Porto Polytechnic, University of Lapland a.o.), cultural organisations (MEET, Etopia, Sineglossa, Pro Progressione, RIXC, Ohme a.o.) and regional development organisations (ARTER, KEPA, ENTER KOPRIVNICA Ltd a.o.). In all these activities, relations, and programs, we aim to support art and design as agents of change - focusing on their ability



5. Raise Your Voice – Myths and Stories Gathering
(Credit Sas Schilten)

to rethink and practise ways of 'living otherwise'. Here below the highlighted collaborations for 2022:

European collaboration projects

Through these collaborations, Baltan acquired a solid international network over the past years. Furthermore, these projects enable Baltan to implement its cultural projects experiences in other disciplines, such as innovation, academia, education, citizenship and policy making. In 2022 Baltan was involved in 2 EU projects:

RegionArts is an Interreg Europe project to promote collaboration between arts and ICT. In 2022 the RegionArts project was in its implementation phase. We piloted the workshop *A Journey Through the Wormhole* and organised it 3 times in 2022: for a group of stakeholders from the Eindhoven region; as part of the Arctic Design Week in Rovaniemi; and as part of the European Week of Regions and Cities. The third policy booklet of the program was published, wherein the partners reflected on the impact of RegionArts. In November RegionArts organised its final event in Porto with guest lectures and interviews with the program partners. Partners of the project are: Porto Polytechnic Institute (lead partner – Portugal); ASTER Stock Joint Consortium (Italy); Baltan Laboratories (the Netherlands); KEPA Business and Cultural Development Centre (Greece); SERN StartUp Europe Regions Network (Belgium); University of Lapland (Finland); Koprivnicki Business Support Institution (Croatia); Molise Region (Italy)

ARTeCHÓ - Art, Economy & Technology - Unleashing the potential of Crypto Art

and other tech tools for European creative industry, regions and society is a Creative Europe project initiated by five European institutions: SERN - Startup Europe Regions Network (lead partner - Belgium), Baltan Laboratories (Netherlands), FZC-Etopia Center for Art & Technology (Spain), Frankfurt School Blockchain Center (Germany) and MEET Digital Cultural Center (Italy). The main goal of ARTeCHÓ is to create a peer-to-peer learning community for artists to learn more about the technical side of the art-making process and its intersection with new technologies, Crypto Art, blockchain, and NFT marketplaces. This 30-month project just started at the end of 2022 with 2 main activities: a mapping of the stakeholders involved in the areas of crypto art and NFTs in the countries where the partners are based; the development of a 7-month Fellowship Program for 15 artists and designers (starting in April 2023) led by Baltan, consisting of a blended approach with online meetings, training, mentorship, inspirational sessions, and a 2-week physical residency.



6. Workshop Journey Through the Wormhole

Raise Your Voice

Raise Your Voice is a learning trajectory, developed thanks to the internationalisation grant scheme of Creative Industries Fund NL and the support of Stichting Cultuur Eindhoven, for Netherlands-based designers, studios and collectives active - or with an ambition to be active - in socially-engaged art and situated design. A three-month trajectory with coaching, six gatherings and workshops, a symposium during Dutch Design Week and an international exchange to Budapest, that challenged 9 designers and artists to question and redefine their practice. *Raise Your Voice* is organised in collaboration with Sineglossa (Ancona, IT) and ProProgressione (Budapest, HU).



7. Co-emerging Economies publication

Publication: Co-emerging Economies: Exploring radical perspectives on post-anthropocentric economies

Together with Philips Experience Design and Avans University of Applied Sciences, Baltan developed *Co-emerging Economies*, an artistic research trajectory based on post-anthropocentric points of view. The publication (published by Lecturis in March 2022) represents the materialisation of an online storytelling workshop with chapters written by Reon Brand, Godelieve Spaas, Lisanne Buik, René van Peer and Olga Mink, as well as contributions by workshop participants; Cynthia Hathaway, Bea Xu, Yannik Güldner, Elise Talgorn, Michal Mitro. The book interrogates two opposing perspectives about 'kinship' in an economy that no longer puts humans' needs first. How will the relationships we develop affect how we deem nature, other species, technology, and even our bodies?

Makerspace Natlab Basement

The collaboration with BROET and Natlab to establish a new makerspace in Natlab basement for makers and filmmakers working on societal topics continued in 2022 with a further definition both of the plan for building and interior design and of the program of activities supporting the launch of the new initiative (with events and workshops), starting in the second half of 2023.



8. Intermezzo at the Embassy of Health Conference during DDW



9. Workshop *Disentangling Text* at FOPSA (Credit Marta Beauchamp)

Contribution to the Embassy of Health Program during Dutch Design Week

We developed the workshop *Rehearsing Change – Fostering a Culture of Radical Self-care* and an embodied intermezzo for the Embassy of Health conference during Dutch Design Week. These contributions paved the way for a more extensive collaboration in 2023 with the development of a learning community for the Embassy's partners, connecting self-care to health care, based on the format of *Make Economy Yours Again*.

Festival of Poetry-Shaped Art

In June 2022, we hosted a one-day festival held by the FOPSA team. At Baltan, we constantly explore how disciplines get out of their boxes and intertwine in different combinations and mutual contaminations in a suspended space of indisciplinarity. For this reason, we have decided to support this new project by hosting the festival in our spaces and contributing with a workshop by our resident artist Marta Beauchamp.

6. Highlights 2022

Make Economy Yours Again #2: A Space to Rehearse Change

In January 2022, we launched the second edition of *Make Economy Yours Again (MEYA)*: an online learning community that gathered weekly for 8 weeks (end of January - March 2022) with the purpose of creating a new knowledge base for rehearsing economic change.

Economic crises, the effects of the COVID pandemic, growing (social) inequality, climate change, the increasing extinction rate of species and the exploitation of the planet, show us that our economic system needs to change. How can we go beyond capitalism in re-thinking today's economy? Are Western value systems sufficient when exploring a new relationship with nature? Can feelings enable us to develop agency towards the economy? How can we make the economy our economy?

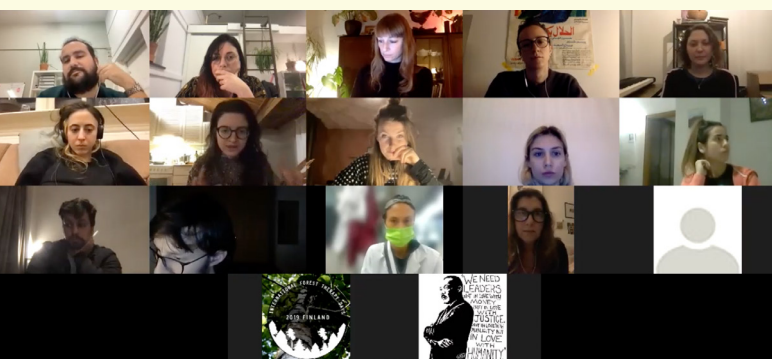
How can we rehearse change and not just think of it? The challenges we face are so complex that we cannot understand them in a logical and rational manner. The learning community aimed to make complex challenges relatable and feelable, to grasp them without the presumption of fully understanding them, and to develop agency towards them.

The *MEYA #2* group consisted of 18 participants based in Europe, nine of them from the Netherlands. Their backgrounds were less diverse than in the previous edition: ten participants were from creative industries, with most designers. Participants worked on developing and executing an action for their local context while sharing those in the group to learn from each other's practice and experience.

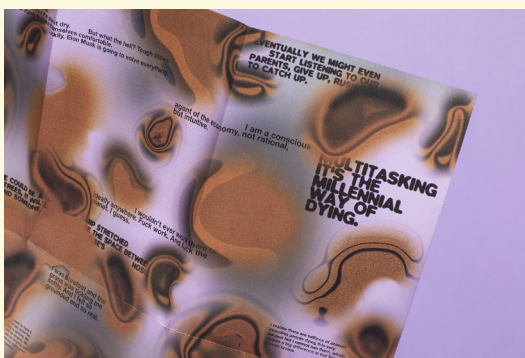
The ambition of *MEYA #2* was to produce a learning experience that can support participants' agency to practise what is learnt to make the economy theirs again. It is not about big gestures but small and personal actions that could lead people to reclaim their role in the economy and become aware of how large systems have personal implications and daily choices attached. Discussing the economic system is a way to make it approachable, and the interdisciplinary approach helps with its emancipatory nature. Through 2 strategies, manifesto and action, our participants were invited to activate the learning. With the manifesto, participants were asked to put their beliefs and val-



10. Still from Instagram video post launching MEYA #2
(by Alice Zani)



11. Participants of MEYA #2



12. Poster side of MEYA #1 zine
- quotes from personal manifestos



13. Elise Talgorn's contribution in the
Co-emerging Economies publication

ues on paper, to articulate how their personal visions intertwine with the discussions and content explored during the trajectory. With the action, participants translated their manifestos into concrete actions that brought their ideas into the world. The way we defined action was pretty broad to allow participants to find their way to activate the content: the essential aspect is that they do something with their ideas and shift from learning into creating, organising, and living.

Between *MEYA #1* and *#2*, we worked on a zine published in March 2022 (300 copies). It was an excellent occasion to report on what happened and actively reflect on the first edition while opening up this experiment to the general audience and promoting successive iterations. The zine is a 50x70 cm poster that presents on one side four short essays focusing on the content, format, learnings of the first community and, on the other, quotes and excerpts from the outcomes of the participants.

Book: Co-emerging Economies

As described in the collaborations chapter above, the book dives into the two co-emerging narratives *Gaia* and *Etheria*, explored through an online storytelling workshop, co-organised with Philips Experience Design and Avans, in April 2021. It highlights how these future narratives inevitably end at a crossroads, forcing people to address major ethical and economic dilemmas. From the *Gaia* perspective, we see ourselves as part of nature. In this view, we put the health of the ecosystem first rather than that of humans. In *Etheria*, we strive to become part of a post-human (post-biological) intelligence, detaching ourselves from nature and the need for biological systems.

The book features poems, illustrations, mind maps and stories to reflect the wide variety of outputs and the workshop participants' eclectic mix of backgrounds and professions. Artists Leif Czakai, Sunjoo Lee, Sixtine Blandin and Cecille Parnasse depicted the discussions in compelling drawings.

Designed by Gabriela Baka, the book represented another step in Baltan's *Homo Economicus trajectory*, in which alternative economic paradigms are explored to re-think the current one. The book was edited by Olga Mink and Reon Brand and published in March 2022 by Lecturis.

Workshop: Rehearsing the Revolution

Rehearsing the Revolution was a collaborative storytelling game organised by SPACE and Baltan, in which we could experience reality from different perspectives and discover what connects us. The game was intended to be sensory and “artistic”, personal and universal, working with elements of theatre, spoken word, movement, experience design and visual arts. We learnt to listen to the voice of the other, to people, but also other forms of life such as the animals and landscapes around us. The purpose was to develop a new way of dialogue that helps us think in terms of connectedness rather than separation. We no longer want to avoid conflicts but instead enter them through the imagination, thus creating fertile soil for resilient future stories. In fact, the narratives we create now will soon determine the reality of our (great) (grand)children.

The participants were assigned roles – from machine to natural phenomenon, animal to plant. In that role, they explored a post-humanist world and how they could live in it together, how seemingly unsolvable conflicts could be solved and in what ways the extinction of humans was a loss in this world.

Stories were told, and childhood memories came to light, connecting participants to a sharing and caring atmosphere while creating a common ground for designing the main characters of a new world. Not just words, we also experienced silence and body language. Special thanks to Petra Ardai from SPACE art collective for the collaboration and Unom Gario Jorgen for taking the narrative of this workshop and transforming it into beautiful poems.



14. Workshop *Rehearsing the Revolution*
(Credit Barbara Medo)



15. *Marginalia #2* Graphics (by Gabriela Baka)

Marginalia Reading Group

As a follow-up to the two editions of *Make Economy Yours Again*, we organised an online reading group that proposes a series of books along the thematic lines of our learning communities. *Marginalia* was an occasion for the general audience to get a feeling of the topics discussed in *MEYA* and experience a new collective reading format.

Marginalia are marks made in the margins of a book or other document. They may be scribbles, comments, glosses (annotations), critiques, doodles, or illuminations.

The margins create a space where you, as a reader, mix the world you live in with the text. An in-between space in which you connect the text with your context, reflections and stories. You are usually alone in the book's margins – a personal and intimate space. With its limitation, it forces you to be concise. A note allows you to revisit the book and harvest what you found interesting again. But it is also a way to memorise that passage and bring it with you. With the *Marginalia Reading Group*, we experimented with populating the margins of a text collectively. What happens when we occupy that space together? In 2022, we read four books together with our community: *The Dragonfly Will Be the Messiah* by Masanobu Fukuoka, *The Democracy of Species* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler, *The Earthly Community* by Achille Mbembe (in collaboration with V2_).

Raise Your Voice

A learning trajectory developed by Baltan for designers who focus their practice on social, economic, political, and environmental challenges to develop their voice and position on these issues. The project

aimed to induce an attitude of self-reflection to help designers situate their practice by considering how much it is influenced by the context (situated design) and one's subjectivity and relationship with it (auto-ethnography).

Raise Your Voice consisted of a series of sessions that focused on discourses that are still marginal in the design field, including voices not only from the Global North; among the topics addressed: decolonising design, design for the pluriverse, embodied knowledge, critical pedagogy practices in design, complex thinking and indisciplinarity. These sessions were supported by references prepared by the participants upfront and then discussed together, accompanied by a workshop. In this way, the sessions became a collection of notions that participants could decide to include in their practice, questioning their own position through the provided inputs. The program was created and facilitated by Baltan Laboratories (Eindhoven, NL) in collaboration with Sineglossa (Ancona, IT) and ProProgressione (Budapest, HU).

In July, we launched the call for participants for the programme. We received over 40 applications and selected 9 people to join the program. In the selection procedure, we prioritised the motivation statements of applicants and aimed for a diverse group – in terms of age, experience, and field of practice. Here are the selected participants: Agat Sharma, Asja Keeman, Camilla Carmack, Lieke Mangindaan, Ollie Palmer, Noa Jansma, Rosalie Bak, Sarah Kaushik, Talisa Harjono.

From September to December, Baltan organised 4 gatherings (*Kick-off, Myths and Stories* by Elise Talgorn, *Pluriversal workshop* by Sophie Krier and Nur Horsanali and *What about our bodies?* by Meredith Degyansky), a symposium during Dutch Design Week, an exchange trip to Budapest hosted by the international partners, a podcast series and coaching sessions with the participating designers and artists. For conciseness, we will only describe the symposium and podcast series in this section (for the other activities, see the *Activities Overview*).

During Dutch Design Week, we organised the *Raise Your Voice Symposium* at the Natlab in Eindhoven. Over 70 people joined our morning session on situated design and socially engaged art, critically examining their role in political, societal and environmental challenges, with guest lectures and presentations from Victoria McKenzie, Pablo Calderon Salazar and Miliaku Nwabueze.

As a conclusion of the *Raise Your Voice* trajectory, we developed with the participants a podcast series to discuss how to develop your voice as a designer or artist working on societal issues. The participants present themselves, their voices and their learnings through audio fragments and conversations. The series was co-produced and hosted by social designer Marleen van Bergeijk, and it is available on [Soundcloud](#) and [Spotify](#).



16. *Raise Your Voice* - Kick-off Gathering (Credit Barbara Medo)



17. Raise Your Voice - Gathering 3: What About our Bodies? (Credit Barbara Medo)



18. Raise Your Voice Symposium during DDW



19. Raise Your Voice Podcast Cover - Episode 2
(graphic design Gabriela Baka)

7. Communication and Press Clippings

In 2022, we mainly focused on increasing our brand awareness by reaching a wider and more segmented online audience. We implemented our previous research on Baltan's social media tone of voice by adjusting our content according to the different targets of our channels, opting for short-form posts and incisive calls to action.

We established a steady presence on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn. We ensured the publication of our monthly newsletter while also using our mailing list for sharing specific open calls or events.

We resorted to paid advertisements on social media (Instagram & Facebook) for specific projects (especially for open calls and events promotion) and to increase followers on social media and website traffic. We mostly reached out to local communities, particularly to the younger generations.

Case Study: Raise Your Voice

Raise Your Voice has been our major project in 2022. We built a compelling narrative of the program by applying a customised graphic identity and creating a tailor-made web communication strategy. This approach enabled us to reach a new public, specifically interested in learning communities, societal issues, indisciplinarity and embodied practices.

All gatherings of the *Raise Your Voice* program were documented by a photographer and after each session, we shared a recap on social media for our audience to follow the process and learnings of the participating artists and designers. In this way, we managed to "humanise" Baltan, telling the stories of participants over a period of 3 months.



20. Raise Your Voice in Uit in Eindhoven

Social media and website links

Facebook: www.facebook.com/baltanlaboratories

Instagram: www.instagram.com/baltanlaboratories

Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/company/baltan-laboratories

Website: www.baltanlaboratories.org

Social media and website data

Facebook
 Reach: 279,469
 Profile visits: 2,226
 New followers in 2022: 58
 Followers (seen on 17/04/2023): 4061

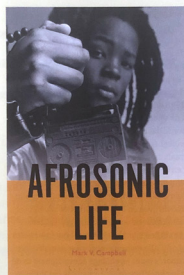
Instagram
 Reach: 224,366
 Profile visits: 6,710
 New followers in 2022: 637
 Followers (seen on 17/04/2023): 3584

LinkedIn
 Profile visits: 1047
 New followers in 2022: 223
 Followers (seen on 17/04/2023): 841

Website
 Visits: 31,000



21. Interview with Lorenzo Gerbi in Metropolis M

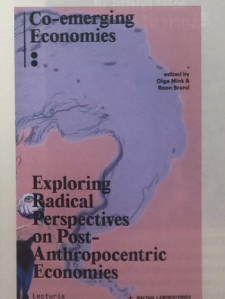


CO-CREATIE

Muziek is iets wat je deelt met anderen, wat je samen met anderen maakt en onderdeel is van een rijke, wereldomvattende muziekcultuur. Dit komt in het bijzonder tot uiting in de remix-cultuur die in het boek 'Afrosonic Life' wordt onderzocht, namelijk via mixtapes, turntablism, de Jamaicaanse sound system (djs met selectors en geluidstechnici), met riddim systems (dubplates of andere geluidsdragers met populaire instrumentals, gecombineerd met steeds weer andere vocalen) en de wereldwijde reacties hierop. Dit boek van de Canadese onderzoeker en dj Mark V. Campbell is een reactie op het wetenskap van remixcultuur in de westerse-georiënteerde geschriften van bijvoorbeeld Lawrence Lessig en Lev Manovich. In hun werk wordt veel over individueel eigendom van muziek gesproken, terwijl men evengoed kan stellen dat muziek niemands eigendom is en tot de collectieve gemeenschap behoort en daar altijd zal blijven groeien en bloeien, ongeacht de omstandigheden. De door Europese 'verlichte' kolonialismen tot slaaf gemaakte Afrikanen waren bijvoorbeeld overdag robotische kapitaalvergaars maar gebruikten negrospirituals met vraag- en antwoordgezangen om het zware, repetitieve werk draaglijker en efficiënter te maken, om vervolgens 's nachts mens te zijn en hun creativiteit te uiten. Metertijd werden hun liederen echter geïncorporaard en gecensureerd terwijl de oorspronkelijke bedoeling juist was om je mentaal te kunnen bevrijden – en door toevoeging van codevorden met vluchtinstructies in de songteksten soms zelfs ook fysiek. Het liberale humanisme van de rationele homo economicus, of de biocentrische 'Man 2' zoals

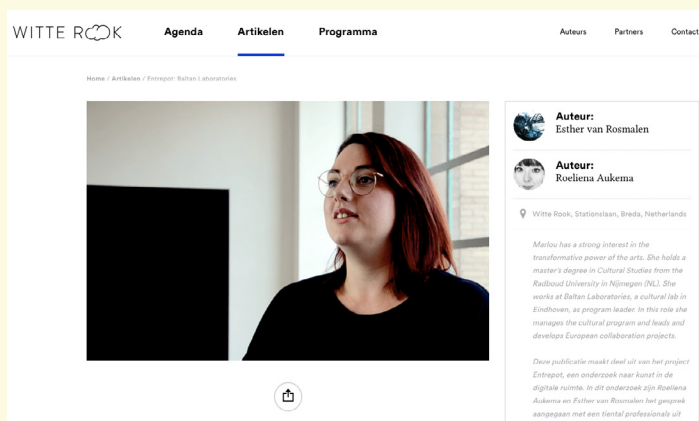
onderzoeker Sylvia Wynter het noemt, onderdrukt hier dus de hybride mens die zich comfortabel voelt met diversiteit en verschillende perspectieven in de samenleving. Deze hybride mens is veel aanwezig in de Jamaicaanse dancehalls: zij laten al dansend en joelend hun reacties horen op het optreden van de sound system en zijn daardoor actieve scheppers van een tegencultuur, niet alleen consumenten van de mainstream. Dj Spooky beschrijft deze Jamaicaanse dancehall-cultuur treffend als een 'shareware update, a software source for the rest of the world to upload'. Campbell's 'Afrosonic Life' is een nodige correctie op het westerse narratief en nodigt de lezer uit om tijdens het lezen de beschreven bronmateriaal op te zoeken. Na het luisteren en kijken naar video's en tegelijkertijd lezen van uitvoerige beschrijvingen van turntablism-kunsten van DMC-winnaars als DJ Cheese, DJ Cash Money en DJ Dopey, was ik me ineens hyperbewust van mijn zintuiglijke ervaring: elke stap was er een in de richting van een polyritmische, hybride toekomst vol co-creatie. (bm)

Mark V. Campbell,
Afrosonic Life
(Londen: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2022)



ROUTE
Hoe ziet de economie er in de verre, verre toekomst uit? Als die toekomst er al komt. Want het is alomtduidelijk dat we onszelf in de vingers snijden met de

22. Co-emerging Economies review in GONZO



23. Interview with Marlou van der Cruijssen as part of Entrepot research of Witte Rook

time, respectively as curator and program leader. The new management builds on Baltan's expertise and experience in art and design research with a strong focus on societal challenges.

Baltan works according to a governance model and endorses the Culture Governance Code, the Fair Practice Code and the Diversity and Inclusion Code.

Governance Code Culture

Baltan applies the principles and recommendations of the Culture Governance Code 2019. The Board comprises Jan Post (secretary), Dennis Duchhart (Treasurer) and Carmin Karasic (chair). Jan Post is a former Philips Netherlands director and chairman of the Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce. Dennis Duchhart is a former business director in the cultural sector (Architectuurcentrum Amsterdam, De Muze van Zuid, Nieuw Ensemble) experienced board member of cultural organisations (Dudok Architectuur Centrum, Stichting Atlas & Consorten) and was previously finance manager at Baltan in 2022. Carmin Karasic works as an e-learning consultant at the high-tech company ASML and is an active maker and teacher at the intersection of art, media and technology. We are looking into expanding the board in 2023 with a call for two new members to fill the expertise on informal education/activism and business development, which we felt needed for the new vision and position of the organisation.

The board complies with the requirements of the Culture Governance Code. These requirements are kept up to date and checked and discussed every two years. We communicate the date of resignation of board members via the website. New board members are informed about their rights, duties and responsibilities upon joining the board.

In 2022 we did a new check on HR topics at Baltan and started working with an external HR advisor. Part of this trajectory was developing a new personnel handbook, a behavioural code and appointing an external trust person.

Code Cultural Diversity & Inclusion

As a progressive public cultural institution, we consider compliance with this code essential. We actively strive for awareness and implementation of the code for a more transversal and diverse way of thinking and working. We integrate this into the way we work with people and organisations. We also find it paramount to discuss and instil these values within the team. The team consists of a mix of nationalities, ages and gender identities.

We discuss and embed social inclusion, cultural and

8. Organisation

Baltan is a cultural ANBI. At the end of 2023, Baltan had 3 permanent employees (2 co-directors and a project officer), for a total of 2.7 FTE. Besides the employees, the team also included two freelancers for the office manager and communication manager positions. In addition, Baltan often relies on a network of freelancers, mainly external producers and graphic designers, for larger projects or smaller assignments.

In 2022, Baltan said goodbye to Olga Mink. She was succeeded by Lorenzo Gerbi and Marlou van der Cruijssen, who have been involved with Baltan for a long



24. *Raise Your Voice* – Gathering 3: *What About our Bodies?* (Credit Barbara Medo)

gender diversity in our artistic programs and include them as fundamental points of our artistic vision and mission, as mentioned above. We strive to include non-western perspectives and work closely with creative makers from the global south. In this way, we want to develop a continuous program in which we offer a platform for different voices and artistic expressions.

Fair Practice Code

Rewarding our employees, freelancers and makers fairly for their work is important. The remuneration policy for our employees follows the *Richtlijn functie- en loongebouw presentatie-instellingen voor beeldende kunst*, indicated by De Zaak Nu (in English, guideline for job and pay structure for presentation institutions for the visual arts).

For the freelancers who work on assignments for Baltan, we discuss the work and expectations before the start of the assignment, and we agree on a suitable hourly rate or a total amount. For makers (artists, designers), we base the fee on the artist's fee guideline. Depending on the nature, length and size of the project/contribution (for example, participation in an exhibition, residency, workshop, or lecture) and in consultation with the maker, we agree on a reasonable fee for the maker.

9. Activities Overview

January

27/01/2022 **Make Economy Yours Again #2 (MEYA) gathering 0 | Introduction session**

See the full description of the project in the Highlights section above. Participants introduced themselves, we collectively set the agreements for the learning community and introduced the approach for the coming weeks. [» Link](#)

February

03/02/2022 **MEYA gathering 1 | Manifesto**

A manifesto is the starting point of a movement: it's not just a declaration of intent but a tool to align a diverse group of people and put their beliefs into action. [» Link](#)

10/02/2022 **MEYA gathering 2 | Conventions and assumptions**

Which assumptions and conventions frame our understanding of the economy? We considered the importance of language and how it is designing our economy, but also how it could change it. [» Link](#)

17/02/2022 MEYA gathering 3 | Embodiment

We pretend to be rational beings, acting in a logical and efficient manner. But what about our gut feelings? Could we rely more on our bodies to feel the complexity of the world? Can intuition, emotion and feeling help us to take responsibility and change our behaviour? [» Link](#)

24/02/2022 MEYA gathering 4 | Expanding the horizon

To imagine a more equal, just and fair economy, we looked at non-western and indigenous knowledge systems. If we listen, what could we learn from other perspectives? Could these be leading in reimagining our relationship with each other, with other species and with the planet? [» Link](#)

March**03/03/2022 MEYA gathering 5 | Strategies and tactics**

The session was about how to make knowledge actionable and how to move from thinking to doing. [» Link](#)

03/03/2022 Publication: Co-emerging Economies | Exploring Radical Perspectives on Post-Anthropocentric Economies

The book was published by Lecturis in March 2022 and is available for online purchase. The publication is a collaboration with Philips Experience Design and Avans University of Applied Sciences, see above for the full description of the project in the Highlights section. [» Link](#)

10/03/2022 A Journey Through The Wormhole - RegionArts Workshop: From conceptual project to product or service

RegionArts workshop on the Validation Tool developed during the project. Through a roleplay participants get insight in several steps in the development from the concept phase of an artwork towards implementation in another sector. [» Link](#)

10/03/2022 MEYA gathering 6 | Local actions

Participants worked on and executed their actions in their local context. The participants could also schedule a feedback moment with the leading-learners this week. [» Link](#)

14/03/2022 Zine: Make Economy yours again | Tactical Tools for Alternative Economic Narratives
In this publication, we explore the constellation of starting points, notions and concepts developed by and with the learning community. It consists of essays on the format, content, and educational framework of

MEYA, as well as a collection of the manifestos, commitments, promises, hopes and stories the learning community developed. [» Link](#)

17/03/2022 MEYA gathering 7**Presentation of actions**

Participants shared their action and presented their learnings from executing the action. [» Link](#)

22/03 – 25/03/2022 RegionArts x Arctic Design Week and RegionArts Exchange of Experience in Rovaniemi

Exchange of Experience in Rovaniemi, Lapland. Baltan presented their Action Plan and progress in implementation. Next to that, we facilitated the workshop A Journey Through the Wormhole as part of the Arctic Design Week. This occasion allowed us to test the workshop in an international setting. Lastly, Marlou van der Cruisen attended as a speaker at AHA Dialogues at Arctic Design Week, moderated by Päivi Tahkokallio. The panel discussed sustainability and the importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration to mitigate the effects of climate change.

[» Baltan website info](#)

[» Intergeurope](#)

[» Tapahtumat website](#)

April**22/04 – 03/06/2022 Expo takeover: Flatland | Boey Wang & André van de Wijdeven**

Expo takeover by Boey Wang and André van de Wijdeven. The two artists set themselves a challenge: to disclose the 'DNA' of André's sculptures into a linear narration through comic drawings. In the exhibition they explore the narrative gap between material and image, space and flatness, dynamic perspective, and fixed frames. [» Link](#)

May**1/05/2022 Podcast Episode: Van het podcastje naar de muur**

Lorenzo Gerbi contributed to Marleen van Bergeijk's podcast 'Van het podcastje naar de muur'. They talked about learning communities and how to create space to rehearse change, starting from their common experience in Make Economy Yours Again. [» Link](#)

10/05/2022 Workshop: Rehearsing the Revolution

A collaborative storytelling game for radical change, working with the elements of theatre, spoken word, movement, experience design and visual arts. See the full description in the Highlights section above. [» Link](#)

19/05/2022 Online workshop for the Data-Driven Design Lab course at the Bezalel Design School of Jerusalem.

The course explores the possibilities in a world where designers' raw materials are data produced through technology, science and creative thinking. How can design reactions and interventions produce different types of desirable or dangerous futures for humans and their environment? Baltan contributed with the workshop I Measure, therefore I know, therefore I understand, therefore am I? During the day – through a series of exercises – we reflected on measurements as a tool of knowledge and understanding. We invited the students to reflect on their position and influence as observers of the objects that surround them.

24/05/2022 Marginalia Reading Group #1 – The Dragonfly Will be the Messiah by Masanobu Fukuoka

As a follow-up to the two editions of Make Economy Yours Again, we launched an online reading group that proposed a series of books along the thematic lines of our learning communities. See the full description of the format in the Highlights section above. [» Link](#)

June

1/06 – 30/06/2022 Artist in Residence: Marta Beauchamp (1-month residency)

During her residency, Marta worked on the project Textual Texture. When a text gets re-written to address different audiences, the re-writing author seeks to convey the message whilst adapting length, sentence structure and choice of words in the text to specifically address a target group. Each re-written text adds and removes from the original: by omitting material, it opens new readings, by re-wording it produces new images. In textual texture, the artist compares different re-writings of a text, to highlight formal differences and similarities among them. By transmediating textual features into knotted structures, the formal structure of the text becomes apparent as a system of knots. Presenting the knotted structures as a climbing frame, the formal qualities of the text can be explored through body movements, a process which reveals the ease and difficulty of grasping, returns the temporal experience of reading and points to reading as an action which necessarily requires active engagement.

Marta Beauchamp (born 1990, IT/UK) works as an installation and sound artist in Salzburg, AT. Her ongoing PhD in practice project "Tipping points in translation" results from the fusion of her previous academic studies in music, neuroscience, design and media arts. Marta Beauchamp's work focuses on translating scientific publications into visual and audi-

tory experiences, bringing theoretical knowledge to an experiential space. Her artistic research in circadian rhythmicity and climate change is linked to the study of the limits that both individual organisms and the earth system have in adapting to changes. [» Link](#)

14/6/2022 Mikromedas AdS/CFT 001 receives an Honorary Mention at STARTS Prize 2022

Valery Vermeulen received an Honorary Mention on the occasion of the Ars Electronica S+T+ARTS Prize '22 with the project Mikromedas AdS/CFT 001, co-produced by the new media artist, Concertgebouw Brugge (BE) and Baltan Laboratories (NL). Mikromedas AdS/CFT 001 is part of the multimedia project Mikromedas. Mikromedas is a data-driven music project in which the compositions produced use data from space, deep space, and astrophysical simulation models. Unique systems and innovations in using astrophysical data and models as new tools for artistic creation were designed to realise the project. These include data sonification, data visualisation, and algorithmic composition. [» Link](#)

23/06 – 25/06/2022 European Meeting

| **The New Atlas of Digital Art** (at MEET Milan)

Lorenzo Gerbi contributed to the European Meeting | The New Atlas of Digital Art at MEET Digital Culture Center in Milan (23–25 June) by joining the thematic table of Art / Science / Technology with colleagues from all over Europe to discuss the main trends and experiences on the nexus of these disciplines. [» Link](#)

26/06/2022 Workshop: Disentangling Text

Knots bind, slide, stop, tighten, and loosen. The different ways in which a knot can connect two pieces of string opens all sorts of possibilities to compose haptic textures, which can be used to make the woven nature of a text apparent. In this workshop, participants experienced translating the formal qualities of a text by means of knotting. By focusing on relationships of tension between textual elements, participants worked in groups to translate this into an interweaving of knots, using their body presence as a weight to sense the tension in the textual structure. Disentangling Text is a workshop that expands on Marta Beauchamp's ongoing Textual Texture project, which she developed in her one-month residency at Baltan Laboratories. [» Link](#)

26/06/2022 Festival of Poetry-Shaped Art

On the 26th of June, we hosted the one-day Festival of Poetry-Shapes Art (FOPSA) at Baltan. [» Link](#)

28/06/2022 Marginalia Reading Group #2 – The Democracy of Species by Robin Wall Kimmerer

In The Democracy of Species, Robin Wall Kimmerer

guides us towards a more reciprocal, grateful, and joyful relationship with our animate earth, from the wild leeks in the field to the deer in the woods. Kimmerer shows us the importance of language in changing our relationship with the earth. She writes about the tension between taking the lives of other species for our survival and honouring those lives and shows how deeply connected human beings are with the soil we live on. See full description of the format in the Highlights section above. [» Link](#)

July

02/07/2022 Workshop: Rehearsing New Meanings for Economic Alternatives

As part of the Piet Zwart Master Education in Arts' Graduation show at TENT, Rotterdam, Lorenzo Gerbi facilitated a workshop derived from his research on indisciplinary. The session focused on how changing the language of economics could change it too.

[» Link](#)

13/07/2022 E-book: HumaniTies and Artificial Intelligence

HumaniTies and Artificial Intelligence publication, edited by our artistic advisor Freddy Paul Grunert and supported by Baltan Laboratories. The transversal character of artificial intelligence and the related social, economic, ethical, legal and cultural impacts call for interdisciplinary discussions that go beyond the purely technological angle. This is the focus of the book, to present the result of interdisciplinary discussions on artificial intelligence and humanity carried out at the Centre for Advanced Studies, Joint Research Centre, European Commission. The manuscript presents a collection of thoughts from different angles and disciplines: from emotions to creativity, from feminism to the environment. Many of the topics discussed in this book are central to the European policy frameworks addressing the development and use of AI and the production, sharing, and use of data underpinning many AI developments. [» Link](#)

15/07/2022 Kick-off meeting ARTeCHÓ project

The kick-off meeting of the project took place online. SERN (Belgium) will be the coordinator of the project together with partners MEET Digital Cultural Center (Italy), FZC Fundación Zaragoza Conocimiento (Spain), Baltan Laboratories (Netherlands), and FSBC – Frankfurt School of Finance & Management (Germany). ARTeCHÓ will have a duration of 30 months and will launch a European call to select 15 fellows for a 7-month Fellowship Program to innovate and develop their projects and put into practice the disruptive technology of Blockchain and NFTs.

August

31/08/2022 Application deadline

– Raise Your Voice

Baltan invited designers to join *Raise Your Voice (RYV)*, a learning and coaching trajectory in autumn 2022 for Netherlands-based designers, studios and collectives active - or with an ambition to be active - in socially-engaged art and situated design. See full description of the project in the Highlights section above.

[» Link](#)

September

08/09 – 11/09/2022 TRANSIT preparatory meetings

Marlou and Lorenzo went to Barcelona for preparatory meetings of TRANSIT, a new consortium for submitting a Horizon Europe project application.

22/09/2022 Raise your voice: Kick-off meeting

The Kick-Off gathering on the 22nd of September 2022 started with a round of presentations from the participants and some exercises to get to know each other and the partner organisations. Participants were invited to present themselves in a free format and to think about what they wanted to share about themselves or how they wanted others to perceive them. These gave interesting and personal insights and resulted in authentic presentations.

October

01/10/2022 Marlou van der Crujsen and Lorenzo Gerbi start as new Baltan co-directors

From October 1, 2022, Lorenzo Gerbi and Marlou van der Crujsen took on the directorship of Baltan Laboratories. They have been deeply involved in the organisation's artistic development and business direction in the past years. [» Link](#)

06/10/2022 Raise your voice

– Gathering 1: Myths & Stories

Stories are fundamental for understanding ourselves and the world around us. Could we together create a story that steers us towards a more loving and caring relationship with the planet and all its inhabitants? Elise Talgorn, Senior Design Strategist at Philips Experience Design and Research Fellow at Delft University of Technology led this session.

11/10/2022 (cancelled)

Marginalia Reading Group #3

– Parable of the Sower by Octavia E. Butler

For the third Marginalia event, we moved to fiction. *Parable of the Sower* is a dystopian novel about the future, set in 2025 (first published in 1993). [» Link](#)

11/10/2022 RegionArts workshop A Journey Through the Wormhole, facilitated by Koen Snoeckx in the context of European Week of Regions and Cities

20/10/2022 Book launch: Co-Emerging Economies at Willem Twee Artspace, Den Bosch

On occasion of the book launch of Co-emerging Economies: Exploring Radical Perspectives on Post-Anthropocentric Economies, Future of Work Foundation and Baltan Laboratories, in collaboration with The100Hands presented a special program on how we can restore our relationship with the planet in an economy where the needs of humans are no longer paramount. [» Link](#)

25/10/2022 Workshop: Rehearsing Change | Fostering a culture of radical self-care

We all have stories to tell that could enrich the world, whether through words, sounds, or any other expressive act. But sometimes, our voices can't come out freely because the body is trying to keep us safe. It isn't just acute trauma that shifts us into survival mode. Stress does that too, and in a complex, profoundly unequal and ecologically imperilled world, most of us don't feel at ease. In this workshop, Valentina Vella guided us through somatic exercises based on the Polyvagal Theory and her own embodied artistic practice that gave us a taste of what is possible when we work with and not against the needs of the body and the nervous system. This workshop was part of the *Embassy of Health* program during Dutch Design Week. [» Link](#)

27/10/2022 Raise your Voice – Dutch Design Week Symposium

On October 27, during Dutch Design Week, Baltan Laboratories organised the Raise Your Voice Symposium at Natlab. More information above in the highlights. [» Link](#)

27/10/2022 Presentation HumanITies and Artificial Intelligence. Posthuman Week event. [» Link](#)

28/10/2022 Embassy of Health Conference

At Dutch Design Week Baltan organised a short interlude (an embodied practice prepared by Meredith Degyansky) in the conference to allow attendees to return to their bodies to feel the discussion. [» Link](#)

November

3/11/2022 Raise your voice – Gathering 2: Pluriversal workshop

In this workshop, hosted by Sophie Krier and Nur Horsanali, participants were invited to reflect deeply

on the podcast *Warming Up to the Pluriverse #7: On designing otherwise*, a conversation with Arturo Escobar, author of *Designs for the Pluriverse. Radical Interdependence, Autonomy and the Making of Worlds*.

9/11/2022 RegionArts Final Event

The RegionArts Final Event Unleashing innovation by catalyzing interactions among Artists, Science and Technology – European and Regional experiences took place at Casa da Música in Porto, Portugal. The event was moderated by Chiara Frenchia and organised by Porto Design Factory; SERN & INOVA, counting on the presence and participation of Vincenzo Capocasale, the Joint Secretariat of the Interreg Europe Programme, the funding Programme of the project. Marlou van der Cruisen represented Baltan in one of the roundtables of the event. [» Link](#)

12/11/2022 Talk at WIP Festival

Lorenzo Gerbi gave a talk at WIP Festival, organised by CYENS Centre of Excellence, the Research and Innovation Centre of Excellence in Cyprus, focusing on Interactive media, Smart systems and Emerging technologies. He talked about Baltan's interdisciplinary approach. [» Link](#)

17/11/2022 Raise your voice – Gathering 3: What about our bodies?

Could the body help us to go beyond logical thinking and move from understanding to feeling? Starting from the body as a dimension we all share is not just equalising but can open up other ways of knowing. Building on the notion of radical relationality developed by Escobar and others, "that everything exists because everything exists", in this workshop, we came together to grapple with how to notice, cultivate, and embody relational worlds (2018, Duke University Press). Or, in other words, how to deeply know in our bodies that we are part of an interdependent web that is foundational to our collective survival. The session was led by Meredith Degyansky, a writer, activist, and artist inside her brain/body.

18/11/2022 Marginalia Reading Group #4 – The Earthly Community.

Reflections on the Last Utopia by Achille Mbembe (in collaboration with V2_)

In this book, Mbembe explores what remains of the human subject in an age when the instrumentality of reason is carried out by and through information machines and technologies of calculation. Who will define the threshold or set the boundary distinguishing between the calculable and the incalculable? [» Link](#)

22/11 – 24/11/2022

Raise Your Voice – Exchange to Budapest

Between November 22nd and 24th, the *Raise Your Voice* group travelled from Eindhoven to Budapest for an exchange hosted by ProProgressione.

ProProgressione facilitated the first day with a one-day session around their *Socially Engaged Art* method and the methodology of *Theatre in Education* (TEI). It entails a consideration of arts as active and integrated parts of society, with all its inequalities, structural problems, and challenges. ProProgressione believes that for tackling those, art must take an action and, by using its skill sets, empower underprivileged and marginalised actors.

Alessia Tripaldi from Sineglossa facilitated the second day in Budapest on their *Archetypes & Soft Skills* methodology. This methodology helps participants 'undress' their professional role, bringing their transversal and soft skills into a workgroup. Through an initial self-assessment process, participants choose which archetype to identify with. Each archetype represents a soft skill (empathy, resilience, leadership etc.). The group is formed based on the identity of the participants, who join as Magician, Wise, Innocent, answering the questions "Who am I?" rather than "What can I do?".

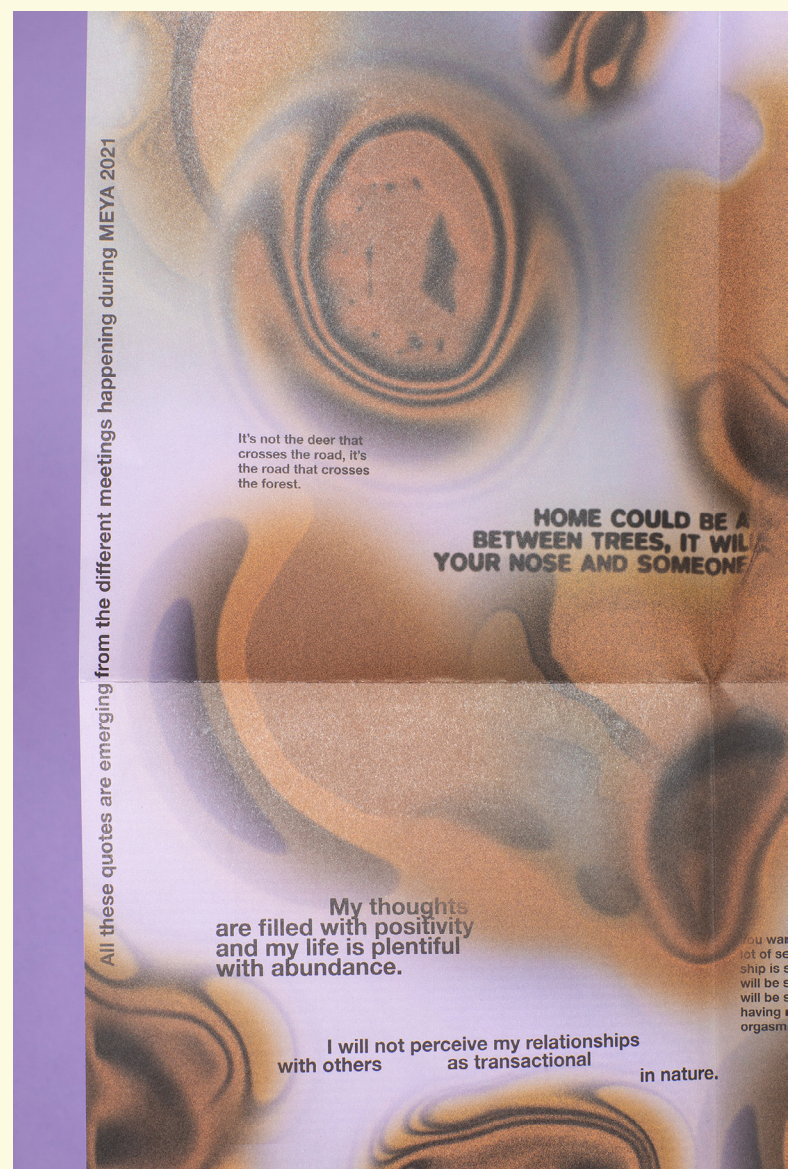
December

1/12/2022 Roundtable at Magma Fest

Lorenzo Gerbi joined (online) a roundtable during Magma Fest (organised by Materahub in Matera, Italy) on the first thematic day of the festival, entitled *Creativity at the Core of Entrepreneurship*. ➔ [Link](#)

28/12/2022 Raise Your Voice Podcast

As a conclusion of the *Raise Your Voice* trajectory, we developed (together with Marleen van Bergeijk) a podcast series in which we talked about how to develop your voice as a designer or artist working on societal issues. In this podcast series you will get to know the participants, their voices and learnings through audio fragments and conversations. ➔ [Link](#)



24. MEYA zine (picture Barbara Medo, graphic design Alice Zani)