

# Dream Infrastructures

## On funding, knowledge diffusion, feedback & mentorship

Trust x Rhizome x New Inc 27 Jun 24 | 4:30-6:00PM

### Biggest Themes:

1. Interpretation / Translation “Speaking the language” - especially when those languages are hyper-specific/hyper-local
2. Collective Financial Distribution systems ~ how to maintain them + get money into these systems in the first place
3. Facilitation & Maintainers
  - a. How do you decide the right people for your group / what’s the accountability process
4. Space
  - a. Extending space for multiple uses/groups/people
  - b. Co-ownership
5. Connective tissues
  - a. Networks of para-institutions
  - b. How do we get these spaces together - network is active but need more collection points?
  - c. digital gardens
  - d. Scaling / growing
6. How do we take these structures and resources for trad institutions and give them to para-institutions?
  - a. Maybe they don’t have non profit status

### What are your questions / reactions / thoughts related to “dream infrastructures” ?

1. What are ways to engage large groups in collective dreaming and collective infra building? [Theme 5]

2. How do you decide who needs/deserves support? With whose what standard? (Especially in world of accelerating inequality, which is very reflective in the accessibility to support systems. Non-passport or green card holders start from a different ground for example)
3. How could emerging practitioners without much resume or platform even enter these para institutions in the first place? Do we even have a ground for discussion in terms of the ability to dream?
4. Are these Utopic infrastructures geared more to being online or to be engaged with in real time/in person? I think dream infrastructures in New York feel kind of far fetched especially in creative industries [ Theme 4]
5. How can we scale larger infra in a parainstitutional modality, such as r&d, physical infrastructure and technologies [Theme 5]
6. What are the means for funding for these infrastructures? [Theme 2]
7. What are the limitations between “dreams” and “infrastructures” other than the obvious?
8. How do you form arguments for the riskiness to this? [Theme 1]
9. How can we create funding that isn't put at risk by financial discrimination (so called vice industries etc) [Theme 2]
10. I think about language. Institutions tend to speak different ones and I wonder about the kind of translation work needed so that complementary para-institutions might more readily click up [Theme 1]
11. legal infrastructures?
12. Maintenance vs Feedback and infrastructures? dreams vs reality and limitations of infrastructures. [Theme 3]
13. Scalability and reliability of para institution and infrastructure? Governance of infrastructure? [Theme 5]
14. whose infrastructures?  
infra when where how?  
para infrastructure?
15. How do we create shared infrastructures? [Theme 1 + 5]
16. When does an institution become obsolete?
17. How long is "infrastructure " meant to last?
18. What's the scope of infrastructures here? Like is this restricted to social media//networked computing? Or “logistics”? Or networks of knowledge sharing? [Theme]
19. When does a para institution become a regular institution?
20. What are funding models that are neither parasitic in big corporate no on governments nor on artist communities? Where does the money come from? Where could it come from?

21. What does it look like when you are/have/lead an institution? how will you use your knowledge and experience?
22. What does it mean to talk about dreams vs needs?
23. How can you dream if you Don't have your basic needs met?
24. What happens when para institutions fail to protect people and
25. How can you run a gallery without blood money 🩸 +1
26. How does funding play into this
27. How to convince people that empathy and culture are worth funding, especially in a country/context that does not offer social services or basic needs for people?
28. How do you get funding for para-institutions?
29. How do you introduce and reinforce structure without hierarchy? what does accountability look like in these types of institutions?
30. How do traditional ideas of ownership and copyright evolve within the para-institution ?
31. What category do my dreams fall within ?
32. What does it mean to inhabit someone else's dream?
33. Structuring collective efforts within non-profit structures, but still being able to support the collective financially
34. How we survive + sustain things ?
35. Sustainably funding communities like 8-ball ~
36. Introduce structure into para-institutions without ruining what works about them //
37. How do we articulate our dreams ?
38. What are ways of bringing in outside worlds into our physical spaces that don't involve social media /  
(i.e. centralized + algorithmic streams ?)
39. When do traditional institutions become obsolete ?  
Can we plan for their obsolescence? +
40. How does para institutes decided what's needed? How to not fall into the same traps with main stream Neo liberal institutions where the future only predicts the past in a safe and predictable way?
41. Should a para institution be focussed or amorphous?
42. Should a para institution always be community based?
43. How big can a para institution be before it becomes and institution? Does it need to be supported by a larger institution?
44. Is a para institution a business?
45. How might a person find non-governmental associated art funding? I'm from a place where there is none, and a place where is eligible to very limited international fundings.
46. Impact of warfare on international artists collaborations.

47. How to balance very little artist fee with the expectation to produce, while having a full time job?

### **Dream Projects (10 mins)**

On a piece of paper, write 1 sentence about a dream project — can be collective or individual — a dream project might be the precursor to a funding application, the beginnings of a new collective, an event, performance, exhibition, or artistic work, it can even be completely speculative ! ~

Put all the sentences in a hat.

### **Dream Infrastructures (20 mins)**

Get into small groups.

Everyone picks a dream project out of the hat.

Identify any shared patterns between the dreams. Can you name any archetypes?

Write down and describe all the infrastructures needed to realize your group's dreams. Think about any connections between them.

How do you evaluate the dreams?

### **Group 1**

1. Community-run event space and recording studio / radio station
2. A well funded, collaboratively run physical space where people can engage in art making of all disciplines
3. I dream of a federation of para-institutions that allows their ambitions to scale and for more secure funds
4. A matchmaking site connecting artists to scientists that are seeking collaborators.

Dreams around sharing space <3

Space for musical projects - what do nightclubs use space for during the day ?

Systems for distributing empty space to broader communities (Multi-purpose facilities)

Matchmaking scientists x artists ! - Is the way to do this a digital platform ?

Difference between physical and digital connection..

In nyc, logistics get really different because of rent, but in the digital realm everything is so saturated...How do we face the limitations of physical infrastructure ? Legal restrictions, building types, etc.

So how do you get people to know about it ?

## Group 2

1. A connective tissue that facilitates resource sharing between collaboratives
2. Intergenerational, Immersive, and Interactive exhibit staged in a brownstone and mirrors a home. A space to archive and create family stories and memories via stations/activities in each room.
3. Speculative organization that could grow into a real one on climate change (already in the works)

☆.。.:\*°☆.。.:\*°☆.。.:\*°☆.。.:\*°☆

Dreams need to be deciphered,  
...even though funding and practical matters are what we instructed people to think about, actually thinking about people's dreams is a lot less practical.

A lot of the dreams are poetic, there was a dream server ... one was a brain control device (?)

Celibacy as an infrastructure, Play as infrastructure

Less about technical issues, but more dealing about the unconscious

How would we evaluate dreams ~ what makes a dream/idea strong or weak or valuable ?  
We were drawn to the more concrete dream but it was also poetic, so we could project upon.

A lot of dreams are about sharing things that are private, making things visible,

☆.。.:\*°☆.。.:\*°☆.。.:\*°☆.。.:\*°☆

## Group 3

1. A re-granting program starting with \$X (say like \$50k) that gives microgrants to pornmakers which they pay back w/ profits from the film at a rate of 1:1, leading to a cycle of funding generation for an ecology !
  - a. "Pornographic co-op"
    - i. Fundraising infrastructure (crowdfunding?)
    - ii. Admin for money
    - iii. Accountability
    - iv. Security & Privacy
    - v. Only fans + cooperative site
2. Finding a means to unveil the brainwashing we are unaware of...reverting to who we are, mind, body, and soul, untouched by reality.
  - a. Celibacy / Retreat "No Internet" camp
  - b. Vow of silence
  - c. No rules / play / time
    - i. Where is it concrete vs open ended?
    - ii. Unconscious stuff
    - iii. People / participation
3. Literal dream infrastructure, open dataset of dreams contributed from people around the world
  - a. Digital system
  - b. Electromagnetic field reader
  - c. Sleep
  - d. Dreamcoins
4. A digital and physical reliquary, or storage container, sacred due to the contents/art/relics it contains. This reliquary would exist as an accessible webpage linked to a server within a physical personal sculpture, containing relics.
  - a. Raspberry Pi
  - b. Local Server
  - c. Public Space
  - d. Glassblower
5. Giant sculptural structure that is accessible to the public
6. An actual business with a DAO governance / ownership structure. The POS system is blockchain native, aka the register is running a protocol where employees possess an abstracted wallet address, which they use to clock into their shifts, make schedule, etc. The paycheck is automatically allocated to this wallet address. Protocol determines whether workers partake in profit-sharing, hourly, salary, or whatever model the community decides. A percentage of profits go to funding allied organizations, such as arts organizing, mutual aid groups, or whatever. Essentially, these are intentional business protocols, managed collectively and transparently.



Collective governance and accountability

Thinking about the toolsets and agreement making that happens in different organizations ?

For accountability, what's static vs reactive.

Static meaning there's a ruleset from the start that everyone strictly follows.

But also there's a type of accountability that's ever evolving.

Getting funding from people you don't agree with

A lot of it abstractly was about systems, the necessity of structuring things at certain levels.

What are the benefits of structure? What are the things that escape people's grasps or endanger the organization if they aren't structured enough?

Without trust, there's exclusion

A coherent idea without specifics vs the specific without coherence

Some of the dreams were in conversation with each other, finishing each other's sentences ?

What does a dream contain that enables it to become a reality?



## Group 4

4. A DIY art + code based exhibition and performance space
  - a. Does this have to be legal? squatting /
  - b. What is the relationship to landlords / real estate / government + gentrification
5. What would scientific / reliable knowledge production look like that starts from saturated community interests?
6. Dream project is a fully funded solo museum show in a newly government/grant funded institution run by friends
7. Developing an AI - political agent as an avatar for collective political action

- a. Acknowledging that political views might be embedded in the training set
- 5. Schoolscape (Environmental-based [un]learning) Across Several continents hosted by the NEW INC extended community <3



Tension between institutional acceptance vs grassroots organizing

A shared conversation that happens in private, when is the time for it to become more formal or translated into pre-existing (or more "accepted") forms of knowledge diffusion

The dreams are motivated by things that are hard to understand...

What happens when technology gets involved?

Trying to break dreams down into their smallest parts in order to give feedback, advice, or actualize bits of them.

Is there a translator needed between the different para-institutions /organizations ?  
Especially when funding gets involved - you have to speak a certain language or meet certain expectations between private + public.



## Group 5

1. A free to access, third space that is not work, nor home, not institutionalized where we could go and do a range of activities ~ play, learn, socialize, rest without mandatory \$\$\$ transactions
2. Host a massive LAN party IRL for making cute websites (instead of games)
  - a. What would the network / space be for this?
  - b. What kind of websites? Purpose or goal based alignment or is it fun?
  - c. Is there a competition? Prizes?
  - d. Do topics reflect social causes?
3. I have 2 nested dream projects
  - a. A set of well funded residences based on resources / communities I'm a part of
  - b. A funded non profit run by another cooperative that operates them



4. Hyperlocal wikimap of NYC with collaborative physical installations at libraries / public spaces for community input & knowledge-sharing
  - a. Should this have institutional support or is it its own organization?
    - i. Is it funded externally?
    - ii. Connection to existing wikis?
  - b. Physical spaces building / contribute
  - c. Verifying & Maintaining
  - d. Centralized or does every locality have its own org?
  - e. Can individuals contribute to their own?



*Where do we find space?? + Can we repurpose already existing infrastructure ?*

*Who are the community facilitators?*

*How to bring online community organizing energy to IRL space?*

*Streamio - file sharing w/ streaming affordances*

*The commonality is that they necessitated space, facilitation of gathering of different types*

*A parallel between intimacy*

*The emotional labor of maintaining / facilitation*

*What is a dream vs what is the dream infrastructure, are they nested within each other ?*





## Affiliated Orgs

|                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Livecode NYC                                                                                           |
|                                                                                                        |
| AORTA films                                                                                            |
| Restlessegg.com                                                                                        |
| school for poetic computation maybe, ? but i'm not directly affiliated, just participated as a student |
| gnosis guild                                                                                           |
| @DISC.global                                                                                           |
| i'm in the trust discord                                                                               |
| P2P, SOAM.earth                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                        |
| Yes! Prime Produce and The Cybernetics Library (among others)                                          |
| Prime Produce                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                        |
| Flux Factory, Artists and Hackers                                                                      |
|                                                                                                        |
| Flux Factory, Itinerant Signal Institute                                                               |
|                                                                                                        |
| Livecode.NYC, NEW INC, Processing Foundation, SFPC                                                     |
| 8-Ball Community                                                                                       |

|                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Onx                                                                   |
| Projekt Blank                                                         |
| Wikimedia NYC, Prime Produce                                          |
| Yes, planetqueer, 8 ball radio                                        |
| Potentially! The Codex journal and a loose artist org I am part of... |
| Wikimedia NYC, Prime Produce                                          |
| yes, Galerie Yeché Lange                                              |

1. **Livecode NYC:** [Livecode.NYC](#)
2. **AORTA Films:** [AORTA Films](#)
3. **Restless Egg:** [Restless Egg](#)
4. **School for Poetic Computation (SFPC):** [School for Poetic Computation](#)
5. **Gnosis Guild:** [Gnosis Guild](#)
6. **@DISC.global:** [DISC.global](#)
7. **Trust:** <https://trust.support/>
8. **P2P, SOAM.earth:** [SOAM Earth](#)
9. **Prime Produce:** [Prime Produce](#)
10. <https://www.cyberneticslibrary.org/>
11. **Flux Factory:** [Flux Factory](#)
12. **Itinerant Signal Institute:** Information not found.
13. **NEW INC:** [NEW INC](#)
14. **Processing Foundation:** [Processing Foundation](#)
15. **8-Ball Community:** [8-Ball Community](#)
- ~~16. **Onx:** Information not found.~~
17. **Projekt Blank:** <https://projekt-blank.com/>
18. **Wikimedia NYC:** [Wikimedia NYC](#)
19. **Planetqueer:** <https://www.planetqueer.org/>
20. **8 Ball Radio:** [8 Ball Radio](#)
- ~~21. **The Codex Journal:** Information not found.~~
22. **Galerie Yeché Lange:** <https://www.yl.baby/>

These links cover most of the projects you listed. Some specific projects or organizations may not have a distinct online presence or were not found in the search results. If you need more detailed information or if there are specific details you'd like to explore further, please let me know!