

Onglet 1

A Plan to Co-creatively Grow a Sympoietic Art Organism

Website (Network visualization): <https://phileasdg.github.io/sympoietic-art-organism/>

Website (Art gallery): <https://phileasdg.github.io/sympoietic/>

Introduction	1
Project plan and structure:	2
Phase 1: Seeding the commons	2
Phase 2: Generative cycles	2
Phase 3: Releasing the organism, and reflections	3
Licensing and ethics	3
Project timeline	3
Expectations from contributors:	4
Engagement with the commons	4
Commitment to generative cycles	4
Process over product	4
Care and reciprocity	4
Reflection and presence	5
Time and boundaries	5
Ethical co-creation	5
Manifesto: [Organic Autocatalytic Disruptive Collective Anarchist Magical Quilting]:	6
Organic (Sara)	6
Autocatalytic (Gabriel)	6
Disruptive (Kyle)	6
Collective (Nadine)	7
Anarchist (Sonal)	7
Magical (Lina)	7
Quilting (Phileas)	7
Hybrid (Louison)	7
Liberation (elly)	7

Introduction

The goal of this project is to grow a **sympoietic art organism**. To cultivate an art ecosystem by drawing from and enriching shared artistic commons. To showcase art that mixes media and visions, that brings out the analog from digital, and digitizes the analog.

By **sympoietic art organism**, we mean an artwork (or more precisely, an ongoing artistic process) that is poetic, conceptual, and ecological in nature. It is:

- Co-created (not made by a single author),
- Open-ended and adaptive (always becoming),

- Responsive to its environment (not closed off from change),
- Distributed in agency (not centered on human control), and
- Relational (interdependent with other systems, beings, or forces).

The word “sympoietic” comes from sympoiesis, coined by systems theorists and developed by Donna Haraway, meaning “making-with” rather than autopoiesis, which is self-making. Sympoiesis is collective, dynamic, and contingent.

Project plan and structure:

Phase 1: Seeding the commons

Each artist contributes a set of personal works (unfinished, polished, failed, loved, orphaned, digital, textual, visual, sonic) to a shared online drive.

There is no gatekeeping. All material is welcome.

All materials in the drive are treated as open to manipulation, recombination, and reinterpretation by others in the group.

Phase 2: Generative cycles

Every two weeks, each artist must contribute at least five new pieces derived in whole or part from materials in the commons.

New works can:

- Integrate multiple existing pieces
- Deconstruct and fragment earlier pieces
- Translate across media (e.g., image to sound, poem to movement)
- Introduce new material, provided it builds on or relates to the commons

Every new piece must be labeled on the shared google drive and spreadsheet using the following schema:

Schema: [Cycle Number]-[Artist_Name]-[Unique Piece ID]

Example: C3-Jane_Doe-1

A shared metadata spreadsheet will log:

- Title/ID of each piece
- Creator
- Cycle
- Parent pieces (with IDs)
- Brief description or notes (optional)
- Type/medium (optional)

Phase 3: Releasing the organism, and reflections

The spreadsheet will become a genealogy or kinship map, a record of how pieces evolve, combine, or give rise to others. This allows us to visualize the relational structure of the organism over time.

Periodic reflection (via video calls, voice notes, or written journals) will help us trace emergent themes, breakdowns, breakthroughs.

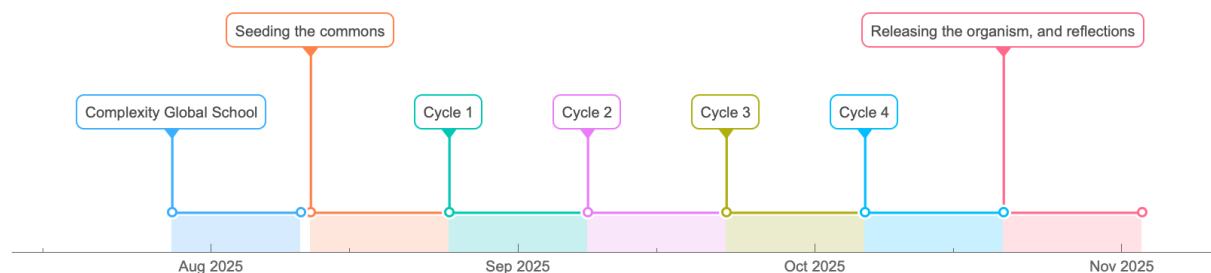
Licensing and ethics

All shared materials are considered to be under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike (CC BY-SA) license by default.

Artists must credit derivative works using the IDs of source pieces.

No one “owns” the final form; all contributions remain traceable but are shared.

Project timeline



Project start: Mon 11 Aug 2025

Project end: Tue 11 Nov 2025 (**TOCONFIRM**)

Seeding the commons: Mon 11 Aug 2025 to Sun 24 Aug 2025

Project Cycles:

- *Cycle 1:* Mon 25 Aug 2025 to Sun 7 Sep 2025
- *Cycle 2:* Mon 8 Sep 2025 to Sun 21 Sep 2025
- *Cycle 3:* Mon 22 Sep 2025 to Sun 5 Oct 2025
- *Cycle 4:* Mon 6 Oct 2025 to Sun 19 Oct 2025

Releasing the organism, and reflections: Mon 20 Oct 2025 to Sun 2 Nov 2025 (**TOCONFIRM**)

Expectations from contributors:

This project is a collective act of artistic becoming. To cultivate a genuinely sympoietic art organism, each contributor agrees to engage with care, consistency, and curiosity. While this project resists rigid hierarchy and prescription, a shared rhythm and ethos is essential to its growth. The expectations below are not rules but invitations to hold space for the collective process, to show up for each other, and to let the organism evolve through our entangled efforts.

Engagement with the commons

Contribute generously to the shared repository in Phase 1: this can include sketches, abandoned fragments, complete pieces, notes, sounds, scans, photos, poetry, code, textures, anything you're willing to offer to the collective pool.

Treat the commons as a living archive. You're encouraged to explore, adapt, remix, or respond to others' contributions with openness and respect.

Commitment to generative cycles

During each generative cycle (Phase 2), contribute a **minimum of five new pieces derived in part or in full** from the commons.

Label and log your work according to the agreed schema and metadata structure.

Consistency matters more than perfection. The goal is not to produce polished works, but to participate in an evolving process.

Process over product

Embrace experimentation, failure, divergence, and nonlinearity.

Share process notes, sketches, or fragments if they feel meaningful to you. The organism values traces of becoming as much as final outcomes.

Be willing to release authorship: once shared, your contributions become part of a collective body.

Care and reciprocity

Engage with the work of others in the spirit of dialogue, not extraction.

Acknowledge source materials in derivative works using the shared ID schema.

Offer constructive feedback when invited, but more importantly, stay attuned to how your participation nurtures (or neglects) the organism.

Reflection and presence

Take part in periodic reflections (group calls, voice notes, journal entries, etc.) as you're able.

These are not evaluations, but spaces to surface patterns, insights, tensions, and emergent themes in the process.

Time and boundaries

We recognize that life is complex and energy fluctuates. If you anticipate periods of lower participation, communicate that with the group.

The strength of the organism lies in sustained, honest presence, not in overextension.

Ethical co-creation

Respect the licensing framework (CC BY-SA), and the relational ethics of this project.

If you introduce material from outside the commons, ensure it aligns with the licensing model and is clearly marked.

Assume shared responsibility for holding a space that is inclusive, non-extractive, and experimental.

Manifesto: [Organic Autocatalytic Disruptive Collective Anarchist Magical Quilting]:

A manifesto for the co-creation of a sympoietic art organism

The following manifesto **will be (TODO REPLACE WITH IS ONCE IT'S DONE)** assembled from contributions from each founding member of the sympoietic art collective. It will be its own record of our meta-artistic intent, and art object. It will be available as part of the artistic commons we are growing.

MAX 1 PAGE EACH

[HERE, WE COULD HAVE A SECTION EACH TO WRITE WHATEVER WE LIKE + AN INTRO SECTION CO-WRITTEN - THE TITLE FOR EACH SECTION SHOULD INCLUDE THE WORDS WE USE IN THE EXQUISITE CORPSE]

PLEASE ADD YOUR MANIFESTO SECTION DRAFTS HERE:

Organic (Sara)

Path-dependency

Chaotic nature

Dependence on geography and notions of proximity (thinking of evolution)

Challenging the notion of identity

What is a visual informational unit?

Self-referentiality is a likely outcome in organic (non-algorithmic) conditions, if a comparison with life aiming to self-perpetuate is valid

—

Challenge authorship, identity and death

Autocatalytic (Gabriel)

Disruptive (Kyle)

RULES FOR DISRUPTION

1. WE CALL FOR ALL CHANGE TO BE LOVING
2. DON'T MANIFEST MUCK ON A CLEAN PLATE
3. DISRUPTION IS A DIALECTIC (HEGELIAN)
4. TO DISRUPT IS TO CHANGE THE PATH OF AN ART CONVERSATION
5. DISRUPTION SWERVES BUT STAYS ON THE ROAD
6. A DISRUPTER CAN ALWAYS ADD, SUBTRACT, OR MULTIPLY, BUT NEVER DUPLICATE

Collective (Nadine)

In a moment when individualism reigns supreme. Harnessing the spirit of collectivism.
Countering the ethos governing our daily.

Anarchist (Sonal)

Magical (Lina)

Quilting (Phileas)

- Patching ideas together
- Open ended
- Telling stories together
- Collective imagination and shared dreaming

Hybrid (Louison)

Refuse fusion because it means eradication of the self - rather :

Accept hybridation as a way to :

share what cannot be formulated // decenter yourself of the narrative // open the flesh to the new and uncanny // create wormholes in the common ground(?).....

Change as an unholy figure to praise, chaos as a romantic way to embrace otherness.

MUTATE WITHOUT PROMISE (from ïan Larue's analysis of cyborg manifesto)

Liberation (elly)

Release self-imposed constraints

Open your mind to joyful engagement

Nothing is in isolation