

CALL for CONTRIBUTIONS
for

Regenerate!

**a two-day workshop on the eco-systemic turn
in material research and heritage practices**

Thursday 20 and Friday 21 March 2025
Maastricht, the Netherlands

In this special edition of the annual MACCH symposium we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Maastricht Centre for Arts and Culture, Conservation and Heritage and the launch of the renewed Future Materials Lab at the Jan van Eyck Academie.

Current eco-social pressures impact on how we create and how we preserve for the future. And this has implications for the types of materials that we use, for our (varying) understandings of the concept of materiality, and for the position of material research in the arts and heritage fields. With this two-day event we invite researchers and practitioners to examine new practices, models, and imaginaries of material research in the creation and conservation of art and heritage.

Regenerate! brings together creative use of new or old materials with current material developments in the preservation and conservation of arts and heritage. Together we seek to create a space for debate and experimentation that examines – and contributes to – the ecosystemic turn in material research and heritage practices. How can materials advance new understandings of conservation in relation to circularity, repair, and regeneration? Which new forms of (co-)creation, (co-)ownership, business models, legal and policy frameworks, are emerging from shifts in material research and heritage practices? In which ways do material practices push new imaginaries of protecting endangered material, environmental, and cultural heritage?

The two-day workshop will explore these and other questions by creating a dialogue between ancient and new materials, academic and vernacular knowledge, the digital and the physical realms, creative and scientific research. To convey the richness and variety of current approaches to these subjects, the programme will combine talks, workshops, fieldwalks, performances, and other formats.

Does your research or practice resonate with the following sub-themes, or do you want to propose other 'ways of seeing' with materials in preservation and conservation for future

generations, humans and not? Then please join us! **Early**-career researchers and creative practitioners are especially encouraged to submit proposals.

Sub-themes:

- Ecological regeneration in relation to heritage preservation and conservation
- Ethics and politics of material conservation and preservation
- Histories of new materials, and innovation with old materials
- Materiality in organizational policies and strategies of arts and heritage organizations (i.e. in relationship to communication, ownership and governance)
- Interaction between new technologies (i.e. artificial intelligence, open-source models, digitization) and material practices
- Creation and conservation of digital material culture in relation to legal frameworks, including intellectual property

Written abstracts up to 300 words or a link to a 2-minute video/audio clip in English can be submitted by 15 November 2024 to macch@maastrichtuniversity.nl. The selection of contributions will be communicated before 15 December 2024.

Please:

- describe the topic of your contribution, specifying the preferred format: talk, workshop, field visit, performance, etc..
- include a short bio up to 150 words

For contributors not affiliated with arts/research institutes, we can provide financial support towards travel and accommodation to Maastricht.

Organisers

The event is co-organised by [Maastricht Centre for Arts & Heritage, Conservation & Heritage \(MACCH\)](#) and the [Future Materials programme at the Jan van Eyck Academie](#). For more information please contact Claartje Rasterhoff at macch@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

Future Materials is a hybrid programme initiated by the Jan van Eyck Academie. Its core aim is to disseminate knowledge about sustainable materials developed by artists, designers, and other creative practitioners from around the globe. By collecting material projects, disseminating knowledge, and creating opportunities of research and exchange between practitioners from different fields, materials, and communities, the programme supports the transition towards circular, more sustainable futures. The three core elements of the programme are the Future Materials Bank, the Future Materials Lab, and the Future Materials Encounters. The Future Materials Lab, hosting a broad collection of samples of the materials on the Future Materials Bank, is a space of encounter, knowledge exchange, and collaborative working with and around material knowledge. The newly refurbished Future Materials Lab will be launched on occasion of the 'Regenerate!' symposium.

For more information: <https://www.janvaneyck.nl/postacademy/future-materials>

The **Maastricht Centre for Arts and Culture, Conservation and Heritage (MACCH)** is an interdisciplinary research centre that brings together economic, legal, (art) historical, philosophical, sociological and practical expertise to the context of arts and heritage. In response to the demands of the increasingly complex challenges facing the fields of arts and heritage today, MACCH initiates collaborative research projects with researchers, professionals, and students from diverse backgrounds. MACCH is a joint effort of the Maastricht University Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Law, the School of Business and Economics, the Faculty of Science and Engineering, and the Sociaal Historisch Centrum voor Limburg (SHCL) and the Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg (SRAL).

For more information: <https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/research/maastricht-centre-arts-and-culture-conservation-and-heritage>

Venues

Jan van Eyck Academie and surroundings

[MERIAN Art- Science Lab](#)