OPEN CALL

**Hothouse 2020: The Case for a New Political Imagination**

**Application deadline: 10 May 2020**

**Duration: 10 – 12 June 2020**

**Location: Linköping University, Campus Valla, Linköping, Sweden.**

Ours are challenging times globally, nationally and individually marked by a great divide between political issues, policy and rhetoric and the reality and depth of defuturing planetary crises as they arrive by the day touching our lives and future. At the moment, the critical conditions of the world are being addressed by the very political means that have largely created this situation. Therefore the call for a new political imagination, and by implication, a new politics, is not the result of wishful thinking but an imperative begging a response if the current global drift into a defuturing state of unchecked unsustainability is to be countered.

In the summer of 2020 we are launching a hothouse *The Case for a New Political Imagination* in Linköping (Sweden). With this event we are inviting MA and PhD students, social and political activists, artists, performers, designers, young and mature academics, organic intellectuals and general public to have an intense dialogue on why a new political imagination is an issue of pressing importance to global futures, and the viability of our own and many other species. Together we will identify and analytically interrogate the ways that the nature of existing politics structurally, ideologically, conceptually, institutionally obstructs a more complex and appropriate understanding of 'the political', and thus recognition of the foundational basis from which to start approaching a new political imagination.

What are lacking today are any efforts to gather all of the aspects of the world’s complexity together in a relational way, to make sense of the multifaceted situation of interrelated global challenges. Even if this were to happen the current dominance of national political and economic interests obstructs the arrival of a truly international operative institution able to address this global complexity. The hothouse is an invitation to such a complex relational view and an attempt to trace the design of such an alternative relational inquiry and better informed activism. The approach adopted in the hothouse is not delimited by Eurocentric perspectives drawing upon an extensive range of philosophical, historical, cultural and sociological sources.

Why is politics broken?

Why do we need a new political imagination now?

What does it mean to remake oneself and to act otherwise?

These and other burning issues will be addressed in our daily discussions, seminars, workshops, group presentations and games that will take place in Campus Valla (Linköping University) on 10-12 June 2020. During the events participants will get a chance to meet Tony Fry, Madina Tlostanova, Duncan Fairfax, Rolando Vazquez, Eliza Steinbock, Marko Stamenkovic and others.

Selection of the participants will consider the quality of the applications as well as gender balance and diversity. The event will take place in English.

Participation is free but we are unfortunately unable to provide for you travel, housing or board during the events.

You are most welcome to apply for the three events by sending us your CV (max. 1 page) and a letter of intent (max. 1 page) explaining your background and your reasons for participation by May 10, 2020 ([Madina.tlostanova@liu.se](mailto:Madina.tlostanova@liu.se))

The Hothouse is conceptualized by Tony Fry (University of Tasmania) and Madina Tlostanova (LiU) and made possible with the generous support of Riksbankens Jubileumsfond.