Appetite for Justice, Earth Day, 2022
An impact case study
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Executive Summary

On Friday 22nd April 2022, across the six campuses of University of the Arts London (UAL), The Climate Emergency Network (CEN) held its inaugural celebration of Earth Day, titled Appetite For Justice.

Since 1970, communities around the world have come together on April 22nd to honour the planet and celebrate Earth Day. Over half a century on, as many environmental challenges have become more urgent, a growing acknowledgement of the date has become more prevalent, with over 1 billion people in more than 193 countries choosing to mark the occasion.

Earth Day 2022 at UAL built on the metaphor of participating in a meal, inviting the entire UAL community and guests to ‘take a seat at the table’ and participate in a wide variety of shared projects and collective connections. Colleges across UAL saw a wellspring of activity from staff, students and alumni in the form of workshops, performances and talks in communal and public spaces, highlighting creative and optimistic ways towards achieving ecological justice.

Earth Day 2022: Appetite For Justice is one of the many activities of the CEN, an informal yet dynamic UAL network comprising both students and staff since it was founded in 2020 in response to the climate crisis (for more background on CEN see here). It sits autonomously from Climate Action Plan, which has been co-created by staff and student members of UAL’s Climate & Environment Action Group (CEAG).

As part of a pilot project leading up to the launch of the AKO Storytelling Institute at the University of the Arts London (UAL), Doc Society was invited to engage on two levels with Appetite for Justice produced on Earth Day at UAL by Climate Emergency Network (CEN). First, we were asked to reflect on the impact of the event CEN; we then proceeded to map out the beginnings of an impact strategy for the 2023 event, based on Doc Society's social justice centred practice codified in the Impact Field Guide.

UAL and the Climate Crisis

The work to understand the impact potential of the Earth Day event involves first getting a clear picture of the inter-relating climate justice initiatives - institutional and informal - that exist with UAL.

- **Climate Emergency Network**
  Climate Emergency Network, CEN is an informal UAL network comprising students, alumni and staff, founded in 2020 in response to the climate crisis (for background on CEN see here). The network describes itself as an evolving, responsive movement, led by the creativity of UAL’s students, staff, including non-academic staff, collaborators, challengers and friends. The network seeks to optimise community as a catalyst for action and reflection.

- **The institutional response to the climate crisis**
  In 2019, the university responded to the climate emergency by committing to putting climate justice at the heart of its academic offering alongside decarbonising its operations; in June 2021, UAL pledged to achieve net zero across its total carbon footprint by 2040. UAL’s Climate and Environment Action Group (CEAG) leads on developing the institutional response and has created the Climate Action Plan, supported by four working groups. New Principles for Climate, Social and Racial Justice guiding teaching, learning, and practice were launched on Earth Day 2022.

- **Changes at UAL and beyond**
  Ahead of Earth Day 2023, there are contextual changes that may shape the final future direction of the event; not least the changes of senior staff in the university and on the Executive Board. Beyond the University, changes in climate policy at a national and international level may influence the way in which Earth Day 2023 is ultimately realised.
CEN and the institution
Arguably, CEN sits outside the institutional bureaucracy summarised above. But since its inception as an innovative community-led disruptor holding UAL to account, Climate Emergency Network’s activities, impacts and personnel have increasingly become integrated into UAL’s Climate Action Plan, to the point of having activities & staff funded by the University.

With this in mind, the case study has been created with the intention to stimulate thought, conversation, planning and action on how the event could be realised using impact strategy frameworks created by Doc Society.

Appetite for Justice - objectives and delivery
Appetite for Justice built on the metaphor of participating in a meal, inviting the entire UAL community and guests to ‘take a seat at the table’ and participate in a wide variety of shared projects and collective connections. Although it didn’t set out with clearly defined objectives, it was designed to demonstrate the vital role of culture and creativity in processing the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency and how UAL might reimagine our lives in its wake.

Successes
The university came together across colleges to highlight the work of 50+ student projects, giving young artists recognition for their work around the climate and ecological emergency. Informal and communal space was created for discussion; the canteen offered vegan food across all campuses modelling positive climate aware behaviours and The Earth Night party transformed the CSM bar into a celebration of nature and creative action. The tenor of the event was intentionally positive and accessible, creating entry points for people at different stages in their climate journey.

Challenges
In retrospect CEN members acknowledged that for an event designed to catalyse interest in climate justice, the justice agenda was ‘muddy’. The organisers did not take a strategic approach to the opportunities afforded by the day to uplift calls and highlight pathways to action. More specifically, the high-level Principles for Climate, Social and Racial Justice that launched at Earth Day 2022 could have been operationalised into event objectives and their success measured as one way to ascertain the event’s impact. It can of course be argued that CEN is semi-autonomous from UAL’s Climate Action Plan and alignment was not a priority this year. But Earth Day 2022 was supported by university funding allowing it to be delivered at scale, and may well be in the future. Ultimately, the form in which CEN matures and evolves is yet to be decided by its members.

Impact Strategy for Earth Day 2023
For impact to be maximised in future events, having a strategy with clear goals, specific audiences and routes to audience engagement, as laid out in this case study, will enable Earth Day 2023 to optimise its true impact potential. The strategy laid out here should be read as a series of proposals, prompts and pointers for the team to engage more deeply with a more strategic approach. However, our analysis has demonstrated there are some key questions arising from this process that require reflection before plans for Earth Day 2023 can be embarked upon.

Recommendations
- For a clear definition of what climate justice means at UAL and CEN to be articulated (and are they the same?)
- To agree which entity is best placed to host Earth Day 2023; CEN or the CEAG working group ‘Co-designing a Climate Justice Movement’
- Strategic inquiry into the future direction of the Climate Emergency Network (What is its role? What are its objectives? To whom is it accountable? Does it more greatly align with UAL’s
Climate Action Plan or remain a semi-autonomous network? How is it led? Should there be / how to recruit more diverse leadership & members?

- Subject to availability of funding, for UAL to conduct an audit of the University population and their attitudes towards climate (and potentially social & racial justice too) in order to better understand where to meet its audiences at and to measure the progress of purpose-focused activity accordingly.

Conclusion

The rich creativity and diversity that characterised the events on Earth Day 2022 demonstrated the vitally important role of the arts to imagine, inspire and enact a climate just future. However, the inherent tensions around the metamorphosis of CEN from agitator to ‘commissioned activism’ merits reflection by the Network’s members. The future direction of the CEN and ways it can be most useful in accelerating the climate justice agenda across the university will also need to be considered in light of institutional changes. We believe that once the recommendations have been acted upon, the initial strategic outline presented in this case study can be further developed into a plan for Earth Day 2023 that is optimised for impact.
Banquet of the Imagination: LCC Climate Advocates prepare a vegan feast to celebrate the soft launch of UAL’s new Climate, Social and Racial Justice principles.
1.0 Introduction

"The table is where we connect with our gut and digest ideas. We gather at the table to devise, discuss, debate and replenish. At the table we transform raw materials, consider their origins, transmit recipes and memories, share jokes, joys, mend, mould, plot and plan.

—Kate Keara Pelen (Head of Creative Projects: AKO Storytelling Institute, Creative Director: Climate Emergency Network)"

1.1

On Friday 22nd April 2022, across the six constituent Colleges of University of the Arts London (UAL), The Climate Emergency Network (CEN) held its inaugural celebration of Earth Day, entitled Appetite for Justice. The event was conceived and funded as part of the pilot season of the AKO Storytelling Institute and informed by the activities of the Climate Emergency Network.

Since 1970, communities around the world have come together on April 22nd to honour the planet and celebrate Earth Day. Over half a century on, as many environmental challenges have become more urgent, acknowledgement of the date has become more prevalent, with over 1 billion people in more than 193 countries choosing to mark the occasion.

Appetite for Justice built on the metaphor of participating in a meal, inviting the entire UAL community and guests to ‘take a seat at the table’ and participate in a wide variety of shared projects and collective connections: a table “where ideas can be shared, justice defined and fought for, collective action planned and where ritual, ceremony and the unexpected is welcome.”

UAL Sites across London saw a wellspring of activity from staff, students, alumni and guests in the form of workshops, performances and talks in communal and public spaces, highlighting creative and optimistic ways towards achieving ecological justice.

1.2 The purpose of this research

As part of a pilot project leading up to the launch of the AKO Storytelling Institute at the University of the Arts London, Doc Society was invited to carry out research into three art projects, of which Earth Day 2022 is one. Using Doc Society social justice centred practice, developed with and for countless non-fiction filmmakers and other change-makers, and codified in the Impact Field Guide, this case study is a reflection on the 2022 event and the beginnings of a strategy for the 2023 event. This inaugural Earth Day event provided a rich and meaningful launch pad and set of learnings for a re-conceived 2023 event that has the intention of delivering impact at its heart.

1.3 The methodology

The case study proposes a reworking of a vision Earth Day 2023 where impact could be maximised, building on perspectives shared by Kate Keara Pelen, Creative Director of the Climate Emergency Network, Abbi Fletcher, Creative Producer & Communications Manager of the Climate Emergency Network and Niamh Tuft, Climate Action Manager at UAL. In addition, reflections from the CEN’s Earth Day 2022 debrief have also been incorporated. Julia Farrington, Associate Impact Producer, attended planning meetings and visited events at LCC, CSM and LCF on the day itself. The report was written by Jessica Edwards, Impact Consultant, with Julia Farrington.
This feedback has been synthesised and integrated into aspects of the Planning for Impact framework outlined in chapter 2 of Doc Society's Impact Field Guide, to provide the first iteration of a strategy for Earth Day 2023.

By deliberately designing activities that engage audiences at different stages of their climate journey (as informed by Climate Outreach’s influential Britain Talks Climate toolkit) and taking a systems level approach to cultural strategy, we explore how Earth Day 2023 at UAL has the potential to be an even more ambitious and exciting opportunity to innovate, catalyse and deliver a range of impacts throughout the institution.
2.0 Climate Crisis and UAL

2.1 Climate Emergency Network

Climate Emergency Network is an untamed and non-hierarchical network that breaches the boundaries of generation, discipline, college, and historical allegiances. The Network comes together to harness the full force of existential creativity to match the existential crisis that threatens our world.

—Professor Helen Storey, MBE

The Climate Emergency Network (CEN) is an informal yet dynamic community at UAL comprising students, alumni and staff, founded in 2020 in response to the climate crisis (for background on CEN see here). The Network describes itself as an “evolving, responsive movement, led by the creativity of UAL’s students, staff, collaborators, challengers, and friends. Propelled by staying in the tension of what can no longer be, what is happening now, and what is yet to arrive”.

2.1.1 Climate Emergency Network’s Purpose

The network unites around a shared purpose, across differences. Its founder Kate Keara Pelen said: it has “agitated and organised, built up, burnt out, and built up again. And still, there remains a huge amount of work to do, to meet the collective challenge of our time”.

CEN is re-evaluating its purpose as a network, and its impact on the community at UAL. Their purpose is currently articulated as:

**Community as Catalyst for Action**
By accelerating and amplifying individual agency, and nurturing future leadership.

**Community of Reflection**
A network that looks inwards and outwards to find what is most urgent and relevant. Through critical friendship and honesty.

**Community as Refuge**
Where hope and resilience can be restored and replenished together. Where rest and care is valued and protected.

**Community as Compass**
Directed by moral imagination and moral courage.

**Community as Accelerator**
To channel outrage, coupled with innovation into personal, collective and systemic change.

2.1.2 The story so far

The Climate Emergency Network launched during lockdown as an evolution of the Climate Assemblies that took place at Central Saint Martins, Camberwell and Chelsea initiated by Professor Jeremy Till and facilitated by then Creative Producer, Kate Keara Pelen in 2019 and early 2020 during the UK’s first COVID lockdown. In early 2021, Abbi Fletcher joined the Network as a Creative Producer & Communications Manager, funded by UAL’s central climate budget.
During lockdown 2020, an interactive introduction to the climate and environmental emergency was created by staff and students and went on to win a Webby Award. The director of the film said: “CLIMATE EMERGENCY INTERACTIVE is a virtual watch party – where people from around the world gather online to experience a film together. It’s about the climate and ecological emergency. And how it relates to social justice, colonialism, sexism, intersectionality, politics, and creativity.” — Martin Percy, Interactive Director, UNIT9. This then catalysed the online 5-day festival, Five Days, Ten Years, One Planet in September 2020, bringing together academics, students and external guests in a week-long series of talks, workshops and debates.

Seasonal approach

In Winter 20/21 The Network embarked on a new way to organise its work in order to sustain the community and its activities. Slowing down, researching and reflecting in winter, beginning new things in spring, celebrating and flourishing in summer and then reviewing and letting go in autumn. To mark the changing seasons and to align the CEN's collective vision with nature's own rhythms, seasonal Climate Circles - or gatherings - are held, each facilitated by a different member of the community. These artist-led meetings offer a touchpoint for sharing news, meeting like minded creatives, planning activity and supporting each other.

The Climate Emergency Network’s response to COP26

As the Network evolved, a coordinated response to the COP26 Climate Summit in Autumn 2021 was created in the form of Carnival of Crisis: Mobilising Creative Action in the Age of Emergency. This ambitious season of events promoted conversation, collaboration and action within the UAL community as well as with other creative higher education institutions, the cultural sector and creative industries. The Carnival culminated in hundreds of students, alumni, staff, and friends, parading for Climate Justice across London, through Parliament Square, and concluding with talks and performances At Chelsea College of Art’s Parade Ground, opposite Tate Britain. The Parade for Climate Justice mobilised creative change-makers to demonstrate the power of imagination, innovation, and collaboration in the name of climate and ecological justice. A look back on Carnival of Crisis.
As we reflect on Carnival of Crisis, we would like to acknowledge the commitment, generosity and powerful contributions of so many individuals and groups within our community in bringing this season of creative ecological action into being.

Creativity is transformational. Creativity can repair, restore and reimagine our world. Together, we are showing what becomes possible when we unite with shared purpose in the face of the greatest existential challenge of our time.

— Abbi Fletcher, Climate Emergency Network

See Appendix for press response to Carnival of Crisis

**Climate Emergency Network's reach**

At the time of writing, The Climate Emergency Network reaches over 1200 people every two weeks through a regular mailout launched in 2020, sharing opportunities, events and ecocentric news at UAL and beyond. Since 2021, it has also acquired over 2200 followers on Instagram and over 500 followers on Twitter. Particularly active on Instagram, the Network shares network news and showcases student work with light touch updates daily.
2.2 UAL – the institutional response

In September 2019, UAL responded to the climate emergency by committing to putting climate justice at the heart of its academic offering alongside decarbonising its operations; in June 2021, UAL pledged to achieve net zero across its total carbon footprint by 2040 (covering both direct and indirect emissions, including supply chain and international student travel). This is 10 years ahead of the UK government’s deadline.

From education and curriculum to conversations across the creative sector, the realities of UAL’s net zero carbon pledges are far-reaching, and empower students, staff and the creative community to innovate a different future. We will collaborate with other institutions to make progress on climate justice, sharing knowledge and best practice in a collective response to net carbon zero within the higher education sector.

— Jeremy Till, Professor of Architecture CSM and UAL Climate Emergency Lead 2019 - 2022

Above: Embodied Values: Repurposing Textiles workshop with Clare Farrell, Co-founder of Extinction Rebellion and CSM Short Course Tutor.

Image from Basecamp, Carnival of Crisis. Credit Lori Demata
2.2.1 Climate and Environment Action Group

UAL’s Climate and Environment Action Group (CEAG) is the focal point for climate and environmental justice at UAL, working across cultural, operational, strategic and academic change in the university. CEAG has four Working Groups with the remit to rapidly catalyse an institutional focus to inform and energise pedagogy, research, knowledge exchange, operations and values. CEAG’s four working groups, they are:

- Academic discourse and action learning
- Ecosystem Infrastructuring
- Governance through purposeful policies
- Co-designing a climate justice movement

The Network plays a key part in this framework, working as a reciprocal intermediary between self-forming movements and societies and UAL as an institution. CEN’s role within CEAG comes under fourth pledge: ‘Co-designing a Climate Justice Movement’ representing the nexus between climate action movements and UAL departments and bodies to broker collaborations, open up channels of communication and increase awareness of CEN and other movements and initiatives.
2.2.2 Climate Action Plan

Basing their work on detailed actions, demanding targets and measurable outcomes drawn up by CEAG, UAL has created a Climate Action Plan, pledging:

**Change the way we teach**
Our students will engage in discourse relating to climate justice as part of the UAL curriculum. Through teaching, learning and practice. Developing work of environmental, cultural, economic and social value.

**Change the way we research and exchange knowledge**
We will conduct research and knowledge exchange that addresses climate and related social challenges and creates possibilities to thrive. To communicate the issues and innovate new ways of responding to the climate crisis. Whether that be, in industry or in our lives.

**Change the way we operate**
If we are to lead by example, we must first address our own operations. This means setting ambitious Science-Based Targets to avoid climate breakdown. We have committed to net zero emissions by 2040, a decade earlier than UK government targets. Along with a commitment to net zero direct emissions by 2030.

**Change the way we work together**
We need to share our research and creative practices with others to make a bigger impact. This means working across disciplines, sectors and communities, well beyond the creative industries, to work with climate justice movements across the world. At UAL, we must work together to create an internal movement, devoted to change.

Climate Forum: Missing Ingredients
(Maolin Huang, Sadia Rahman, Catalina Mejia Moreno & friends)
Appetite for Justice, Earth Day, 2022
Credit: Ana Blumenkron

2.2.3 Principles for Climate, Social & Racial Justice at UAL

There is as yet no official UAL definition of 'climate justice' but Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, defines it as “a shift from a discourse on greenhouse gases and melting ice caps into a civil rights movement with the people and communities most vulnerable to climate impacts at its heart.”

As outlined in UAL’s Climate Action Plan pledge, climate justice requires change across institutional and individual levels. Through teaching, learning, and practice, the hope is for students to actively engage in discourse relating to climate justice, developing work of environmental, cultural, economic, and social value. Accordingly, UAL has created Principles for Climate, Social and Racial Justice which were launched at Earth Day, 2022.
Principles for Climate, Social & Racial Justice at UAL
April 2022

UAL is committed to transforming and empowering its communities to act in response to the imperatives and urgency of the climate and ecological crisis. These principles have been co-created to support humble learning in the design and delivery of a new type of creative education, one that foregrounds human and planetary health. They will be embedded into all teaching and learning at UAL by September 2025, a process which will be supported by a range of staff development activities.

We commit to:

1. **Move with urgency** to become a community that has the capabilities to address the social, racial and environmental injustices of global climate emergency using creativity and resourcefulness. We offer hope through action.

2. **Cultivate systems thinking and practices** that meaningfully acknowledge the interconnections and complexity of life on earth.

3. **Foster futures thinking** to design for possible futures that restore and regenerate, unleashing the power of imagination through participatory and speculative methods.

4. **Design for human equity, social and racial justice** by mobilising critical thinking, humbly questioning the norms, practices and biases embedded in our societies and cultures. We recognise and reflect on our individual actions and societal values through anti-racism, self-awareness and reflective practice.

5. **Accelerate activism & advocacy** by participating in co-creation and actions that realise change in solidarity with those within and outside of our community. We advocate for justice for nature and humanity through our creative practices.
2.2.4 Changes at UAL and beyond

Ahead of Earth Day 2023, there are multiple contextual changes that will shape the final future direction of the event; not least the changes of senior staff in the university and a new climate voice on the Executive Board, given the departure of Jeremy Till, Pro Vice Chancellor Research, Head of Central Saint Martins who was appointed in 2019 to lead the University’s response to the climate emergency. At the time of writing, a new co-chair of the Climate & Environment Action Group (CEAG) is yet to be appointed to work alongside Dlys Williams. In addition, the appointment of Polly Mackenzie as UAL’s Chief Social Purpose Officer in March 2022, the development of a Social Purpose Group and the upcoming appointment of a permanent Director of the AKO Storytelling Institute and their evolving roles may also influence the direction of Earth Day at UAL in 2023 and beyond.

Changes beyond the University

Beyond the University, changes in climate policy at a national and international level may influence the way in which Earth Day 2023 is ultimately realised, redefining the operating context in ways that are yet to be seen. The change in UK political leadership and the ways in which this country and the rest of the world responds to the growing urgency to commit to clear pathways of action that will be highlighted at COP27 will unfold in Autumn 2022. These contexts will contribute to the ultimate artistic and impact vision for Earth Day 2023.
2.2.5 Relationship to UAL infrastructure

Arguably, the Network sits outside the institutional bureaucracy discussed above. But since its inception as an innovative community-led disruptor holding UAL to account, Climate Emergency Network’s activities, impacts and personnel have increasingly become integrated into UAL’s Climate Action Plan, to the point of having activities & staff funded by the University.

These inherent tensions around the metamorphosis of CEN from agitator to ‘commissioned activism’ merits reflection by the Network’s members. The future direction of the CEN and ways it can be most useful in accelerating UAL’s climate agenda will also need to be considered in light of these institutional changes.

The work needed to define channels of influence within the official governance structures and clarify issues of independence and interdependence is in hand at the time of writing. This will allow new and diverse splinter groups addressing the intersection of climate justice with social and racial justice, to emerge and call the university to account on the Climate Action Plan, and in particular, ways in which climate justice is manifested and integrated throughout UAL. However, for this to be truly effective, all stakeholders at UAL should have a clear understanding of how climate justice is defined at both the institutional and CEN levels.
3.0 Appetite for Justice – Objectives and Delivery

3.1 What Appetite for Justice set out to do

“We need the brightest brains and most creative industries to transform our culture and to plot new ways forward. How inspiring, then, to witness the wealth of creativity that UAL’s Climate Emergency Network has brought to the table.”

— Tamsin Omond (Climate Activist + Author)
Communal spaces offered collective experiences in the name of social and ecological justice. It was designed to demonstrate the vital role of culture and creativity in processing the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency and how we (UAL) might reimagine our lives in its wake. [Link to flyer here].

Retrospectively, on discussion with key members of the CEN, the event had the following objectives:

- **Mass participation** across all six UAL campuses, achieving something simultaneously at all sites using a simple motif that participants could adapt
- **Connectivity** for students to come together and have a supportive network
- **Inclusivity** so that anyone across the university could participate, without needing to have pre-existing knowledge or identifying as an activist
- **A safe and supportive space** for anyone to engage with the climate and ecological emergency in their own way
- **To inspire what climate justice could look like**, knowing that the CEN is better placed to have a voice on the issue due to its relative autonomy and that UAL’s articulation and realisation of climate justice was still in inception stages.
3.2 What Appetite for Justice did

Appetite for Justice, Earth Day, 2022 | An impact case study

The Street:
> A Drop in the Ocean (12)
> Baxter Storey (13)
> Collective Earth (7)
> Diss.course (10)
> Entangled Futures: Three-Part Menu (4)
> Everyday Earth Hacks (14)
> fairmark (19)
> Floating Table (16)
> Knit, Knot, Tangle! (15)
> London Fashion Reclaimed (18)
> Plant Backpack (8)
> Step + Repeat (2)
> Swap Shop (17)
> Trans-spiritual Making Waves (11)
> Who Owns the Sea? (5)

The Crossing:
> Climate Collapse (30)
> Climate Emergency Network (20)
> Coins 4 Climate Courage (22)
> Disposable Displays (23)
> Ecovado (24)
> Ferns of Futures (33)
> Fortune Tell-Us (34)
> Growing Environmental Justice (28)
> Growmobile (25)
> MAKE @ Story Garden (26)
> Plastic Funeral: Ritual Experience (35)
As the programme of activity and the digest newsletter outlines, Earth Day 2022 certainly achieved a number of its objectives. Achieving a simultaneous programme of cultural activities across all six UAL campuses is an impressive feat of coordination, as is persuading all catering outlets to only serve vegan food at lunchtime on that day. From the CEN debrief about Earth Day, it made members feel “plentiful, hopeful, connected”, “green, fresh” and “energised”.

From the Earth Day digest:
We are learning how to care for ourselves and our global community during these times. Let’s nourish our collective imaginations through our creative response.

—Abbi Fletcher (Creative Producer and Communications Manager, Climate Emergency Network)
3.3 What worked

Anecdotally, from the CEN post-event debrief, it was widely agreed by members that there were a number of factors that really worked about the 2022 event.

- **On a practical level:**
  - It was a big achievement for the university to be able to come together across colleges to highlight the work of 50+ student projects, giving young artists recognition for their work around the climate and ecological emergency.
  - The considerable logistical challenge of successfully delivering a complex and multifaceted programme by a small team was achieved.
  - The canteen offering vegan food was seen to have a ‘halo effect’ in terms of uplifting and modelling positive climate behaviours.

- **On a creative level:**
  - The opportunities that Earth Day provided for co-creation and collaboration were seen as very successful. It provided a new platform for students to showcase existing and new work.
  - Featured work gave new points of entry into thinking about how we relate to the environment, how do we as humans, dialogue with non-human beings and other species? One experience was ‘Bringing a Horse to the Table’ taking place at LCF (Inviting a Mare to Mare Street) through equine-assisted therapy with Horse Sense for Life and Tim Stephens from the UAL Exchange.
  - At LCC, two sound design students provided a ‘more-than-human’ experience through installation ‘Table at Terrapolis’ where (Finbar Prior & Beth Robertson) asked participants to

![Image: UL went plant-based for Earth Day, but that's not all.](image-url)
listen deeply to the moss, a world that generously provides for us, the microbiomes in our
gut and the vibrant materials that energise our skin.

The Earth Night takeover of the Central Saint Martins Platform Bar celebrated nature and
creative action. The evening event was something never explored before at the CSM
Platform bar - re-fitting the space with ecological decor and featuring live experiences:
eco-speed-dating, mushroom performances, queer botany, bright and bold fashions,
interspecies explorations, Earthkinology, Movement Medicine & ecstatic dance, Live DJs,
environmental badges, Eco-Tarot, Seed Balls for U.

"EARTH NIGHT: CALLING ALL
DJs, FASHION, TEXTILES & SET
DESIGNERS, PERFORMERS,
COSTUME MAKERS & JUSTICE
SHAKERS"
On an engagement level:

- The Earth Day intentionally presented the events as celebratory, positive, accessible, supporting people to engage at different points on their climate journey. Some engagement was more defined due to spaces available, for example, ‘Earth Fair’ at CSM invited students from other colleges, which ignited new cross-college collaborations.

- A bread making event in the LCF canteen gave space for people to come together to bake bread and discuss the new Principles for climate, racial and social justice. LCC prepared a banquet table, where each of the 5 Principles were printed up as place mats to stimulate discussion.

- Efforts were made to diversify the programming to better represent the university body, in particular through working with the external advisory of climate lawyer & activist Farhana Yamin (now also a UAL professor).
Working with climate activist, Tamsin Omond, who has over 15 years at the vanguard of environmental campaigns and sustainability communications, we were able to widen our networks and utilise their experience and in-depth expertise to give us the support and resources we need to create a positive social impact.

A Climate Forum was led by CSM’s climate studies specialist who represents indigenous communities in Latin America (Colombia). As a spatial practitioner, the group brought conversations in practices of resistance, situated and critical spatial practice, environmental, racial and spatial justice, feminist and decolonial/anticolonial practice and thought.

Student Climate Advocates were on hand during the day at each site to have informal conversations about climate related issues.

The subsequent Award Ceremony (sponsored by OddBox) - which required participants to carve a vegetable as an award and to share it, brought together all the colleges, forming a focal point and collective moment focused on alternative, environmental and community-focused graduation from the University.

The Ceremony “Class of 2022” was not only to celebrate the end of the academic year for CEN members, but to reconnect around the summer solstice, allowing all our Earth Day hosts to connect without having to run workshops simultaneously.
Banquet of the Imagination: LCC Climate Advocates, a vegan feast to celebrate the soft launch of UAL's new Climate, Social and Racial Justice Principles.

Appetite for Justice, Earth Day, 2022
Credit: Ariadna Alzuru
3.4 What didn’t work / missed opportunities

Earth Day 2022 was an ambitious and creatively wide-ranging event that bravely attempted to raise the profile of environmental action and climate justice at UAL. But closer analysis demonstrates it was created by ‘hunchy, instinctive, intuitive planning’ according to members of the CEN. It evolved from earlier CEN successes, in particular the Carnival of Crisis that took place in parallel with the COP26 climate summit, when UAL's Climate Action Plan was at an inception stage.

Justice agenda

For an event titled Appetite for Justice, designed to catalyse interest in climate justice, in retrospect CEN members acknowledged that the justice agenda was ‘muddy’. The organisers did not take a strategic approach to the opportunities afforded by the day to uplift calls and highlight pathways to action; consequently the event’s full impact potential was not realised. This is perhaps no surprise given the informal nature of the CEN and the almost open-source approach to curating Earth Day 2022.

More specifically, the high-level Principles for Climate, Social and Racial Justice that launched at Earth Day 2022 and the Climate Action Plan, could have been more integrated throughout the event. Potentially, they could have been operationalised into event objectives and then ultimately, their success measured as a way to ascertain the event's impact. This degree of strategic planning and the proximity to UAL as an institution (through the application of the guiding principles) may not appeal to the Climate Emergency Network but without it, with the benefit of hindsight, optimising impact opportunities for Earth Day 2022 has been challenging.

Evaluation

It is also notable that no systematic evaluation was carried out to understand the impact of the event - which, in the absence of an impact strategy for the event or for UAL's overarching climate related work - is not surprising. Instead, there was lots of visual capture in the form of photography and video, a digest of the event was created and the CEN held a debrief and focus group-style evaluation that was recorded (and on which some of this case study is based). In addition, at the time of writing, a film about Carnival of Crisis and Earth Day is being created. Supported by the AKO Storytelling Institute, it reflects on CEN programming and turns it into a new call to action. However, whilst having this material helps tell the story of what happened, it has limited value in ascertaining or analysing the extent of the event’s impact.

Programme

On a more practical basis, whilst the geographical ambitions of the event were impressive, feedback during the debrief from a CEN member identified that ‘the energy was a bit dispersive… the organisation of the programme was almost too overwhelming and actually it couldn’t be taken on board’. Potentially this meant that participants may not have known what it was or how to get involved.

Interaction

There was also a concern that elements of the event defaulted into a ‘show and tell’ (rather like a science fair), with students providing a display rather than offering participatory opportunities. Some members of CEN concurred that this mode of ‘display’ is a tendency of art schools and is a practice that may need reconsidering for future Earth Days in order to maximise participation and optimise opportunities to develop understanding of impact, activism, advocacy and campaigning. Similarly, it was felt that there was limited interaction between stall members, which is a missed opportunity in terms of maximising connectivity between participants that may result in new and deeper climate networks being formed across the university. This was, however, immediately addressed through the Class of ’22 Alternative Awards where all contributors were invited to reconvene and reconnect before dispersing for the summer.

Looking forward

Ultimately, the form in which CEN matures and evolves in the future is yet to be decided by its members. Looking specifically at Earth Day 2022, it can of course be argued that CEN is semi-autonomous from UAL's Climate Action Plan and so therefore alignment was not a priority this year. But Earth Day 2022 was supported by university funding through the AKO Storytelling Institute, allowing it to be delivered at scale, and may well be in the future.
From anecdotal feedback, this first Earth Day event provides a thought-provoking foundation to build upon. But as the next section of this case study outlines, for impact to be maximised in future events, having a strategy with clear goals, specific audiences and routes to audience engagement will enable Earth Day 2023 to optimise its true impact potential.

Bringing a Horse to the Table (Inviting a Mare to Mare Street) How do we, as humans, dialogue with non-human beings and other species? This was an opportunity to experience equine-assisted therapy with Horse Sense for Life and Tim Stephens from the UAL Exchange.
4.0 Planning a strategy for Earth Day 2023

“We [UAL] are one of the most creative crucibles on Earth, and yet we relegate all these decisions to the gods? … Where can we take the first three years of this network and mature it into something more intentional and to equip ourselves with more formal, more proven, more directed and focused ways of behaving?

—CEN member speaking in the event debrief in June 2022

This section of the case study proposes a refined vision for how the impact of Earth Day 2023 could potentially be maximised based on the feedback from key protagonists in the Climate Emergency Network and includes reflections from the CEN’s Earth Day 2022 debrief. This feedback has been synthesised and integrated into aspects of the Planning for Impact framework outlined in chapter 2 of Doc Society’s Impact Field Guide, to provide the first iteration of a strategy for Earth Day 2023. One of the first steps in this planning process is to identify both an artistic and an impact vision for the project which could be expressed as:

Artistic vision:
‘An inspiring, inclusive & participatory event; the best of Carnival of Crisis & the best of Earth Day 2022’

Impact vision:
‘For participants to better understand climate justice, leaving with an action to create social and environmental change’
4.1 Artistic vision

When questioned about how to develop the artistic vision for Earth Day 2023, members of the CEN said that they haven’t yet dared to dream as the group’s climate work is continually being refined and evolved. But with so much change taking place around UAL’s climate strategy and the optimal window for planning the 2023 event soon to open, there are some key elements integral to the artistic vision that should be incorporated:

- To co-create the event between CEN and students
- To design a visual language that is playful yet responsive
- To allow the programme to emerge organically
- To build on the strengths of Earth Day 2022, rather than starting something new
- To model values of CEN in the practice of creating Earth Day 2023, making it ‘super intentional and conscious’

Kate Keara Pelen, the co-founder of the CEN described the tension between an event that is creatively satisfying and also has an impact and was keen to emphasise the need for the 2023 event to deliver on identified goals. The CEN’s Earth Quest: Your Ecological Adventure event at the Barbican to mark the close of the Our Time On Earth exhibition was cited as a good creative blueprint not just because of its creative outputs but also the ease in its approach – although this faced similar challenges in terms of being geographically dispersed across the complex site of the Barbican Estate – albeit at a more local scale.

Impact Vision

When it comes to the impact vision for Earth Day 2023, Kate, Niamh and Abbi reflected on a need to shift the focus from uplifting the work of students who have already connected with the Network. Instead, to raise the ambition of the event and to collaborate with existing members and use it as a platform for getting the rest of the University to engage with climate justice.

Whilst the UAL’s Climate Action Plan is being enacted and the guiding principles being integrated across the
University, members of the CEN still felt that ‘justice has landed in a way that the University is not ready for’. Revisiting the ‘Appetite For Justice’ theme would therefore provide an opportunity to enact and embed climate justice throughout the University, ensuring it is not experienced as performative and instead ‘sinks through layers of sediment’. Whilst this is important to CEN, it has to be acknowledged that embedding CEN programming into operational areas of the university would be challenging and could meet with resistance. Without open-access to the structures of the university, it would take a lot of negotiation. Refining the model was seen as more likely to allow this than reinventing it, with a particular focus on:

- **Inclusion** - to ensure that anyone in the University has the opportunity to participate and feel part of something bigger (taking into account ongoing Union actions and student activism), reaching new audiences in a way that unifies all job families and the lived experiences of all students and staff

- **Timing** - to programme and format the event in a way that optimises participation: the 2022 event was on a Friday (Earth day itself), which tends to be quiet with most teaching happening mid-week

- **Accessibility** - in terms of languages that are spoken to ensure participants from across the university from different cultures could join in, in particular service staff

- **Procurement** - demonstrating that climate justice cuts across the entire University; reflecting values within all aspects of event planning and being cognisant of the environmental impact of the event itself

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Ecovado (Arina Shokouhi - MA Material Futures) An avocado alternative made from local ingredients designed to wean people off the resource-intensive imported fruit.

Appetite for Justice, Earth Day, 2022 Photograph artist’s own
Other key impact considerations include:

- To design communications to reach as many people as possible
- To tighten geographical focus
- To offer vegan food in canteens across all UAL sites for a full week
- To provide physical space where courageous & creative risk taking is encouraged and enabled
- To measure and offset the event's carbon footprint and to reduce it where possible - being transparent about energy usage, carbon emissions & materials used

A Toolkit of readiness

The idea of developing a ‘toolkit of readiness’ emerged during the event debrief. A toolkit that can provide the organising team with a shared understanding of the artistic & event's objectives, its impact goals and how they will be realised (and ultimately measured) throughout the multi-faceted nature of the event. Discussions around this included the idea of ‘emergency’ and readiness for other forms of emergency (evacuation plans, first aid, fire safety) and how they are ever evolving, like the climate. Assembly points as collaborations, Risk Assessment as lobbying, Health and Safety as wellbeing/refuge.
4.3 Impact goals for Earth Day 2023

Building on the impact vision, interim but tangible impact goals (using the impact dynamics framework in Doc Society’s [Impact Field Guide](#)) provide a means to focus initial planning for Earth Day 2023. This is a long list, based on conversations with the organisers, but one (or maximum two goals) in each category, should be prioritised in any future iteration.

**Changing minds** (Mass awareness and understanding – creating a shift in public attitudes. What attitudes and beliefs are you trying to create or change?)

- To raise awareness across the University that climate change is a social justice issue
- To raise awareness of the Guiding Principles relating to issues of social, racial and climate justice as a framework for all practice and pedagogy
- To inspire, empower and educate students and teaching staff to see the creative opportunities of imagining a climate just and biodiverse future
- To promote the benefits and opportunities of participating in the Climate Emergency Network and its activities.
- To develop digital communications capacity to reach those unable to make the event physically
Changing behaviours (Actively mobilising people to do different, not just think different, whether that's to buy or boycott, donate or volunteer. What specific actions could you promote?)

- To present activities that facilitate the move to participatory collective action on climate justice
- To create space that enables creative risk taking and experimentation, with support from CEN
- To empower students to become effective agents for positive change through knowledge exchange and pedagogy
- To ensure participants leave with a clear idea of what actions to take that can shift the dial on climate justice (NB - depending on the ultimate definition of climate justice at UAL)

Building communities (Grassroots organising – providing the focal point around which people come together. What communities could you serve or support?)

- To improve access to all aspects of Earth planning and delivery to ensure greatest diversity of engagement.
- To open up an inclusive space of practice, solidarity and discourse for staff and students at UAL to reflect upon and renew their creative activity in relation to ecology
- To increase active membership of the Climate Emergency Network and its offer to staff, students and alumni
- Facilitate interdisciplinary collaborative sessions with educational, cultural and industry partners working towards impact and change in these sectors.
- Catalyse an institutional focus that aligns the manifold related activities at UAL to inform and energise pedagogy, research, knowledge exchange, operations, and values

Changing structures (Whether in politics or business, directly influencing law and policy to change the context. What laws or policies embed the problem you are trying to solve?)

- Define Calls to Action within the university and embed them into programme vision and creative briefs.
- For activities at Earth Day to enable and equip UAL to have a clear voice on climate justice and to represent its values to students consistently throughout university life
- For the outcomes of Earth Day 2023 to create pressure for institutional change at UAL on climate justice
- Collect and communicate an evidence base that advocates for enhanced integration of cultural/critical voices in the climate conversation at the highest levels of public and political debate.
4.4 Target Earth Day 2023 audiences

Having a clear sense of which audiences to target (and how to target them) is crucial to the success of any impact strategy. Based on the learnings from Earth Day 2022, the following audiences should be prioritised in order:

- Students (to make them feel supported, empowered & connected)
- All academic staff (to make them feel supported, empowered & connected) including course leaders, institute & research centres
- Non-academic staff (supported, empowered & connected)
- Partners and collaborators from creative environmental field
- Local communities, stakeholders and neighbours
- Creative and cultural audiences

The target audiences outlined above will all be at different stages of their climate journeys; as research on British attitudes to climate change show in the Britain Talks Climate toolkit, not all audiences in the UK have the same values when it comes to climate - and nor will they at UAL. Below is their graphic representation of the seven ‘segments’ of the British population.

Understanding the potential composition of audiences for Earth Day 2023 according to their values towards climate would help inform an enhanced engagement strategy around the event. Not just through event communications but also in the consideration of content that is programmed, to ensure that there are a range of events that speak to diverse audiences at different stages of their climate journey.

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1 Grounded in research led by More in Common (including a survey of more than 10,000 British adults), Britain Talks Climate builds on the seven “segments” of the British population identified through More in Common’s Core Beliefs model.
4.5 Communication & Content

This approach also offers students, staff, academics and researchers public engagement opportunities around their work in unexpected ways. Potentially, creative communication workshops could be held in advance to better equip creative practitioners to express the artistic and impact visions behind their work with a range of audiences. This would require the creative practitioner to take an adaptive approach to communication according to who the audience is and where they are on their climate journey. Equally, it has the benefit of offering a more profound engagement with not only the expression but also the intentionality behind their work. In the right context, this then only enhances participatory exchange, maximising opportunities for the creative work to have an impact.

In 2021, PIRC and Neon launched the Framing Climate Justice report which provides some very clear pointers about how to address the climate justice gap in the UK. Whilst the organisers factored these in, to a greater or lesser extent on Earth Day, a shift of focus to give them more prominence and intentionality could be usefully incorporated into next year's planning and communications strategy.

- Emphasise solidarity with those most affected. While acknowledging problems we have in the UK.
- Be careful with emergency framing. People know it’s an emergency. Doom and gloom makes people panic - closing down potential for solidarity.
- Make the links between climate, capitalism and colonialism. Break things down, and use ‘economic design’ to help make this crucial connection.
4.6 Ethical & collaborative practices

The CEN is keen to ensure that inclusivity, participation and co-creation should remain at the heart of Earth Day 2023. Building on the foundations of what’s gone before, there are exciting opportunities to open a democratic and university-wide call for participation from not only students, and academic staff, but also non-academic staff.

This then also allows increased possibilities for students to self-select to join CEN and participate in the climate justice CEAG working group as a student or staff advocate.

4.7 Measuring impact

Clearly defined (and refined) impact goals ahead of Earth Day 2023 will allow for the creation of a Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) framework / accountability framework that is event appropriate. Within this, there are considerations about which metrics will provide insights into the type(s) of impact that merit being measured.

The impact goals proposed in this case study are only interim but provide a starting point from which a brief set of learning questions about Earth Day 2023 can be evolved. This then provides the basis on which metrics can be created to understand the impact. Clearly, there is no point measuring activity or sentiment if it does not ultimately serve the objectives and learning purpose behind the event.

Depending on the event’s strategic focus, these learning questions could be created in alignment with Climate Emergency Network’s strategic objectives or alternatively focus on UAL’s Climate & Environment Action Group’s activities or indeed, focus on one, two or three of the high level objectives of UAL’s Climate Action Plan.

With this focus, metrics can then be created to better understand the impact of Earth Day 2023. Ultimately, these insights can then feed into how Earth Day 2024 and other future activities are formulated and inform UAL’s evolving Climate strategy.

Collective Carving: Rooting4U, an alternative award ceremony – Class of 2022. Vegetables generously donated by ODDBOX Photograph by Morgan Hill-Murphy
5.0 Recommendations and conclusion

As this analysis has demonstrated, there are some key questions arising from this process that require reflection before plans for Earth Day 2023 can be embarked upon.

- For a clear definition of what climate justice means at UAL and CEN to be articulated (and are they the same?)
- To agree which entity is best placed to host Earth Day 2023; CEN or the CEAG working group
- Co-designing a Climate Justice Movement'
- Strategic inquiry into the future direction of the Climate Emergency Network (What is its role? What are its objectives? To whom is it accountable? Does it more greatly align with UAL's Climate Action Plan or remain a semi-autonomous network? How is it led? Should there be / how to recruit more diverse leadership & members?)
- Subject to availability of funding, for UAL to conduct an audit of the University population and their attitudes towards climate (and potentially social & racial justice too) in order to better understand where to meet its audiences at and to measure the progress of purpose-focused activity accordingly

Once these recommendations have been acted upon, the initial strategic outline presented in this case study can be further developed into a plan for Earth Day 2023 that is optimised for impact. Once that is then agreed, a ‘toolkit of readiness’ can be created to provide the organising team with a shared understanding of the artistic event’s objectives, its impact goals and how they will be realised (and ultimately measured) throughout the multi-faceted nature of the event.

Conclusion

The rich creativity and diversity that characterised the events on Earth Day 2022 demonstrated the vitally important role of the arts to imagine, inspire and enact a climate just future. However, the inherent tensions that emerged during the research for this case study around the metamorphosis of CEN from agitator to ‘commissioned activism’ merits reflection by the Network’s members. The future direction of the CEN and ways it can be most useful in accelerating the climate justice agenda across the university will also need to be considered in light of institutional changes. We believe that once the recommendations have been acted upon, the initial strategic outline presented in this case study can be further developed into a plan for Earth Day 2023 that is optimised for impact.
Pedestal decoration at the Banquet of the Imagination: LCC Climate Advocates, a vegan feast to celebrate the soft launch of UAL’s new Climate, Social and Racial Justice Principles.

Appetite for Justice, Earth Day, 2022
Credit: Ariadna Alzuru
Appendices

Principles for Climate, Social & Racial Justice at UAL - April 2022
https://docs.google.com/document/d/13XMAwQchHikdM6P7KSAtnSp8Q6OQ9akY/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115763746263408431506&ticket=true&sd=true

Earth Day 2022 - full programme
ALL SITES

Appetite for Vegan Food
Enjoy a delicious plant-based menu at all Canteens and learn about food sustainability at UAL.
UAL Canteens | Lunch service | @ualcatering

Recipes for Peace
Roberta Davico and Manny Kaur share global plant-based recipes to celebrate the power of collective food cultures to draw people together across differences.
UAL Canteens | All day | @mannykaurx

CAMBERWELL, CHELSEA & WIMBLEDON

Climate Advocates Drop-in
Meet the CCW Climate Advocates, learn about their plans and share your ideas.
Chelsea Canteen | 11.30am-1.30pm | @ccwclimateadvocates

Garden Club Welcome Event
Meet Constance, Dana and Karola from the Wimbledon Garden Club - a space for all students to garden together and make our university bloom.
Wimbledon Canteen | 3pm - 5pm | @gardenclub_wca

CENTRAL SAINT MARTINS

Planetary Assemblages
Manifest Data Lab and Monsoon Assemblages display geophysical and atmospheric data as a way of making climate change perceptible and public.
CSM Lethaby Gallery | all day | @lethabygallery @manifestdatalab @monass_2016

Nature & Humans: The Road Back
Work by second-year BA Graphic Communication Design students who consider the myriad ways we might row back from the brink of destruction. While acknowledging the scale of the problem, our students offer hope and encourage each of us to engage in positive action to combat climate change.
CSM Window Galleries | all day | @csmmuseum @csmgraphics

Goddesses of King’s Cross
New commission from CSM graduate Raksha Patel documenting the artist’s response to botanical drawings in the Museum & Study Collection which span the 16th to 19th centuries, a time of European exploration, trade and colonisation, when many plants were described from a Western perspective that altered or erased their value to indigenous communities.
CSM Museum Window | all day | @csm_museum @rakshabattersea
Paper (Re)Making
Zero-waste publications workshop: learn how to pulp paper waste, pull sheets with mould & deckle, couch and air-dry paper producing new, handmade recycled A4 paper sheets in a way that is easy to reproduce at home - with Print Support technicians Isabel Albiol Estrada and Anna Niklova.
CSM D109-D111 Publications Workshop | all day | @csmpublications

EARTH FAIR
Explore environmental and justice-driven work by UAL students, graduates, staff and special guests
CSM Street & Crossing | 11am-5pm | @climate_emergency_network | Eventbrite

The Street:

A Drop in the Ocean (Santa Ramaherison – MA Material Futures) @santa.rsn
Climate Forum: Missing Ingredients (Maolin Huang, Sadia Rahman, Catalina Mejia Moreno & friends) @spatial_csm
Collective Earth (Stephanie Romig-Orr) @collectiveearth2022
Diss.course (Colechi) @colechi
eARTh in MotION (Paolina Stefani – BA Graphic Communication Design alum) @popstefani
Ecoscenography (BA Performance Design & Practice) @csmpdp
Entangled Futures: Three-Part Menu (Laurene Le Goff – MA Art & Science) @lq
Everyday Earth Hacks (UAL Social & Halls teams) @ualsocial
freemark (Gabrielle Colas - MA Fashion Communication: Critical Studies) @gabrielle1 @freemarkcsm
Floating Table (Duong Thu Nguyen – MA Fine Art) @duonguyen.truyen
Eating DNA - Why not eat knot? (Risa Ueno – MA Art & Science) @ruru.16.ediblecat
London Fashion Reclaimed (LCC Photography) @londonfashionreclaimed
Plant Backpack (Derk Ringers - MA Industrial Design) @d_e_r_k__r
Swap Shop (CSM Workshops x M Arch) @csm_architecture_march @csmprintanddye @csmprintmaking_centre @csmpublications
Trans-spiritual Making Waves Eirini Vlavianou, @kajgru @jonathanlindgren.motion @lynsey.j.g
Who Owns the Sea? (Pat Naldi - MA Fine Art) @patnaldi

The Crossing:

Climate Collapse (Lu Zheng – PG Dip Visual Communication [LCC]) @lunaticlu96
Coins 4 Climate Courage - with XR (Clare Farrell, Alice Wilby & Miles Glyn) @alicewilby @milesinfinity8
Ecovado (Arina Shokouhi – MA Material Futures) @arinasoshok
Ferns of Futures (Isaac Wilhelm – MA Biodesign) @iwillhelm
Fortune Tell-Us (Molly Simpson & Purvisha Sutaria – MA Innovation Management) @_mollywithawhy
Generous Waste (Kahdijah Carberry – MA Cities) @kcmillyak
Growmobile (Mariam Aslam & Chris Gabe - M Arch alums x Grow Lewisham) @growlewisham
MAKE @ Story Garden (CSM Local Engagement) @makeatstorygarden
Plastic Funeral: Ritual Experience (Hyjeo Shin – MA Industrial Design) @hyjeo
Radical Roots: Growing Environmental Justice (Nowadays on Earth: Ecosomatics & Urban Rewilding 2-3pm) @nowadaysonearth
Shifting Sands (Rebecca Faulkner - PG Community / AER / Groundwork) @groundworklondon @ual_postgrad_community
Tributes to the Earth (Letters to the Earth x Climate Emergency Network) @climate_emergency_network @letterstotheearth
Wardrobe Treasure Hunt (Zeyu Wang – MA Narrative Environments) @wardrobe_treasure_hunt
We Value (Rosie Mell – MA Culture, Criticism & Curation) @rosiemelljewellery

LONDON COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION

Beach of Dreams (Fotis Begklis)
A film about the journey to walk 500 miles over 35 days along the east coast of England, to explore how we could take care of the environment, take care of the coast, take care of the community and ourselves. The Artistic Director of Kinetika, Ali Pretty, walked the full 500 miles with Guardian travel writer Kevin Rushby and radio producer John Offord. They were joined by local people, environmentalists and artists along the coast of Suffolk, Essex, and the Thames Estuary.

LCC Upper Gallery | all day | @essayfilms

Community Earth
Live Drawing by a collective of LCC students.
LCC Typo Café windows | all day | @floresespanolas @sunwookim.art

UAL Archives Display (Lucie Pardue & Hannah Grout)
Display of ecological ephemera and resources from the UAL Archives and Special Collections Centre.
LCC Typo Café Vitrine | all day | @ualarchives

LCC Climate Advocates Zine-making Workshop
A chance to explore how the UAL curriculum can contribute to dynamic social and environmental change, proposing sustainability at the heart of everything we do.
LCC Upper Gallery | Drop-in 9.30am - 5pm | @lcclondon

Fight for your Air: design project briefing with Love Ssega
Love Ssega will talk about his climate activism, campaign for Clean Air and the power of music to raise important issues.
LCC Canteen | 10 - 10.45am | @lovessega @lcclondon | Eventbrite

Table at Terrapolis (Finbar Prior & Beth Robertson)
Listen deeply to the more-than-human world that generously provides for us, the microbiomes in our gut and the vibrant materials that innervate our skin.
LCC Atrium | 11am - 5pm | @beth_murray8 @finbarprior @masoundartslcc

Food for Thought - Book Club (Annika Loebig)
In collaboration with LCC library, this drop-in book club and swap will highlight the greatest minds and writers exploring our climate, from farming and veganism to climate science, historical environmentalists, radical activists, and Indigenous populations on the frontlines of the fight for our Earth’s future.
LCC Canteen (amphitheatre) | 12 noon - 2pm | @anniloebig @magpublishing

Banquet of the Imagination
Join the LCC Climate Advocates for a vegan feast and celebrate the soft launch of UAL’s new Climate, Social, Racial and Environmental Justice principles.
LCC Upper Gallery | 1 - 2 pm | @lcclondon | Eventbrite

The Listening Room
Colleagues from the Sound and Music programme will be hosting a drop-in installation of sonic works, in both stereo and multichannel, that relate to the theme of Earth Day.
LCC Performance Lab MB108 | From 3pm | @masoundartslcc | Eventbrite

CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 😔

Micropolitics and Climate Activism (Stephanie Erev)
Every activism engages in persuasion of some sort. An activism worthy of the name must move people to feel, want, and act differently than they did before. This talk explores the possibility that persuasion is also a material transformation, and it asks how we might approach activism differently.
LCC Lecture Theatre B | 10.30 - 11.30am | @ma_design_sustainable_futures @StephanieErev | Eventbrite

LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION
Bringing a Horse to the Table (Inviting a Mare to Mare Street)
How do we, as humans, dialogue with non-human beings and other species? Experience equine-assisted therapy with Horse Sense for Life and Tim Stephens from the UAL Exchange.
Mare Street Garden | To book please email Tim Stephens t.p.stephens@arts.ac.uk | @lcflondon_ @horsesenseforlife

Exploring Environment & Justice Through Natural Dye
TENS Studio hosts taster sessions as a brief introduction to the process of natural dyeing with household teas & spices.
JPS Canteen | 10am & 11am | @lcflondon_ | @tensstudio | Eventbrite

Sewed and Sown
Join the library team on LCF’s patio, for a seed planting session in the dye garden.
JPS Patio | 12 noon - 2pm drop-in | @lcflondon_ @uallibraries

Table Talks: Remodifying Environmental Stewardship (Tola Oyerinde)
Join Tola Oyerinde for some hands-on needlework while discussing the economic, social, and ethical contexts of fashion and the relationship between sustainability, fashion and Western Christian tradition, morality and values.
JPS Canteen | 12 noon - 3pm | @lcflondon_

The Clean Fashion Diet
What Can fashion learn from the food industry? The Colechi team invites you to explore the relationship between fashion and farming.
JPS Canteen | 12 noon - 4pm | @lcflondon_ @colechi

Enriched Dough: Meet the CSF Team
Join the Centre for Sustainable Fashion team for a drop-in breadmaking session, enriched by conversation and knowledge sharing.
JPS Canteen | 12 noon- 4pm | @lcflondon_ @sustfash | Eventbrite

Costume Change - clothing swap (Roberta Davico & Manny Kaur)
A space to exchange or donate your unused, unwanted clothes. In collaboration with Sustainable Business Society and the Fashion Business Society.
JPS Canteen | 5 - 7pm | @lcflondon_ @mannykaurx

EARTH NIGHT
Curated by ecology-tending artist, designer & facilitator Alisa Ruzavina
As Earth Day comes to an end, join us in the CSM Platform Bar for an eco-party with purpose celebrating ecology and community, while fundraising for the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Enjoy performances, activities, special vegan cocktails, DJ sets, immersive sounds and sights. Come and inhabit a wild jungle of creativity, nature and joy.

Featuring: eco-speed-dating, mushroom performances, queer botany, bright and bold fashions, interspecies explorations, Earthkinology, Movement Medicine & ecstatic dance, Live DJs, environmental badges, Eco-Tarot, Seed Balls for Ukraine, ecological language shifters, The First Thread & more.

CSM Platform Bar | 6-10pm | @climate_emergency_network @alisa.ruzavina | Eventbrite
Earth Day 2022 - digest

climate emergency network

Over Earth Day and Earth Night on 22 April, UAL Climate Emergency Network presented #Appetite4Justice: a series of collective experiences in the name of social and ecological justice.

Across UAL, staff and students were joined by external guests from the creative and cultural sectors, all coming to the table to transform our culture and plot new ways forward, after more than half a century of Earth Days with too little climate and ecological action.

The digestive process is not just about taking in the happenings of Earth Day, it is also about swallowing and assimilating our reality - here we will absorb some, but by no means all, Earth Day activities, so sit back and enjoy...

Credit to Ana Blumenkron for capturing Earth Fair + Night
Decolonise, Decarbonise! Solutions, Not Pollution!
London students stage a climate justice parade as COP26 wraps up
Words: Emily Farra | Photography: Christina Fragkou

"It was the burst of positive energy we needed in an anxious week"

FULL ARTICLE HERE

Climate Crisis: Can art have an impact?
Words: Will Drysdale

“It really is the first time UAL has come together to acknowledge the
climate crisis and to express, really importantly, what creativity has to
offer to the challenges we face” Sarah Temple, LCC

READ THE ARTICLE

Parade for Climate Justice
Words: Teleri Lloyd-Jones | Photography: Ana Blumenkron, Miguel Martim

"In a show of planetary care and creativity, our community walked
through London in a bittersweet celebration of how the arts can –
and must – respond to the climate and ecological emergency."

FULL ARTICLE HERE

London arts students unveil eye-catching designs
at ‘Parade for Climate Justice’
Words: Daniel Keane | Photography: Ana Blumenkron

READ MORE

UAL students host ‘Carnival of Crisis' as response to
COP26
Words: Rachel Douglass | Photography: Ana Blumenkron

“The multiple influences of design entail a significant role - and power - of
design in shaping society. This power comes with responsibility: we must
shape and use design towards a more sustainable and more just society.”
Ramia Mazé, LCC
'Agenda' for the CEN Earth Day debrief

WELCOME PERIOD: the glue/compost
Transformative

MAIN
10.55 - 11.25AM
EARTH DAY: APPETITE FOR JUSTICE

How did you find the duration and multiple locations of Earth Day? (5min)

- Processions felt more isolated

Do you have thoughts on how future Earth Day activities could be improved? (2 Groups, use separate paper if needed (15+5min)

- Concept
  Too many things could become a celebration of Earth, content missed, not concentrated enough
- Communication
  Inclusivity & accessibility (not enough international), No guiding principal, students unsure, get people that want the network
- Structure
  A whole day, worked Earth Night & Day, really helpful, managed expectations of sustained period
  Emotional overload
- Inclusivity and accessibility
- Too large?
- Facilitation

What impact did Earth Day have? (5min)

- Organisation
  BALANCE Climate lobbying, empower activism
- Atmosphere
  PARADE Self congratulatory
- Tangible action
- POLITICAL

Justice: instil visionary behaviour across UAL

- Transformative - measuring transformative
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