Call for Reviewers

Cumulus Glasgow 2027 Conference

Life After Limits – Creative Practices for the 21st Century

8-11 June 2027 | Glasgow, Scotland

We are inviting expressions of interest from academics, researchers, practitioners, educators and creative professionals to join the **Reviewers' Panel for Cumulus Glasgow 2027**.

Taking place in Glasgow in June 2027, the conference will bring together the international Cumulus community to explore **Life After Limits – creative practices for the 21st century**.

The conference will ask us to consider what becomes possible when we challenge the boundaries that shape our practices, disciplines, institutions and societies. It will explore how creativity, design, research and collaboration can help us navigate a world characterised by rapid technological, environmental, social and cultural change.

As a reviewer, you will play an important role in shaping the conference programme and ensuring that it reflects the breadth, diversity and ambition of contemporary creative practice and research.

About the Review Process

Reviewers will assess conference submissions against the published themes, criteria and submission guidelines.

Depending on the conference programme, submissions may include:

- Research papers and academic contributions
- Practice-based and practice-led research
- Creative and experimental practices
- Case studies and projects
- Workshops and participatory sessions
- Panels, provocations and other forms of knowledge exchange
- Poster presentations
- PhD Network

Reviewers will provide constructive, fair and impartial feedback to support the selection of contributions for the conference programme.

We recognise that knowledge and innovation take many forms. The review process will therefore value a diversity of approaches, methodologies, disciplines and perspectives.

Who Are We Looking For?

We are seeking reviewers with expertise and experience across the broad spectrum of design, art, creative practice, research and education.

We particularly welcome reviewers who can contribute perspectives relating to the questions and challenges emerging from **Life After Limits**, including — but not limited to:

Life After…?

- **The Biological Body** - Prosthetics, augmentations, and bio-genetics challenge us to reimagine what the physical body is, how it functions or where its technological boundaries exist.
- **Disciplinary Expertise and Education** - Are the creative disciplines and forms of academic expertise inherited from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries still relevant in an age of transdisciplinary collaboration and systemic complexity? Are the institutional structures of higher education relevant to contemporary or future challenges?
- **Nature -** Ecological systems reveal the interdependence of humanity and nature. How can we move beyond the notion of the planet as a passive, exploitable resource? What new forms of creative and economic practices are required to safeguard life on Earth?
- **Nations, States and Cities** – could communities, communes and neighbourhoods in "mega-cities" replace the inherited forms of metropolitan life? Do bio-regions, "pop-up cities" and "networked states" reveal emerging forms of *inhabitance* and political governance indicative of ecological and technological transformation?
- **The Human Mind** - As Artificial General Intelligence advances, we must reconsider what it means to think, create, and collaborate alongside machines, algorithms and global digital systems. While code is embedded in designed artefacts and embodied in robots, we are increasingly appreciating cognition as an embodied phenomenon that links creativity to context, people to place, subjectivity to technology.
- **Planet Earth** - The Anthropocene forces us to abandon the outdated notion of the Earth as a passive, geological entity. Instead, our planet is a site of ecological transformation, technological ambition, orbital systems and political contestation – even as plans are made for extra-terrestrial technologies, travel, resource extraction and habitation.
- **The Future** - Design has long been preoccupied with speculation and visions of the future, but should we instead focus on alternative models of inhabiting the global *present* and its alternative(s), rather than an endlessly deferred potential "future"?
- **Excess** - Consumer capitalism has delivered luxury, disposability, and relentless growth. Should we rather explore degrowth and the role of designers, innovators, and creatives in shaping ecological economics and alternative ways of living?

- **Certainty** - Complex systems resist easy modelling, requiring us to think probabilistically, rather than deterministically. How should Design Research engage with uncertainty and material practices that anticipate possible futures and their challenges?
- **Life** - The "more-than-human" turn in design obliges us to rethink the very nature of life, relationships, and agency and the apparent centrality of the human to such debates. How should design proceed if we move beyond the anthropocentric focus on "users" and "stakeholders" to a post-human sensibility, where actants create relations, networks, systems and ecologies that enable and constitute phenomenal experience (life)**?**
- **Materiality** – long a guiding tenet of creative practices the concept of *materiality* has been transformed by recent scientific and digital discoveries, increased ecological awareness and the "relational turn" of design culture and practice. How will creative practices use emergent, regenerative, cultural or informational "materials"?

We also welcome expertise that challenges or extends these areas. **Life After Limits** is intentionally open-ended, and we are interested in contributions that question established assumptions, cross disciplinary boundaries and offer new ways of thinking about the future.

Diversity of Perspectives

Cumulus Glasgow 2027 is committed to creating a review process that is **inclusive, transparent and representative of the diverse communities that make up our international network**.

We welcome reviewers from different disciplinary, cultural, geographical, professional and academic backgrounds.

We particularly encourage expressions of interest from colleagues whose perspectives and experiences are currently underrepresented within international academic and creative networks.

What Will Be Expected?

Reviewers will be asked to:

- Undertake reviews within the agreed review period
- Assess submissions fairly and independently
- Provide constructive and meaningful feedback
- Maintain confidentiality throughout the review process
- Declare any potential conflicts of interest
- Contribute to a rigorous and inclusive selection process

Submissions will be allocated according to reviewers' areas of expertise wherever possible.

We anticipate that each reviewer will be asked to review approximately 4 **submissions**, although this may vary depending on the volume and nature of submissions received.

Why Become a Reviewer?

Joining the Cumulus Glasgow 2027 Reviewers' Panel offers an opportunity to:

- Help shape an international conference exploring the future of creative practice
- Engage with emerging research, ideas and practices from around the world
- Contribute to an inclusive and diverse programme
- Connect with academics, researchers, educators and creative practitioners across the Cumulus network
- Support colleagues in developing and sharing their work
- Gain insight into emerging thinking across disciplines and cultures
- Contribute to the wider conversation about the role of creativity in the 21st century

Reviewers will be recognised as members of the **Cumulus Glasgow 2027 Reviewers' Panel**.

Join Us

If you would like to contribute your expertise to Cumulus Glasgow 2027, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Expressions of Interest

Please submit:

- Name
- Institutional or organisational affiliation
- Short biography
- Areas of expertise and research/practice interests
- Relevant academic, professional or reviewing experience
- ORCID, where applicable
- Preferred Track of interest?

Deadline for expressions of interest: 6th November 2026

Please complete this form: Cumulus Glasgow 2027 - Call for Reviewers – Fill in form

We look forward to welcoming reviewers from across the Cumulus community and beyond to help us create an ambitious, challenging and inclusive programme for **Cumulus Glasgow 2027 – Life After Limits**.