**FACT Research and Innovation**

**Innovation Placements Opportunities**

About FACT

FACT (Foundation for Art and Creative Technology) is the UK’s leading media arts centre, based in Liverpool and is focused on bringing people, art and technology together. FACT’s award-winning building houses three galleries, a café, bar and four cinema screens. Since the organisation was founded in 1988 it has commissioned and presented over 450 world class new media and digital artworks from artists including Pipilotti Rist, Nam June Paik, Bill Viola, Apichatpong Weerasethakul and Isaac Julien in its exhibition centre. The Research and innovation Department ensures collaborating between artists, technologists, HE and cultural institutions, scientists and creative industry specialists explores the social and economic impact of emergent technologies. Recent projects include: LCR Activate, FACTLab, Film Talent Development Programme, the CX Hub (AHRC) and the Living Room of the Future (BBC and the British Council).

www.fact.co.uk

Opportunities through the **Innovation Placements** Scheme

(All Opportunities are available between 1st September 2018 and 31 September 2019)

1. **Articulating Women - Interrogating Intersectionality and Empowering Women Through Critical Engagements.**

**An International Networking Project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)**

**About the project:**

Gender equality is of central importance to progress within an increasingly global world, but gender roles and attitudes to gender shaped centuries ago continue to influence cultural, social and economic behaviour. Too often, policy commitments to equal opportunities for women and rhetorical statements of the importance of women’s contribution to society mask real-life behaviours that inhibit women’s advancement; indirectly, if not directly reinforce women’s subordinate position; and translate multicultural anxieties into conflicts over gender roles and behaviours.

*Articulating Women* seeks to raise awareness of the complexities of gender expectations and constraints as these operate within different cultural contexts. We believe that understanding paves the way for actions, and that understanding is therefore a step toward achieving greater gender equality.

FACT is looking for PGR student for 6 months to support the development of the above project and its associated Liverpool-based conference in June 2019. Based at FACT, activities will include: working under the direction of the Principal Investigator and the Head of Innovation at FACT on the organisation of the Dissemination Conferences in Liverpool and in Bengaluru;  liaising  with the project Advisory Committees in Liverpool and Bengaluru; communicating with conference speakers and delegates; drafting copy and materials for dissemination both leading up to and during the Dissemination Conference in Liverpool (June 2019); evaluating the Conference in Liverpool  and reporting on the value to the Advisory Committee and partners; contributing to supporting the overall aims and objectives of the project. Some International travel may be involved.

Project websites:

<https://empowering-women.net/>

For More information contact roger.mckinley@fact.co.uk

1. **Archive as a Narrative Medium**

The FACT archive consists of a range of material including digitised moving image, tapes, original digital artworks, catalogues and other printed material. The content of the archive is partially catalogued and indexed.

We are looking for a recent PGR with an interest in archives to look at how best to establish an online archive. We wish to move beyond a passive store of material to a resource that can be used as a form of story construction based on the algorithmic gaze. As a preparation we wish to formalise the archive and choose how best to organise, catalogue and put the archive into a database. We would also like to look at ways to search or process the archive. We are looking for new methodologies and approaches to create an active, living archive that has the capacity to dynamically develop and that reflects the work of FACT as a pioneering media centre.

Project websites: http://www.artinliverpool.com/category/venues-archives/fact-archive

For More information contact mark.wright@fact.co.uk

1. **BitKit**

We are looking for a PGR to work with us to develop and test an open source hardware and software resource aimed at Artists and other creatives who would like to use sensors and electronics in their art but have little electronics or coding experience. In recent years platforms such as Arduino make use of embedded controllers easier but there is still a steep learning curve which can lead to disillusionment. We wish to create a kit of hardware and software recipes that make putting together simple circuits and interactions with sensors and outputs easier for learners in the initial stages of the education. There will be modular components that can be plugged together and code that can be patched and reused.

For More information contact mark.wright@fact.co.uk

1. **Machine To Be Another**

Barcelona based artist collective, BeAnotherLab, have created an augmented reality system as an empathy machine. The system can be used to experience the first person perspective of another person who may be from another country, subculture or gender. The system engenders empathy and understanding with others. The project has contributed to a multilingual European STEAM curriculum for young people and adults not in formal education as part of the 4CDE Erasmus+ programme.

We are looking for a PGR to work with us to replicate and develop the empathy system so we can continue projects with local participants and schools that we started with BeAnotherLab. The placement would create the system, collect 360 degree video, test the output with appropriate user groups, and develop new applications for the system using FACT’s networks and associates.

Project websites: <https://www.fact.co.uk/get-involved/intergenerational-learning/the-machine-to-be-another.aspx>

https://meltingpro.org/en/news-en/nuove-tecnologie-digital-art-e-didattica-con-4cde/

For More information Contact: mark.wright@fact.co.uk

1. **Research and Production Assistant, the Future World of Work (June 2019 exhibition period)**

Research and Production Assistant

FACT seek an Research & Production Assistant to support day to day production and management on the [Future World of Work](https://www.fact.co.uk/news-articles/2018/2018/06/liverpool-gears-up-for-the-future-of-work.aspx). This task will involve a variety of tasks including but not limited to supporting production through marketing and communications, writing, documentation and reporting. In addition to desk based work the role will involve a significant amount of event and arts production activity, meaning the role is well suited to pragmatic candidates with prior experience running workshops, live events or similar. Owing to the mix of components in the Future World of Work programme this is an exciting opportunity for post-grad researchers from a variety of academic and professional backgrounds.

This project is an exciting programme at the juncture of arts, technology, research and policy. Instigated by FACT and Culture [Liverpool](https://maps.google.com/?q=88+Wood+Street+Liverpool+L1+4DQ&entry=gmail&source=g), The Future World of Work is a programme of high-visibility participatory art experiences, workplace based residencies, and learning focused public engagement activities. Capturing late-capitalism’s technology zeitgeist, The Future World of Work will appraise current speculation and expose new trajectories for technology and working life.

Project websites: <https://www.fact.co.uk/get-involved/intergenerational-learning/the-machine-to-be-another.aspx>

For More information Contact: tom.rowlands@fact.co.uk

<https://www.fact.co.uk/projects/the-future-world-of-work.aspx>

1. **FACT and LCR Activate**

Programme Description

 LCR Activate is a 3 year ERDF funded programme designed to support innovation across creative and digital businesses in the Liverpool City Region.  The initiative includes a grant scheme to enable entrepreneurial creatives from a broad spectrum of disciplines to flourish via their engagement with the programme – helping them to adopt new technologies and applying these to product development in emerging technology markets including Big and Open Data, Robotics, Cloud Computing and Cognitive Computing.

LCR Activate harnesses the existing resource - cultural, creative and academic - in the Liverpool City Region with entrepreneurial businesses and thinkers.

This project is led by Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), in partnership with FACT and the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and will lever the world class capabilities at STFC’s Hartree Centre and other key innovation assets, working closely with the Local Growth Hub.

We are looking for a PGR interested in Creative Ecologies and the role of arts and culture institutions in the ecosystem of the creative economy of the UK with a view on developing high level policy-influencing narratives based on the LCR Activate programme of work. Candidates must be able to demonstrate a strong evidence-based approach and methodology in their existing research. Candidates with a creative technology background are preferable as part of the discourse and research could involve knowledge transfer of skills through hands-on SME engagement. The successful applicant will get deep insights and direct engagement with emerging products, services and methods coming through the creative industries in the Liverpool City Region and experience of working with artists on the Residency programme that forms part of the arts engagement. They will work directly with the LCR Activate in-house team and associated procured consultants to evaluate the programme, deliver support and monitor the progression of the programme.

Project websites: https://lcractivate.co.uk/

For More information contact: [roger.mckinley@fact.co.uk](mailto:roger.mckinley@fact.co.uk)