Improvisation, Community, and Social Practice
Postdoctoral Fellowship Program 2013-2014

Improvisation, Community, and Social Practice (ICASP) is an interdisciplinary research project investigating the social value of improvisation. For the 2013-2014 academic year, we invite applications of postdoctoral researchers for three residential fellowships at the University of Guelph, McGill University, or Université de Montréal (in association with CREUM – Centre de recherche en éthique).

This project seeks to contribute to interdisciplinary research and graduate training in this emerging field. Applications from researchers working in the principal research areas related to our project are encouraged: music, cultural studies, political studies, sociology and anthropology, English studies, theatre and performance studies, French studies, law, philosophy, and communications. Applications from different research areas are also welcomed, inasmuch as their research has a direct link with the social, cultural, or political implications of improvised musical practices.

These postdoctoral fellowships provide stipendiary support to recent PhD graduates who are undertaking original research, publishing research findings, and developing and expanding personal research networks. Three twelve-month fellowships will be awarded for the 2013-2014 academic year, each valued at $31,500 CDN.

Application Criteria

Applicants are invited to submit a research proposal focusing on the social implications (broadly construed) of improvised musical practices. Successful candidates will be chosen on the basis of a rigorous process of application, with the project’s management team serving as the selection committee. Criteria for selection are the quality and originality of the proposed research, the fit with our project’s overall mandate and objectives, the candidate’s record of scholarly achievement, and his/her ability to benefit from the activities associated with the project.

Postdoctoral fellows will receive competitive research stipends, logistical assistance for relocation, office space equipped with state-of-the-art computers, access to the services of the host institution (library, etc), and administrative, placement, and research assistance as needed. In return, fellows are expected to pursue the research project submitted in their application, to participate in our project’s research activities (colloquia, seminars, institutes), and to present their work in progress in the context of our project’s seminars and workshops.

Applicants should have completed a PhD at the time of application (to be conferred by November 1, 2013). Electronic applications are welcome, provided that original hard copies of transcripts and reference letters are submitted by mail by the postmark deadline. Notification for award: June 2013.

Applicants must submit ALL of the following by the postmark deadline (April 30, 2013):

- Curriculum vitae
- One scholarly paper or publication written in the course of the last three years
- A statement (1,500 words or less) describing the proposed research project
- Two confidential letters of reference (sent directly to us before the deadline)
- Graduate Transcript(s)
- Indication of preferred location, if applicable (University of Guelph, McGill, or CREUM), and language proficiencies

Send applications to:
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