

## *STONE SOUP – an Apparatus for Taste & Transformation*

### Call for Abstracts / Call for Papers

Working Titles is an online publication platform for practice-based research at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar that explores the collaborative, processual, and experimental potential of artistic and design research.

Our first issue, is inspired by the story of *Stone Soup*, a European folk story in which a hungry stranger convinces the people of a town to each share a small amount of food to make a meal together. The visitor tricks his hosts into sharing ingredients through the divisive promise of making soup from a magical stone. The creative device of animating an inedible object through the alchemical recipe of sharing allows the stranger to convince the group to engage in collaborative strategies that nourish the entire community.

The stone soup concept first emerged in the Ph.D. program Art and Design at Bauhaus-Universität in 2018 as a group-building exercise for thinking critically about artistic and design practices. Since then, the Ph.D. program has hosted regular eponymous events whose convivial environment encourages practitioners to present their work in an informal setting: here *Stone Soup* becomes a lyrical, metaphorical vehicle for shaping the illusive nature of design and the vernacular process of creation and encompasses social, collective, imaginative, and even fantastical strategies for enriching our research community.

We invite text contributions that explore strategies for devising convivial opportunities that feed a growing artistic research community. Subjects and approaches could include, (but are not limited to) any of the following:

- “soup-making” as collaborative, convivial artistic/design practice: interdisciplinary methods for collaborating with researchers beyond our disciplines
- recipes for taste: step by step practice-based process and design/artistic strategies that redefine knowledge-production through methods of aesthetic valuation and process-based design
- the inanimate stone as speculative, fluid object: expanding disciplinary boundaries and animating discourse through work with (boundary) objects
- scavenging ingredients: collection and eclecticism as research strategy
- hunger, satisfaction, and frustration in the artistic and design research process
- tricksterism & fakery: magic, morality, and ethics behind artistic device, divisiveness, and illusory design; the behind-the-scenes calculations of the ethical/naive makers
- sharing stories: modifying knowledge over time through a multiplicity of storytellers and narrative threads
- potluck: serendipity, improvisation, contingency, and arbitrariness in artistic/design processes

The first call is open to Ph.D. program students, individual doctoral candidates (Dr.phil), and alumni of the Faculty of Art and Design at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. Types of contributions include:

**Research papers:** scholarly articles on original practice-based research, methods papers, or review articles of 4500 words (including footnotes and image captions; not including references).

**Perspectives and Provocations:** scholarly articles of 1500 words (including footnotes and image captions; not including references) that unpack an existing research topic to provide new perspective or engage with a particular discourse in a provocative way.

Submissions for abstracts & papers may be made in English or German. Submissions should be sent via email to [workingtitles@gestaltung.uni-weimar.de](mailto:workingtitles@gestaltung.uni-weimar.de) and include: a 250 word abstract, a title, a specification of contribution type (Research Paper, Perspectives and Provocations), up to 5 keywords, and a 100-word biography. Please see the abstract prompts ([link](#)) as a guideline.

Working Titles is currently being developed by a group from the Ph.D. program Art and Design.

We plan to run an hour-long digital peer-review workshop for abstracts during the Ph.D. week, Thursday, July 1st, 14:00 - 18:00, to which all contributors of abstract submissions are invited to improve everyone's chances of successful submissions.

The deadline for abstract submissions is **Friday, July 9th, 2021, 23:59 CET**.

We will notify applicants about their submission status by the end of July. The deadline for paper submissions is 01.09.2021, with the 1st issue to be launched during the November Ph.D. week. For more information visit: <https://www.uni-weimar.de/projekte/workingtitles> (under development).

Questions can be directed to [workingtitles@gestaltung.uni-weimar.de](mailto:workingtitles@gestaltung.uni-weimar.de).