Joint research fellowship of the

Academy for Theater and Digitality

and the

Helmholtz Information & Data Science Academy

1.Background

The **Helmholtz Association of German Research Centers** conducts top-level, mission-driven research that benefits society in all technologically relevant domains. As Germany's largest research organization, Helmholtz therefore plays a role in shaping the future and our world of tomorrow. One of the key challenges facing science and research is utilizing methods from the field of information and data sciences; that is, exploiting digitalization to acquire knowledge that will benefit society. Helmholtz tackles these challenges in various ways and also founded the **Helmholtz Information & Data Science Academy (HIDA)** to this end. HIDA's goal is to train the next generation of data scientists and establish innovative networks and fellowship programs across Germany and at the international level.

The Academy for Theater and Digitality (ATD) is a model project at Theater Dortmund for digital innovation, artistic research and technology-oriented education and training. It is funded by the North Rhine-Westphalia Ministry for Culture and Science, the German Federal Cultural Foundation, and the Wilo Foundation, and receives funding from the European Union's ERDF fund. It cooperates with numerous partners from Germany and abroad from the fields of culture and art, science and business. As the sixth division of Theater Dortmund, the Academy enables (international) fellows to conduct prototypical research into the connection between digital technologies and the performing arts. In addition to application-oriented research work, professional development and university training, another focus is on advising municipal and state theaters, festivals, municipal, regional and international initiatives, and NGOs. In addition, capacities for research, development and testing for cooperation projects will be made available in the co-production laboratory newly founded in 2022.

2. Call

After the successful pilot phase with two research fellowships (October 2021-June 2022), HIDA and the Academy announce a second fellowship!

The common goals of HIDA and the Academy are to experiment with new methods, to explore new, digital ecosystems, and to fertilize the transfer of questions and findings, of technologies and the resulting opportunities into society.

To this end, HIDA and the Academy are jointly awarding two research fellowships, each for up to two individuals, at the intersection of digital art and cutting-edge research. The goal is to inspire dialogue between art and science - in particular, to intensify exchanges in the field of digital forms, technologies, and applications between digital art and digital science. The fellowship aims to provide a stage for science and technology, to make the enormous possibilities inherent in cutting-edge digital research accessible to the theater of tomorrow, and to support the transfer of new methods, thoughts, and insights.

- The funding is intended to enable the fellows to concentrate on their research projects (or artistic / artistic-scientific / scientific-artistic work) described in an expressive application without economic-material constraints.
- The grants are intended to enable scholars and theater professionals to begin planned research projects, realize designs, and continue or complete work that has already begun.
- The fellowship teams of two persons should be composed in such a way that the projected (research) work can be implemented from within the team. Should additional staff be required, the applicants should demonstrate how they can realize the successful completion of the fellowship by generating third-party funding.
- The five-month residential fellowship will be spent for two months at the Academy for Theater and Digitality and for three months at one of the Helmholtz Centers to be individually identified.
- The research work begins and ends at the ATD.
- The scholarship holders are obliged to inform both institutions in an appropriate form about the results of their work.
- The research period is possible from September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.
- Deadline: May 15, 2022 (11:59 p.m.)

Please send applications to: fellowship-application@theater.digital

3. Inhaltliche Ausrichtung des Stipendiums

The following topics are in particular focus:

- Dialogue, innovation and visionary qualities in dealing with information technologies, data and research results of the Helmholtz Association.
- Innovation and originality in the appropriation of novel technologies and in the processing of data and research results for the stage or for theatrical contexts.
- Innovation of methodological approach from an artistic and scientific point of view.Thus, the fellowship focuses on questions such as: How can datasets of cutting-edge scientific research or information technologies be detached from the scientific context for which they were created and illuminated anew in artistic contexts? Are the scientific partners motivated by the project to think through their work in new ways? Do new thoughts emerge that complement or reflect anew on the original research purpose? Are inspirations for the original research domain or the cultural sector created?

4. The Addressees

The call for proposals is aimed at artists and scientists who are interested in researching artistic, technical and scientific issues in the context of digital narratives in theatrical contexts and their practical implementation. Applicants are postgraduates (Diploma/Master) with at least three years of professional experience. We expect personalities who want to research and work with digital (information) technologies (e.g. motion capturing, coding, XR, MR, AR, VR, actuation / robotics, AI, sensor technology, sound, film, interaction design, etc.) and with data from the Helmholtz Association.

5. Benefits

The academy and the participating Helmholtz center offer access to necessary hardware and software, as well as access to knowledge, network, data and information technologies of the fellowship providers. A workspace is provided. Financial support is also provided, the amount of which varies depending on the institution: in both cases, a monthly allowance is provided in the form of a stipend (1,600 EUR at the academy; 2,860 EUR at HIDA); further allowances are provided for travel expenses, the assumption of additional housing costs and possible childcare costs for accompanying children, among other things. The academy's share is provided by the Dortmund Wilo Foundation.

For more information on the services provided by HIDA:

https://www.helmholtz-hida.de/hida-files/user_upload/pdf_dokumente/stipendien_richtlinie_en_202103.pdf

6. Application Documents
- Project title and outline (max. 2 pages)
- Motivation/objectives (max. 2 pages)
- curriculum vitae
- An informal letter of support from the Helmholtz partners stating that an appropriate workspace including the corresponding technical equipment is guaranteed for the duration of 3 months.

Please feel free to contact scientists at the Helmholtz centers you are interested in directly. If you have any questions or need help, please contact Stefanie Gruber-Sliva at the HIDA office (stefanie.gruber-sliva@helmholtz.de).