

SOMA SUMMER 2025

OPEN CALL



SOMA Summer is looking for international artists, curators, art historians and critics who want to be part of a space for collective creation and thought, built on a foundation of tolerance.

With a four-week duration and conducted in English, SOMA Summer 2025 will gather 25 participants in Mexico City for critical and porous reflection, far from essentialisms and binary thought to foster dialogue and the exchange of different points of view. Participants' practices or interests should be aligned with the themes explored each summer.

OVERVIEW 2025

July 7 - August 3

BROTOS (OUTBREAKS) Proposals to delay the end of the world

Every day, new outbreaks emerge from the gaps left open by desolation. Like weeds growing on asphalt, outbreaks are the sudden emergence of a force, a rebellious movement, an intensification of imagination. Outbreaks are provocative networks: they are never born on their own and cannot exist in isolation. They teach us to understand soil as something essentially multitudinous, because the life that animates a new outbreak—whether it is a mushroom, an idea, or a social uprising—always comes from other bodies, other lives, other territories.

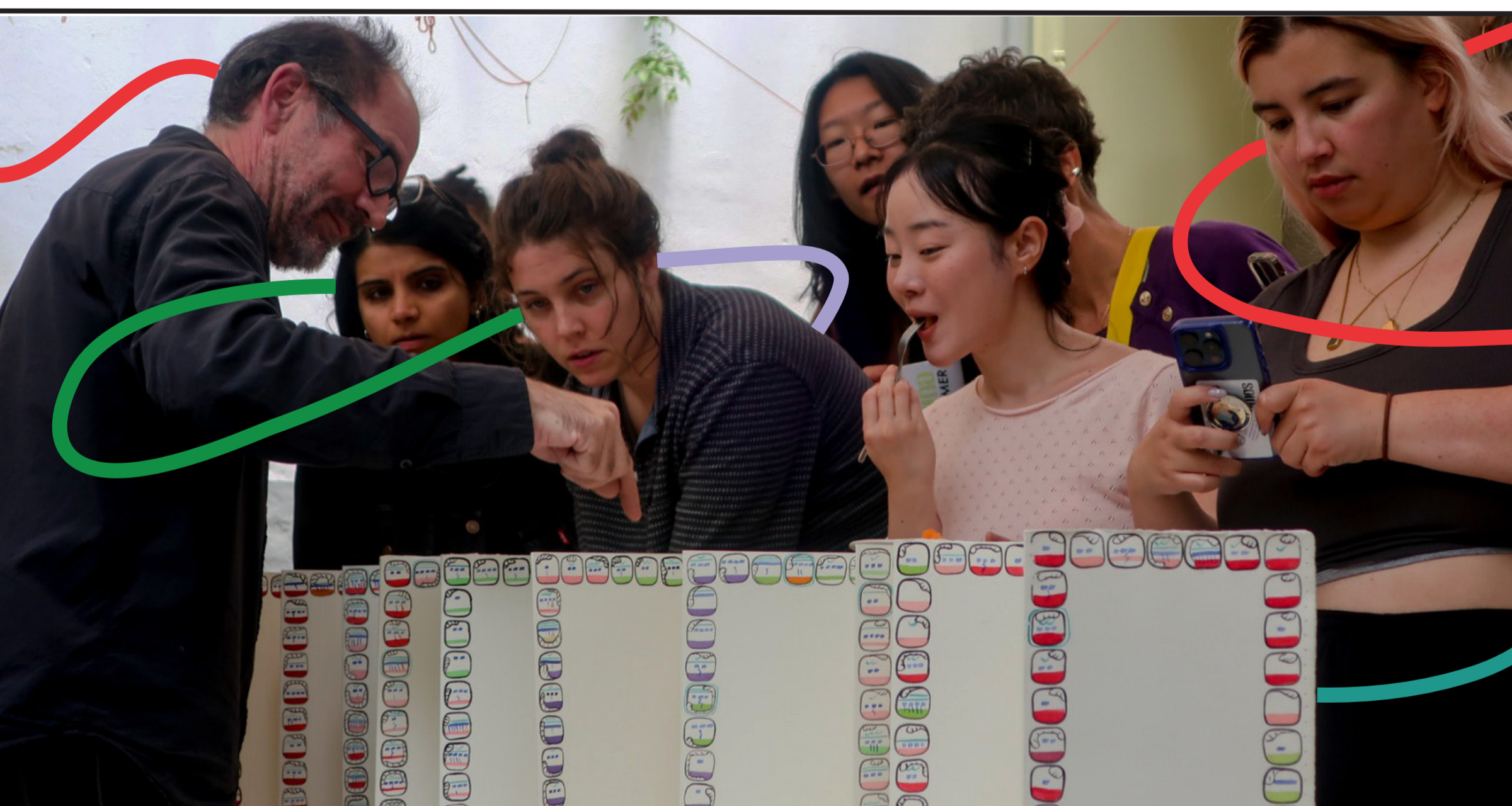
In the midst of the many crises currently shaking the planet (psychic, social, and climatic crises, as well as crises of meaning) there are still outbreaks, even if their stories remain untold because dark times cloud our visions. Of seeing, for instance, a group of people that rise up to defend a forest; a community radio practicing its autonomy; or a milpa—the traditional Mesoamerican crop system—that is cultivated to keep the urban sprawl at bay. How do these outbreaks manage to grow in lands that seem to exist only for extraction? What forms of organization support them? What structures can we support and build to amplify the efforts by journalists and communities who work from places of destruction? What do we need to do to divert the propaganda machine of corporate media?

Lead by **Taniel Morales** (artist, Mexico City), **Yoshua Okón** (artist, Mexico City), **Vivian Abenshushan** (interdisciplinary writer, Mexico City), and **Sara Eliassen** (artist and filmmaker, Oslo) **the 2025**

edition of SOMA Summer is based on the ethical and political orientation proposed by Brazilian indigenous thinker Ailton Krenak: if we are to delay the end of the world we need to cultivate stories that, unlike the capitalist simulation that instrumentalizes resistance movements, are rooted in the vast network of life.

We will read the speculative essay "Collective aesthetics of the land," by the Mixe Communal Network that imagines a future for art after the Capitalist Night. We will take the essays by Mexican philosopher Sayak Valencia to think through the regime of live streaming and "gore capitalism", also reviewing various collective forms (and strategies) of organization able to escape media cooption. And we will engage with authors such as Paulo Tavares or David Graeber to follow the routes of ancestral pasts to cultivate other non-instrumental relations to the land.

In these four weeks we want to think together about the complexity of these times of crises but we also want to draw the coordinates for a future cosmopolitics. Doing so requires paying attention to our surroundings, to what is already here. How and with what methods can we shape our collective memories for our worlds to come? **We will engage in participatory pedagogies, forest walks, visits to cooperative projects in Mexico City, workshops, seminars, and master classes to create an intense encounter where we can formulate questions on the territories that we inhabit and the urgencies that bring us together so we can organize in the midst of the media, geopolitical and vital chaos.**



TUITION

The tuition fee for the four week program is \$3,000 USD. It does not cover travel to and from Mexico City, nor does it include living expenses.

SOMA provides limited financial assistance for participants in need. This financial support is distributed based on portfolio review and proof of financial need.

APPLICATION

SOMA Summer invites participants who are eager to reflect on their practice and are not primarily focused on preparing work for exhibitions or managing impending deadlines from prior commitments.

MORE INFO

www.somamexico.org

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FAQ

www.somamexico.org/soma-summer

DEADLINE MARCH 9, 2025

APPLY ONLINE HERE

<https://soma.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/82775>