

Operating System for Loop Art Critique

Loop Art Critique (LAC) is classified as an artwork. It may operate at times similarly to an institution, residency, or artist-run-space but it is none of these. It began in 2022 for an exhibition at The MUD Foundation and it has a small group of facilitators that maintain it. Since October 2023, it has been integrated into the [Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami's Art + Research Center](#). The project resides at loop.onland.io within the Onland spatial-internet, while maintaining a simultaneous presence inside of the museum.

Objective: To assist artists in the process of creating artwork through private feedback sessions in a supportive small group setting, drawing on the tradition of collective art salons. Artists share information and insights with each other to cultivate a shared pedagogical environment. A fundamental pillar of the Loop system is this direct, peer-to-peer exchange of specialized information. Artists organize an exposition of their work at the end, anchoring the collective experience.

Focus on Creative Process: Conversations within Loop emphasize the development of artistic practices and works-in-progress. The system's foundational pillar is Process, which follows the path from an initial concept to the final public display. Inspired by the tradition of collective art salons, LAC believes in critical peer-to-peer feedback and guidance from established figures.

Submission Guidelines: To ensure a stress-free experience, artists are asked to submit five artworks within a single folder. It is mandatory that no identifying information, such as names,

artist statements, CVs, or resumes, is included on the artworks or the folder. Any names found will be removed by the artist or by LAC staff after submission.

Anonymous Selection Process: A rotating Guest Juror reviews all submissions anonymously to select the new cohort. To maintain impartiality, the juror will not have access to any identifying information about the artists and will only learn their identities after the selection is complete. Only LAC staff may view artist names during the submission phase.

Role of the Guest: For every session, LAC invites a distinguished figure from the art world to serve as a Guest. The Guest provides insight during live critiques for at least one hour weekly, they do not curate the final exhibition.

Cohort Participation: LAC welcomes a diverse cohort of national and international artists, including those with or without deep digital art backgrounds. Selected national and international artists become part of a dedicated cohort. Participants are expected to attend critique sessions twice a week and contribute to the planning and execution of the final exhibition. Members must participate in at least 50% of meetings and contribute to the planning and execution of the final collectively curated exhibition.

Timeline

- **Invitation:** Artists are invited to join a cohort in Loop Art Critique through a public Open Call. Open Calls may be any length but not shorter than 2 weeks.

Timeline of cohorts

Critique phase (1)



Exhibition phase (2)



Prep (3)



Reception (4)



Archive (5)

Cohorts meet live in the Critique Club twice a week for the Critique phase. This lasts typically for 6 weeks but this number is flexible and will remain so. (1) Afterwards they progress to the Preparation(2) phase where Artists have 2 weeks to set up their exhibition. This amount is also flexible. The exhibition opens no later than 1 month after the end of the 2 week prep. That is the only requirement*, (3). The reception(4) for the exhibition will be chosen by the artists.

- **(1)The Critique Club:** Selected artists will participate in a 6-week critique club that meets 2x a week in the Loop metaverse on priorly selected dates for 3 hours. This time is selected to be easily accessible for multiple timezones.
 - Loop facilitators and the Guest Artist will provide **constructive feedback** (critique) along with fellow participants.

- Loop facilitators will write and copy important points of the critique especially links that artists provide to each other.
- An important part of Loop is **peer-to-peer** specific information transfer. Each cohort will share different content with each other. This content is recorded so that cohort participants can review it after the critique. Content can also be accessed in the Library (in progress.)
- **Free Software:** Artists will be provided with free access to XR Studio software. This is a browser based software that enables artists to create custom 'verses within the Loop Metaverse. The software is generously donated by [The MUD Foundation](#), which developed Loop along with the founding Artist, for 6 months, to all Loop Critique Club artists. Afterwards software can be accessed for a reduced-prize subscription which includes an artist studio at Loop Studios.
- **(2) Prep:** Artists are given 2 weeks to prepare for the exhibitions. Artists can choose to use The Salon or The Salon des Refuse for the exhibition and/or they can choose to create their own exhibition space. Loop facilitators will help and many cohorts continue to meet every week although they do not have to. It is highly suggested.
- **(3)Exhibition:** the residency will culminate in a collectively curated exhibition by the artists. The focus is on seeing what the artists have done and what they do since the Critiques are private.
 - Loop doesn't sell art but the artists may do whatever they want. We don't want to be affiliated with being commercial in any way.
 - All other decisions around how to exhibit and what to exhibit are left to the cohort entirely. Groups are

encouraged to think outside-the-box. This is a reference to the story of the very first artist run exhibitions which happened all over the world such as The Impressionists after the Salon des Refuses.

- The exhibition will be featured on the Loop Art Critique homepage AND be live in Loop Art Critique's installation at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami. It is located at: on the ground floor between the ticket area and the gift shop. Visitors to the ICA can interact with artists inside of LAC and vice versa.
- **(4) Reception:** Artists choose when the reception(s) is and how they want to do it. The reception needs to be within the time frame of the exhibition*. LAC facilitators and the founding Artist will be present during the reception and the Guest is invited and attends given their own schedule.
- **(5) Archive:** All Exhibitions are archived and presented on Loop.onland.io's website after

*2026 amendment. Began as a courtesy to the museum. - ABR
