

AGE OF THE STEWARD PRESENTS



EXPERIENCE GUIDE

WEDNESDAY 29 OCTOBER 2025 | TANK GPS

"There are years that ask questions, and years that answer."

ZORA NEALE HURSTON, 1937

IN WHAT STATE DO US 'MODERNS' FIND OURSELVES?

Are we wise caretakers of people and planet?

Are we working together to allow life to flourish?

Are we connected to our sense of purpose and meaning, at an individual, and collective level?

AN AGE FULL OF QUESTIONS

In *this* moment, we ask the question "*What Do I Owe The Cosmos?*" but we do not wait years for the answer.

"*What Do I Owe The Cosmos?*" is a one-day-only, immersive experience dedicated to fostering radical slowness in a time of accelerating pace.

In a period of churn and transformation, we create a space to explore this question collectively, in the hope that answers emerge in real time, and offer a way to expand into a larger story of connection and collective care.

THE SPACE PRESENTS A THREEFOLD ORBIT

In the outermost ring are a series of **Cosmic Contemplations**, exploring *the* question, guided by Air - the most subtle element, but the one that contains the breath of each life form on the planet.

Next comes the inner **Ring of Forms**, an orbit of objects crafted by the human hand, from contemporary designers and artists. Each a manifestation of the abundance of Earth - a precious blue droplet within the vast cosmos. Each object is an ode to conscious creation. Can we be stewards of this abundance, so generations to come also have the chance to bring beauty and meaning through form, into being?

Finally comes the **Sanctum of Gathering**, a space to rest, to ease into slowness and if called, connect and commune with others. At select times, Furoshiki artist and designer Tomoko Kakita of Ma Space will guide those present on this ancient Japanese craft of wrapping fabric.

With each movement, the mind is welcomed to ease into a different scale of consideration, and the body's nervous system invited to rest a while.

This experience is brought to you by *Age of the Steward* - a platform for new narratives in a time of planetary transition.

SET + SPATIAL DESIGN **CHLOE ROOD** | AUDIO DESIGN **IVAN D'AVOINE**
CREATIVE DIRECTION **PER SE LONDON**

AGE OF THE STEWARD | WHAT DO I OWE THE COSMOS?

AGE OF THE STEWARD

It is with the deepest pleasure, joy, and gratitude, that we welcome you into this sanctum to contemplate the fundamental question - "*What Do I Owe The Cosmos?*"

This question, and experience in which you are partaking, is part of a larger planetary and yes, cosmic, story, that transforms us from consumers to stewards, caretakers, guardians and custodians.

As we reach the ecological, humanitarian and consciousness limits of the Anthropocene, **Age of the Steward** is an invitation to re-think the systems we live in and to come back into right relation with Earth. Stewardship is a way of being that centres collective care, interdependence, and regenerative systems, in service of all-life flourishing.

Age of the Steward works across three pillars: connecting and supporting a *Community* of thinkers, doers, and ruckus-creators, who are embodying, and championing, responsible stewardship; cultivating an *Educational Hub* providing resources, frameworks and actionable insights to cultivate individual, communal, and global, stewardship; *AOS Studio* - a collective of designers, makers and storytellers, bringing stewardship to life through artistic, poetic and contemplative experiences of which this is such a one.

Thank you for saying yes. The power of turning up, being present, being open to a larger sense of self and other - each act is a powerful antidote in a time where pace, profit and apathy are offered in place of connection, dignity and care.

A huge, deep, heartfelt thanks to each co-steward of this experience - the designers, makers, artists and practitioners, and the incredibly supportive team at TANK, who also unleashed the power of their yes, to make this all possible.

Always,

Hardeep

STEWARD-IN-TRAINING + FOUNDER, **AGE OF THE STEWARD**

www.ageofthesteward.com | [@ageofthesteward](https://www.instagram.com/ageofthesteward)
[#whatdoiowethecosmos](https://www.instagram.com/ageofthesteward)

AGE OF THE STEWARD | WHAT DO I OWE THE COSMOS?

NOTE ON THE EVENT DESIGN

The scenography is quiet, allowing space for form and contemplation.

Linen and paper—simple, singular materials—are shaped by gestures of the hand, each movement transforming them differently, just as the smallest shifts within ourselves can transform the outcomes of our world.

Set + Spatial designer, CHLOE ROOD

Chloe is a set and spatial designer based in London. She has an interest in how spatial interventions can create social interactions that drive connection and collective care.

@chloerood

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

"Human Connections."

SCENT MAKER, JUNIOR ADESANYA

Junior Adesanya is a London-based scent maker exploring ritual, memory, and transformation through incense. Working under the name Cremate, Junior crafts incense and olfactory experiences that bridge the physical and the spiritual.

@crematelondon

Junior's inimitable olfactory senses have brought to life an interstellar scent for this experience. The brief was this: a scent that felt like that unique form of illumination that only comes with the bright white light of a full moon. The scent profile is made up of three notes, reflecting the tripartite structure of the experience, and the magical power of three is one that runs through the ages..

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

"Nostalgia."

SOUNDSCAPE, IVAN D'AVOINE

Ivan is an audio producer and sound designer whose independent work frequently explores the intersections of society and the ways in which we occupy the space around us. Experimental audio storytelling, soundscaping and oral history are all core aspects of his practice which he finds effective when navigating and mapping social landscapes sonically. He's produced work for BBC Radio 3 & 4, The Roundhouse, The Lissome, Novel, A Human Atlas, amongst others, and has recently released his own social documentary podcast series Windows, subsequently featured in the FT and The Week magazine.

@ivandavoine

Ivan crafted the soundscape for "What Do I Owe The Cosmos?" A layered landscape of nature made audible, excerpts of resonant words and vibrations of a more subtle kind.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

"A collective action for deep and empathetic listening."

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COSMIC CONTEMPLATIONS

Narrated by Air

Written by @hardeep.earth

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A journey through the Cosmos with Nine Contemplations as narrated by Air - a seemingly invisible agent without which life as we know it would not be possible. Air represents also the invisible, infinite, essential ecosystems, networks, webs of life, that connect us all.

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RING OF FORMS

Meet The *Makers*

SYSTEMIC EXPERIENCE ARCHITECT, CHRISTOPHER DANIEL

Christopher Daniel is the founder of Polysemic, a systemic design and experience architecture practice with origins in placecraft and design for cultural infrastructure. He teaches architecture at the University of Westminster with a focus on regenerative design. He is the current steward of Long Now London.

@polysemic @longnowlondon

Christopher's role as Experience Steward is to be a gentle guide for visitors to this Cosmos. Architecture and the spaces created within are never neutral - they act upon our bodies, our ideas, and sense of possibility. Christopher's gift is to feel that nuance, and steward people in space so feel they feel empowered, that they matter, and above all, that they belong.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

"Possibility."

COSMIC WINDOW, CHARLOTTE HICKS

Charlotte Hicks is a painter and printmaker currently living and working in London. She adopts an experimental and intuitive approach to mark-making, drawing on her own personal experiences to explore what it means to be a woman in contemporary Western society.

@charlottehicksart

Charlotte created the art piece in the window, combining an orb-like structure with her practice of intuitive mark making, which reveals through negative space *the* question at hand.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

"Building meaningful communities & trading skills, expertise and time in place of money."

BEYDA COFFEE TABLE BY LOUIS BARRETT

Brushed Aluminium

Louis Benjamin Barrett (b.1999) is a designer and artist based in London. Graduating from Central Saint Martins in 2021, his work reflects an interconnectivity between digital and physical, exploring how technology can be used to enhance our perception of the natural world.

@louis.barrett

What does “What do I owe the Cosmos?” mean to you?

To me, I am eternally indebted to the cosmos. My practice is founded on deep reverence for the natural world. I do not seek to imitate nature - I never could - but instead to honour it by learning from its structures and forming new typologies. This table is formed from the cross section of a rock formation found in the Sahara El Beyda, or ‘White Desert’ in Egypt, through scanning and segmenting the rock into linear cross-sections.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

“Community.”

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RELICS SAND CAST IN ANCIENT BRONZE AND SILVER WITH RAW SAPPHIRES BY HOLLIE PECK

Hollie Peck is a visual artist based in Northamptonshire. Her sand casting process embraces surrender and mindfulness, letting metal flow organically to shape each piece. Inspired by wild landscapes, she works with raw earth materials and ancient, primitive techniques to create relic forms.

@holliepeck

What does “What do I owe the Cosmos?” mean to you?

I owe the cosmos my attention — to listen, observe, and bear witness. Through my work with metal, I’ve learned to surrender control and collaborate with the forces of nature, letting the process unfold organically. Sand casting becomes a quiet ritual: molten metal finding its own path, echoing rock formations and ancient landscapes, reminding me that creation is not about dominance but about relationship.

I owe the cosmos my persistence — to stay present through the tides of anxiety, addiction, and the echoes of old wounds. The world suffers its own kind of restlessness and fragmentation, and in that reflection I see my own. Through making, I try to rejoin the rhythm of things — to transform weight into light, chaos into form, to grieve. Working with metal teaches me to listen again: to what is solid, elemental, and alive beneath the noise.

To the cosmos, I owe curiosity and presence — to remain awake in a world numbed by speed and consumption. In the quiet act of making, I honour the interconnection of all things: nature, metal, breath, stone — everything flowing in unison. My work is both offering and inquiry, a way of carrying knowledge forward and preserving what is wild, raw, and real. A record of persistence, curiosity, and connection in a world — and a self — learning how to heal. A small act of looking, in a world that so often forgets to see.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

“Attention.”

SCULPTURAL CHAIR II BY ROOMS STUDIO

Reclaimed Oak, paint
L50 x W50 x H83 cm
Rooms Studio (C) 2017

Rooms Studio is a Tbilisi, Georgia based interior and furniture design studio founded by Nata Janberidze and Ketí Toloraia in 2007. Intuitive in nature, Rooms Studio's working methodology is indirect and fluid. Working primarily on a collection-to-collection basis, often with recurring elements, they create a continuous, ever-evolving body of work—as if, like the architecture of their motherland, historical layers are added to one another without abandoning or closing the previous chapters. Rooms Studio creates a design where East and West meet.

@rooms_studio_

What does “What do I owe the Cosmos?” mean to you?

We owe the cosmos its unseen care — the quiet pull toward what is good, even when unseen. The hand-carved Sculptural Chair II embodies this gesture: a rounded form shaped by time and touch, carrying the trace of care within its raw material.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

“Being fully aware, deep introspection and love.”

MOSS by AN&CO

AN&CO is a creative duo based in London, specialising in sweets made with anko (azuki bean paste), a staple in traditional Japanese confectionery. Their creations blend seasonal inspirations and cultural heritage with modern concepts and design.

@an.and.co_uk

What does *What do I owe the Cosmos?* mean to you?

The word Cosmos derives from the ancient Greek κόσμος (kosmos), meaning “order,” “arrangement,” and “beauty.” Thus, the universe is not the opposite of chaos merely by chance; it is, in essence, the very embodiment of serene and harmonious order — a metaphysical expression of existence in perfect balance.

Moss may well be spoken of as a miniature cosmos. It is believed that moss was the first land plant, appearing on Earth around 500 million years ago. Growing upon a stone within a forest, it forms a perfect ecosystem within a confined environment. In the quiet shade of the woods, moss becomes a microcosm, a living reflection of the universe. Without roots, it draws its sustenance from the air and the passing moisture of dew, sustaining its life upon the faintest breath of nature.

In Japanese culture, moss represents transience and imperfection, quietness and passing of time. It is the living cosmos in its most delicate and transient form.

For this exhibition, we present a micro-moss garden crafted from sweet red bean paste and matcha; sweet red bean paste, or anko, has been enjoyed for centuries in Japan and across Asia. Made simply from azuki beans, sugar, and water, it is most commonly used as a filling in traditional Japanese confections known as wagashi.

Inspired by Karesansui, the Zen gardens of Kyoto that use rocks, gravel, and sand to represent mountains and water, this moss microcosm invites being present and observation. By paying attention to something so small, we begin to connect more deeply with our surroundings. Through this awareness, we move toward balance, harmony, and a sense of connection with the wider cosmos.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

“Harmony — to steward the balance between nature, spirit, and human endeavour, as our ancestors once did.”

VIRTUE STOOL, CONCEPT THAT NEVER MADE IT BY ARJUN SINGH ASSA

Pine

Arjun Singh Assa is a Multidisciplinary Designer, Maker & Artist who explores generational knowledge through craft and spirituality. In 2024 he took on Victoria and Albert Museum's Emerging Design Commission, he made a bench titled 'Sitting with your virtues and vices'.

@assa.design.make

The Virtue Stool is a conceptual prototype that never came to fruition from my take on the V&A Museum's emerging design commission in 2024. My final piece was titled 'Sitting with the Virtues and Vices' which is a bench that explores the five vices and five virtues in Sikhism. These concepts are explored through concave and convex textures that take inspiration from my research on Sikh Architecture, and paintings from the V&A's archives. I invite audience members to experience, reflect and critique the stool.

What does “What do I owe the Cosmos?” mean to you?

The reason I chose this prototype is to capture the process of what led to the final piece. In a day and age where a lot of focus is put on the final outcome, not much reflection is given to the process, mistakes and decisions that lead us. Looking at the scale of what we owe to the cosmos, is asking ourselves what led us into this day and age of man-made systems and structures, especially as we move into the unknown world of artificial intelligence. What can we learn from the processes that led us here? Can we revisit the past and ask ourselves new questions that reframe our habits? A question I've recently pondered over is: are we in competition with the universe?

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

“Question the man made - honour nature.”

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COSMIC COMMONS - A FILM FOR THE LISSOME COMMISSIONED BY DÖRTE DE JESUS

“When we lift our view and gaze into the night sky, we watch a sea of stars. It is both humbling and breathtaking – we experience how small we are, yet how we belong to something so beautiful and enormous. We – and every living being – are each an essential part of this ancient network of life, infinitely interconnected. How can we transcend the illusion of separation and rebuild our world by coming together (in all our diversity) and reclaiming our shared prosperity and aliveness?” – Dörte de Jesus, Creative Director & Founder ***The Lissome***.

The film Cosmic Commons was created by sisters and creative duo Sara and Cristina Guerrero as a commission for The Lissome. Filmed along the Catalan coast, within the duo’s home region, it combines Super 8 footage, archival material and fragments featuring their youngest sister, Carla. Weaving together these layers of image and memory, the film reflects upon the many manifestations of nature and its interconnectedness, revealing cyclical rhythms and fractal forms. It becomes a personal meditation on universality, connection and intergenerational dialogue.

The film is an extension of the poem Cosmic Commons by Stacey Cotter Manière, written for The Lissome print magazine. The poem emerged from conversations between Stacey and The Lissome’s founder and creative director, Dörte de Jesus, and is interwoven with Stacey’s explorations of our interconnectedness through the communion of creativity and curiosity. Synchronicity plays a guiding role in their collaborative process and, in turn, helped shape the poem.

The natural landscapes seen in the film were captured over a weekend in the Delta de l’Ebre, alongside simple set constructions built on site, where all materials were returned to their original foraging locations.

Film Credits

A film for The Lissome commissioned by Dörte de Jesus @thelissome

Produced by Udde

Filmed and directed by Sara Guerrero

Poem and voice by Stacey Cotter Manière

Talent Carla Guerrero

Art direction Cristina Guerrero

Set design Cristina Guerrero; Grant Pickers

Title and credits Grant Pickers

ARRANGEMENT BY ME & MY BLOOMERS

Me & My Bloomers was born from a desire to connect deeply with nature. We celebrate all that nature has to offer, engaging in practices of gathering and arranging flowers, preserving them through pressings to extracting natural colour. We specialise in providing high end floral arrangements and naturally dyed fabrics for a variety of projects, including events, weddings and installations.

@meandmybloomers

Gathering the last of the harvest, Stephanie, creator of Me & My Bloomers, has created an edible arrangement from her very own garden in the Chiltern Hills. From black tomatoes, dill and cavolo nero, to seasonal blooms, this scene of plenty is placed upon a plinth encased with onion-skin dyed linen. An ode to beauty, locality, and the generosity of the earth in providing us with nourishment.

In this time of great transition, away from systems that no longer serve our collective flourishing, what do you feel called to steward?

"Nature."

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SANCTUARY OF GATHERING

Slow *Down*

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A space to rest, to ease into slowness and if called, connect and commune with others. Furoshiki artist and designer Tomoko Kakita of Ma Space guides those present on this ancient Japanese craft of wrapping fabric.

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WEAVING THE WORLD

Your Story

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A Book awaits. Enter your response to the question *What Do I Owe The Cosmos?* and leave with a thread that marks the beginning of your own story of (re)connection.

COME JOIN US OVER @AGEOFTHESTEWARD
A BEAUTIFUL FUTURE AWAITS, BUT IT WILL TAKE ALL OF US.
WITH LOVE, ALL STEWARDS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.