

# Ayatori Residency Project

## 300-Word Statement

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The Ayatori Residency Project took place at The Academy of Music and Theatre Arts (AMATA) at Falmouth University over two weeks in summer 2023. Initially created as a series of fixed audiovisual works through remote collaboration between members of En-Rapport (a collective of English and Japanese artists) the residency aimed to develop *Ayatori* for live performance in a physical space. This involved developing the existing material and creating new pieces through in-person collaboration with additional personnel, artforms and mediums including artificial intelligence (AI), live visuals, live improvisation and dance.

Building on previous work in post-lockdown collaborative processes (Cai et al 2021), artificial intelligence in audiovisual art (McCormack et al 2020), use of real-time technologies (Gibson 2022) and interdisciplinarity (Ikoniadou 2014), the project explored the research question *'how might a series of fixed audiovisual works developed in lockdown be developed for live performance through a two-week residency?'* Avenues of exploration related to this question included the fixed time and location, use of artificial intelligence and audiovisual technologies, and the inclusion of additional personnel and artforms.

In keeping with a practice-research methodology, practitioners kept journals to facilitate reflective practice, regular production meetings were held and a film-makers were brought in to document the work. The findings and insights are contained within the work itself, its technologies and tools, the documentary films and the artist reflections. These include insights into collaborative, interdisciplinary processes and the integration of newer technologies into established artforms.

There were two public performances at The Poly, Falmouth and at AMATA with audience Q&A sessions. Further impacts include En Rapport performances at the Barbican, Research England secondments for Falmouth staff and interdisciplinary research and pedagogy in AMATA.