



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Between

Università luav di Venezia, hereinafter "luav", tax code 80009280274, VAT 00708670278, represented by the rector pro tempore prof. Benno Albrecht, domiciled for the office at the Università luav di Venezia – Santa Croce, 191 – 30135 Venice, legitimized for the signing of this act;

and

Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia - Public Exchange Bureau (PEB), hereinafter "PEB", a research and curatorial unit of represented by Associate Professor Cameron Bishop and Professor David Cross, domiciled for the office at Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia, legitimized for the signing of this act;

Both luav and Public Exchange Bureau shall also be collectively referred to as "Parties" or individually as "Party".

WHEREAS:

- luav, pursuant to article 3, paragraph 2 of the Statute, in the exercise of its functional autonomy, can promote, organize and manage in collaboration with other public and private actors operating at local, national, supranational and international level, activities of common interest in fields related to its institutional purposes;
- luav, whose activity is institutionally devoted to teaching, training and research on the disciplines of Architecture, Urban Planning, Physical Planning, Restoration, Arts, Theatre and Design, is a qualified research and training centre with specific expertise in the fields of performance studies, theatre and performing arts, also with regard to the network of relationships with numerous Italian and international specialised organizations;
- PERLa (Performance Research Epistemology Lab) is a research unit based at luav University, founded in 2024 by a group of scholars coordinated by Professor Annalisa Sacchi, working on performance in dialogue with various disciplinary fields, ranging from cultural studies – including gender, decolonial and critical animal studies – to the environmental humanities and radical pedagogies;
- The Public Exchange Bureau (PEB) of Deakin University, Melbourne, is a research and curatorial entity engaged in multi-university, international artistic and research initiatives with a focus on place-based, process-driven and creative practice;
- PEB leads the Venetian Kind project, a multi-university artistic-curatorial research initiative taking place in Venice between May and November 2026, bringing together researchers and artists from Deakin University, Auckland University of Technology, University of the Arts Singapore and PERLa from luav University of Venice;
- PEB and luav intend to cooperate in the fields of performance studies, site-specific and public art research, creative practice and place-based artistic inquiry, and have scientific expertise in disciplines of common interest;

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 – Purpose and Objectives

1. luav – through PERLa – and the Public Exchange Bureau of Deakin University recognize the mutual interest in activating forms of cooperation in order to develop and promote research and creative practice in the fields of performance epistemologies, site-specific and place-based artistic research, environmental humanities and radical pedagogies, with particular reference to the cultural, historical and ecological contexts of Venice.
2. The collaboration will encompass, among other things, the co-development of the Venetian Kind project – a multi-university artistic-curatorial research initiative taking place in Venice between May and November 2026 – and shall serve as a framework for broader, long-term research collaboration.

Article 2 – Commitments of the Parties

1. PERLa – luav undertakes to contribute to the collaboration through the following non-financial (in-kind) resources and activities:

- On-site presence and support during project activities in Venice;
- Facilitation of local spaces, including luav classrooms and other venues for joint seminars or workshops, public events and shared research activities;
- Coordination and assistance with local institutions, communities and experts as needed;
- Communication and dissemination support, including visibility through institutional channels (websites, mailing lists, social media and academic communication);
- Visual documentation of activities, through the involvement of an official photographer or internal expertise;
- Scientific, curatorial and project-based expertise provided by the PERLa research group, including dramaturgical research and artistic accompaniment connected to the Venetian lagoon landscape and its ecologies;
- Established networks with Venetian cultural, artistic and research institutions for dissemination and public engagement.

2. The Public Exchange Bureau – Deakin University undertakes to:

- Lead and coordinate the Venetian Kind project across participating universities;
- Facilitate the participation of researchers and artists from partner institutions;
- Contribute to joint research and curatorial activities as mutually agreed;
- Support international mobility and exchange programmes as appropriate.

Article 3 – Forms of Collaboration

1. The purposes indicated in the previous articles may be pursued through various forms of collaborative activities, including:

- Joint research projects in performance studies, place-based and practice-based research;
- Organization of workshops, performances, symposia, international meetings, conferences and public events;
- Visits of faculty members, researchers, artists and students;
- Development of co-authored and co-edited publications, journal issues and edited volumes;
- Joint applications for national and international research funding and fellowships;
- International visiting and mobility programmes bringing students, researchers and artist-researchers to and from Venice;
- Use of research facilities and access to institutional resources of either party, as established by mutual agreement;
- Other activities as mutually agreed.

2. The specificity of individual activities will be identified through separate and specific implementing agreements, in which specific mention must be made to the present MoU, and in which the timetable for implementation and the distribution of any respective responsibilities will be determined.

Article 4 – Technical and Scientific Contacts

1. The Public Exchange Bureau identified as responsible for the implementation of this MoU: *Professor David Cross and Associate Professor Cameron Bishop*.
2. Iuav identified as responsible for the implementation of this agreement: Prof. Annalisa Sacchi, PERLa – Performance Research Epistemology Lab.

Article 5 – Financial Provisions

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is based on the exchange of non-financial (in-kind) contributions and does not involve direct financial transfers between the Parties. Each Party shall bear its own costs unless otherwise agreed in separate implementing agreements.
2. The implementing agreements will regulate any economic aspects, insurance matters, and intellectual property rights and the publication of materials generated by programmes undertaken by the Parties.

Article 6 – Duration and Withdrawal

1. This Memorandum of Understanding has a validity of three years from the date of signing and cannot be automatically renewed unless there is an explicit declaration by all Parties.
2. Either Party may withdraw from this MoU by giving written notice to the other Party with a minimum of sixty (60) days' advance notice. Withdrawal shall not affect any ongoing implementing agreements unless otherwise agreed.

Article 7 – Mutual Use of Name, Logo and Other Tangible and Intangible Assets

1. Each Party may refer to the other in communications, publications and dissemination materials related to activities carried out under this MoU, provided that prior written consent has been obtained from the relevant Party.
2. The use of institutional names, logos and other identifiers shall comply with each institution's internal regulations and communication guidelines.

Article 8 – Ownership, Sharing and Dissemination of Research Results

1. Research outcomes, publications and other intellectual outputs generated through collaboration under this MoU shall be jointly owned by the Parties, unless otherwise established in separate implementing agreements.
2. The Parties are committed to open dissemination of research results, including through public events, academic publications, conferences and digital platforms, in accordance with applicable law and institutional policies.

Article 9 – Confidentiality and Personal Data Processing

1. The Parties undertake to treat as confidential any information received from the other Party in the context of this MoU that is expressly identified as confidential, and not to disclose it to third parties without prior written consent.
2. Personal data exchanged between the Parties in the context of this MoU shall be processed in accordance with applicable data protection legislation, including the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) No. 2016/679 and relevant national provisions.

Article 10 – Code of Ethics

1. The Parties affirm their commitment to conducting all collaborative activities in accordance with the highest standards of academic and research integrity, and in compliance with their respective institutional codes of ethics and conduct.

Article 11 – Arbitration Clause and Jurisdiction

1. Any dispute arising from the interpretation or execution of this Memorandum of Understanding shall first be addressed through good-faith negotiation between the Parties.

2. Should the Parties fail to reach an agreement, disputes shall be submitted to the competent court in Venice, Italy, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any controversy arising from this MoU.

Article 12 – Liaison Offices

1. The offices in charge of the execution and possible amendment or extension of this MoU are:

Public Exchange Bureau

Deakin University
Melbourne, Australia
225 Burwood Highway
Burwood 3205
Ph: +61 3 924 43962
Email: Cameron.bishop@deakin.edu.au

At Università Iuav di Venezia

Servizio di Staff del Rettore
Tolentini 191 – S. Croce
I – 30135 Venezia
Ph.: +39 041 2571750
Email: rettorato@iuav.it

Article 13 – Signatures, Registration and Expenses

1. The registration of this Memorandum of Understanding will be made only in case of use, in accordance with current legislation. All related expenses shall be borne by the party requesting the recording.

2. This Memorandum of Understanding is subject to stamp duty from the outset and is paid by Iuav in virtual mode by authorization of the Revenue Agency – Territorial Office of Venice n. 29074/1999.

3. The present Memorandum of Understanding will be executed in one original copy in English and digitally signed according to Italian law (D. Lgs. n. 82/2005, L. n. 241/90).

The present Memorandum of Understanding is signed by:

Public Exchange Bureau, Deakin University,
Melbourne, Australia

Position: Academic Leads

**Name Prof. David Cross / Associate Prof.
Cameron Bishop**

Signature

Università Iuav di Venezia

The Rector

Benno Albrecht

Signature



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive letter 'P' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Date 9/4/26

Date

