

“Exploring boundaries & the bottom” - The very 1st ICYMARE ArtScience Project



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Art and Science...

“...both of which share a common goal to understand and describe the world around us as well as provide avenues for communication and enquiry”(Paterson et al. 2020)

Right now, being a marine scientist often sucks. We know so much about the dire state of the Ocean and are aware that generating knowledge itself does not lead to behavioural or policy changes that might spark improvements for Ocean health and the people that depend on it. Combined with the competitive nature of this field, many of us have surely felt frustrated or lonely - especially over the last few years.

So - how can we improve our understanding of the Ocean in a way that holds space for plural ways of seeing the world? Can we communicate in new ways that better engage people emotionally? How can we as a scientific community stay motivated and connected despite these challenges? How can we develop new modes of thinking and sharing that might help us address some of these issues?

The Exquisite Corpse Process

This process was developed by the writer Roz Ray in 2010 based on an art exercise invented in 1925 in Paris by the surrealists Yves Tanguy, Jacques Prévert, André Breton and Marcel Duchamp. In their exercise, they drew or wrote a portion of an image or a poem, then folded back what they had written so the next participant could only see a small hint as inspiration. The name ‘cadavre exquis’ was derived from the first time they did this art exercise, which resulted in the line “*le cadavre exquis boira le vin nouveau*” (‘the exquisite corpse will drink the new wine’).

- Highlights the existence of multiple worldviews and perspectives
- Fosters social cohesion and empathy between participants
- Develops transdisciplinary insights in a non-confrontational way

How it works:

Starting from a common inspirational prompt (seed), each participant creates a series of art pieces that are passed to other participants as inspiration for their next piece (fig 1). At the end of the process each participant will have completed three different art projects.

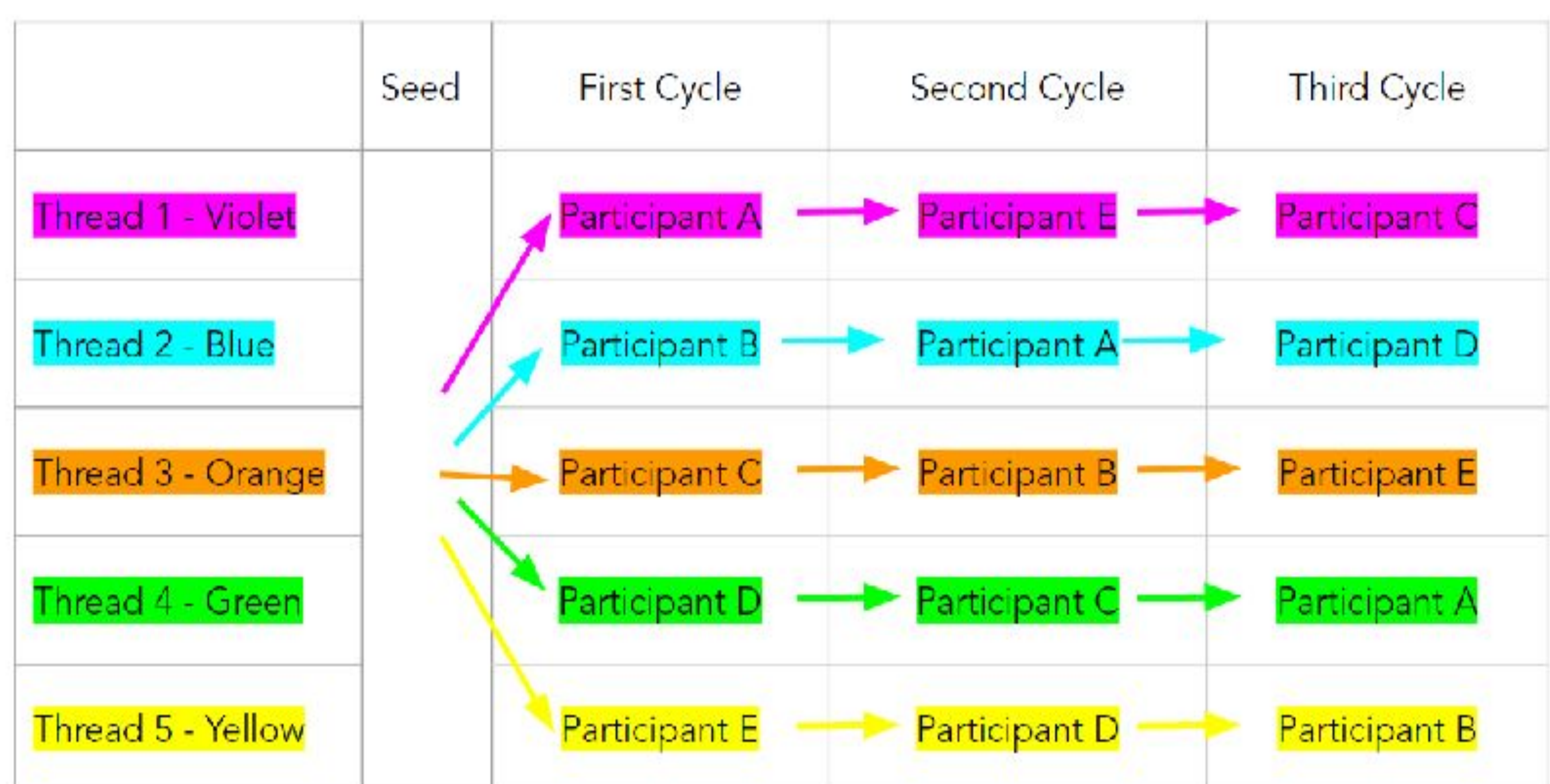


Fig. 1: Schematic overview of an Exquisite Corpse process

References:

Jung (2022) Ocean ArtScience and the Exquisite Corpse Process. Report published by the Cobra Collective
https://cobracollective.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/OceanArtScience_ExquisiteCorpse_Jung2022.pdf

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