

Expansive  
Encounters \*\*

\*\* with Art in  
Public Spaces



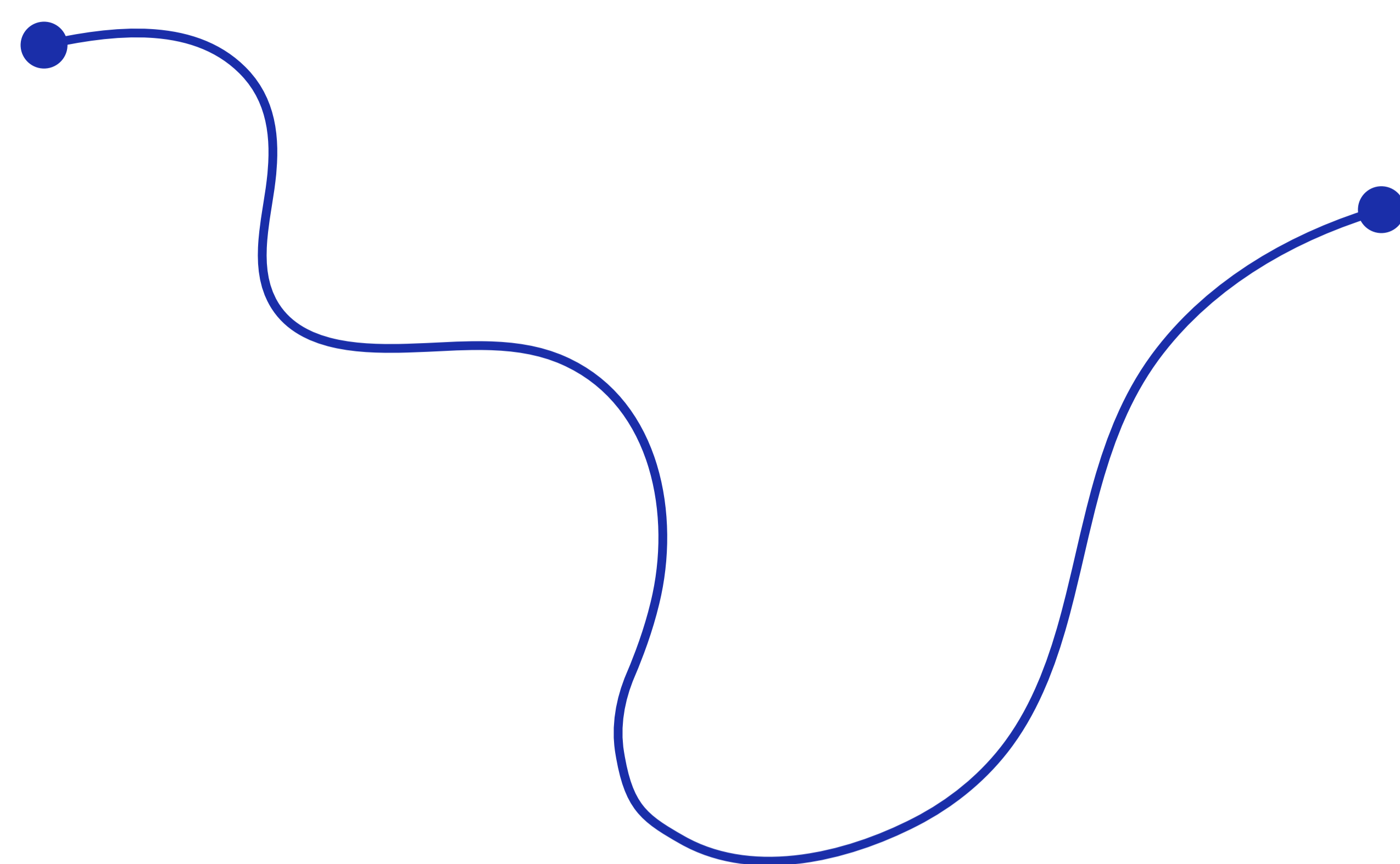
*Elephants, Owen Dipple, 2015*

*Wish You Were Here, Wayne Youle, 2017*

application guidelines



**Northern Rivers**



**Ōtautahi Christchurch**

## **introduction**

Expansive Encounters is a reciprocal exchange program between the Northern Rivers and Ōtautahi Christchurch. Over a four-week intensive, two Northern Rivers artists will participate in an immersive research and development opportunity to increase their professional practice within art in public spaces.

Hosted in September 2023, artists will gain a deeper understanding of the cultural strands and values that have shaped the public arena in Ōtautahi Christchurch. The successful participants will generate innovative ideas, explore diverse practices, and engage deeply with the ecology of art in public spaces post-earthquakes.

This pilot program will establish the parameters of an ongoing relationship between the two host countries. Through the lens of creative recovery, this exchange will strengthen the capacity of artistic practice in post-disaster communities.

## **program partners**

Arts Northern Rivers has partnered with Gap Filler, Life in Vacant Spaces, and Christchurch City Council to execute the Expansive Encounters reciprocal exchange program in a meaningful way. Applicants are advised to conduct additional research on the program partners to assist in the application process.

## **program fees**

Two individuals and/or collaborative practitioners will be awarded \$9,000 each to support their participation in the program. This fee will be self-managed by the successful artists to include all associated costs such as but not limited to; travel, accommodation, per diems and any research and development expenses.





*Cognitive Reorientation, Eddie Clemens, 2022*

**Art in Public Spaces** is a multifaceted field encompassing a range of practices and outcomes that are intentionally planned and executed outside the confines of traditional gallery contexts. These practices involve a diverse set of processes that may include; site-specific installation, performance, community engagement, placemaking and spatial practices.

In the context of post-disaster, these practices can play a vital role in recovery and serve as a powerful tool in the reimagining of public space.



## key dates

Applications Open	4th April 2023
Applications Close	9th May 2023
Successful Candidates Notified	13th June 2023
Exchange Program Begins	1st September 2023
Exchange Program Ends	30th September 2023

## outcomes

This program does not require a specific outcome. However, participants will be encouraged to contribute their knowledge in-country and through a series of professional development sessions in the region upon their return. Applications that propose further engagement with public outcomes in the Northern Rivers are encouraged and will be supported upon return where applicable.

- The successful candidates will have access to studio spaces and opportunities to participate in scheduled networking events with artists and practitioners in Ōtautahi Christchurch.
- The program partners will introduce the successful candidates to the local sector and assist with research and network building among relevant communities.
- Applicants will contribute to a public panel discussion, artist talk or public outreach during their time in-country with host communities. This may be formal/informal and is at the discretion of the artist/s.

## eligibility

Expansive Encounters is open to artists living in the Northern Rivers\*\* at all career stages who work within or showcase a demonstrated interest in public practices. Proposals will be considered from artists working in diverse disciplines, including but not limited to; visual arts, installation, media, collaboration, social and participatory, performance, architecture, film/video, literature, interdisciplinary arts, and sound. First Nations artists and practitioners are encouraged to apply.

*\*\*The Expansive Encounters program is open to Northern Rivers artists who live within the Byron, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Tweed Local Government Areas. The submission will be deemed ineligible if the applicant's address is not included within the above LGAs.*





*#chchswing, Gap Filler, 2019*

## application process

Applicants are asked to provide a brief proposal of their project idea or line of enquiry for their time during the exchange. Audio/video submissions (maximum 2.5 minutes) may be submitted in place of a written proposal.

## application support

For any inquiries about the Expansive Encounters program or for support with your application, please get in touch with Holly Ahern, Transitional Projects Coordinator: [projects@artsnorthernrivers.com.au](mailto:projects@artsnorthernrivers.com.au)

## requirements

1. Applicants must have a current ABN.
2. Must hold a current passport for travel (expiring later than 31st December 2023).
3. Participants must be able to commit 4 consecutive weeks in Ōtautahi Christchurch in September 2023.
4. Document and share the experience during the exchange through images/video/diary/writings or other preferred and agreed upon methods.
5. Successful candidates will be required to enter into an Exchange Agreement with Arts Northern Rivers.
6. Upon return, the exchange participants will be asked to contribute knowledge to and participate in a public program surrounding Art in Public Spaces.



## assessment criteria

1. Demonstrates a strong desire and capability to actively engage with the hosts and creative community in Ōtautahi Christchurch in a meaningful way.
2. Showcases previous engagement or strong interest in public practices that can be further explored through research and development in the host country.
3. Proposes ideas or concepts that have the potential for public outcomes in the Northern Rivers upon return.
4. Clearly defines an interest and willingness to work in the context of post-disaster recovery and/or the re-imagining of public spaces in the Northern Rivers.

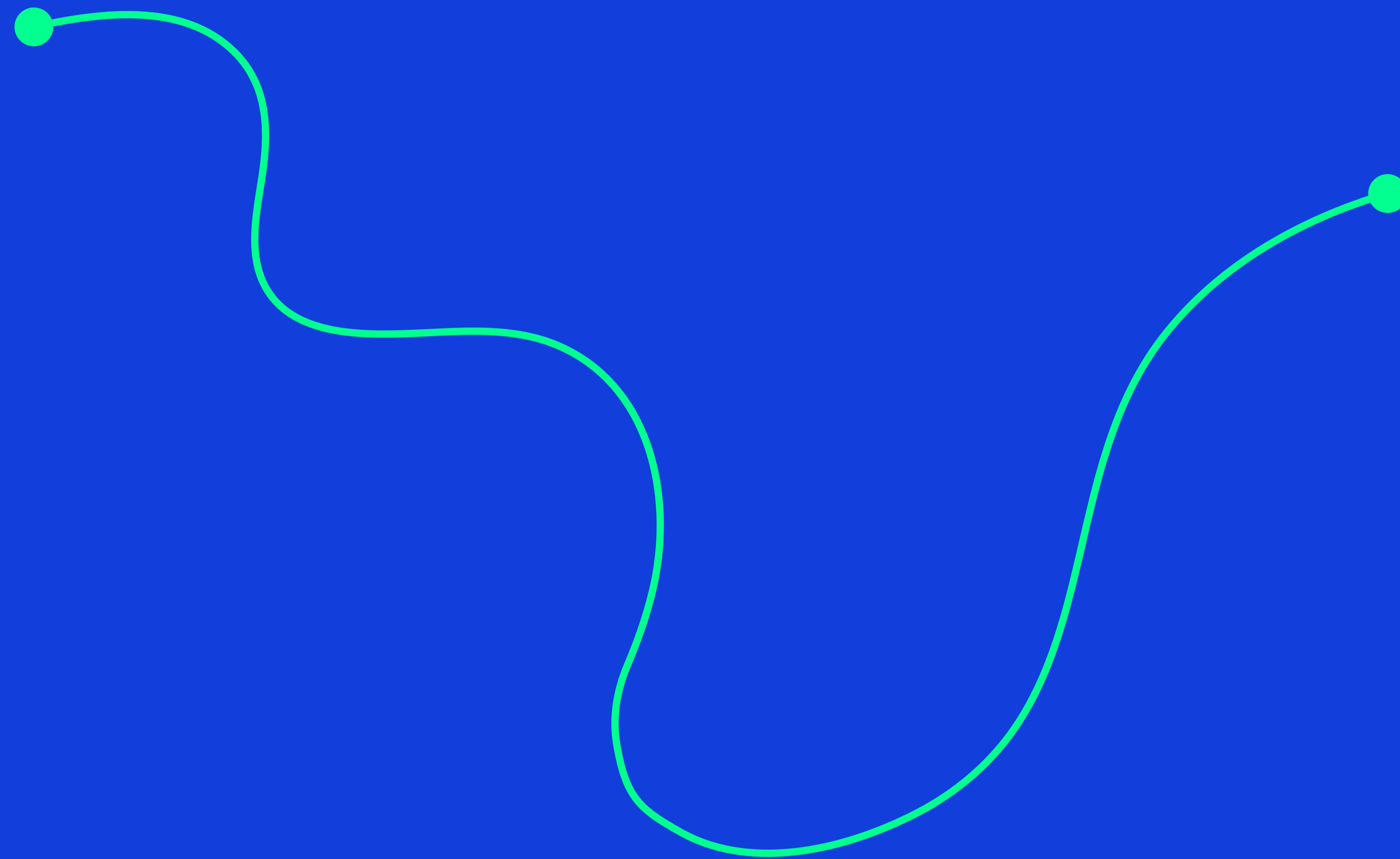
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*Artist Unknown, Ōtautahi Christchurch*

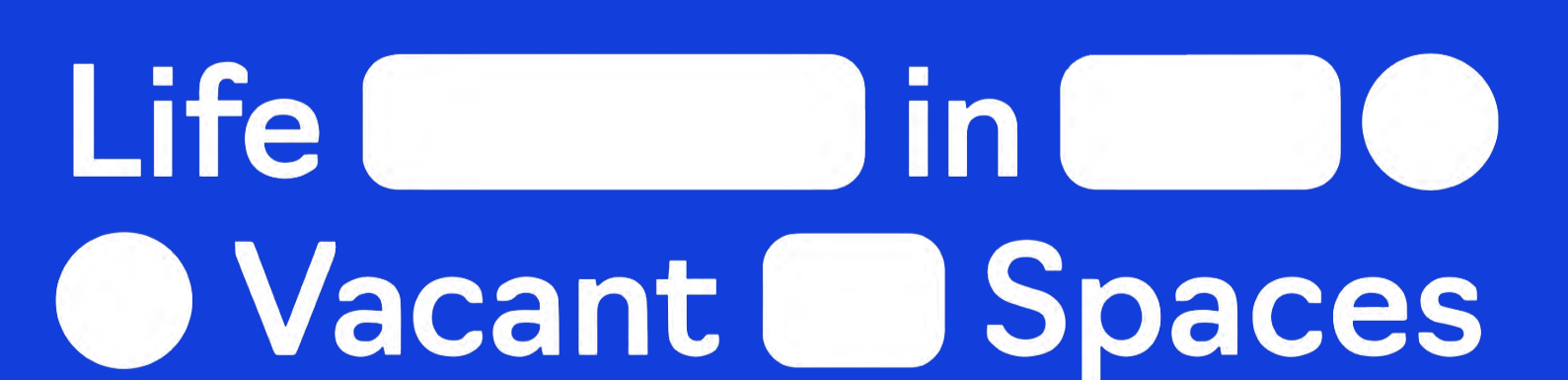


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ARTS NORTHERN  
RIVERS



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