# Hybrid Making – An Instruction Guide

**The format "Hybrid Making" was conceived as a brief, intensive format for instruction and exchange that brings together above all artists and research fellows, Ph.D. candidates and selected external guests from experimental studios and start-ups. Over the course of two days an exciting technology or an innovative procedure is collectively explored and collaborative, interdisciplinary experimentation is encouraged.**

## Objective:

Innovations come from many different places – sometimes from inside an institution, sometimes from outside – but only rarely do other people have the chance to find out whether these innovations have the potential to benefit their own work. At "Hybrid Making" interdisciplinary groups have this opportunity. Experimentation is encouraged!

## Subjects:

Technical advancements are happening all the time. We hear a lot about some of these without ever being able to experience them directly. This is the case, for example, with mixed-reality glasses, which are very expensive. For a "Hybrid Making" workshop such glasses can be rented and collaboratively tested. With a transdisciplinary group very diverse aspects are investigated and assessed, sometimes with surprising results. Yet research projects that are still in progress can also yield interesting methods, for example potential uses of such smart materials as dielectric elastomers, which researchers and artists from the fields of design, fashion, physics, aerospace engineering and other disciplines are able to experience first hand.

## Preparation:

The workshops can be headed by one or multiple individuals from one's own institution. If a state-of-the-art technology is involved for which the institution does not have any equipment or expertise, external experts can help out. Ideally the workshop will be directed by an interdisciplinary team from diverse fields. This interdisci-

plinary quality is even more important when it comes to the participants. They too will ideally represent very different disciplines and also have distinct interests in terms of the potential uses of the material to be tested. Once these conditions are fulfilled, not much more is needed: a suitable space that allows for hands-on work and about two full working days. On the first day the material or technology can be introduced and the first tests and trials of its potential carried out. By the second day small groups should be formed that choose a task that will allow them to test specific uses of the material or technology. Frequent exchange between the different groups so that questions or possible ideas can be discussed allows for rapid progress and input from a variety of disciplines.

## Participants:

A mix of different disciplines and diverse academic backgrounds is desirable, as in collaborative exchange uses or methods can be tested that may not be equally obvious to everyone. In order to increase the benefit for one's own research or artistic work, it makes sense to include participants that are working on their Ph.D. or completing doctorate-level research.

The Hybrid Plattform is a project platform of the Berlin University of the Arts and the Technische Universität Berlin in the heart of the Campus Charlottenburg, Berlin. The platform serves the cross-disciplinary exchange of art, science and technology.