

During the preparations for the Residuum International Conference, I took part in the abstract review process. This opportunity gave me early exposure to the core aspects of academic publishing and conference organisation, and allowed me to gain an in-depth understanding of how academic quality is assessed within an international academic context. My specific tasks included reading submitted abstracts, discussing the merits and shortcomings of each one with other reviewers, and jointly deciding whether an abstract should be accepted, revised or rejected.

The most fascinating aspect of this experience was learning how to evaluate academic merit beyond personal preferences. During the review process, we systematically assessed each abstract to determine whether it clearly articulated the research objectives, methodology, originality, and relevance to the conference theme. I gradually came to realise that an excellent submission is often not the one with the most complex language, but rather those abstracts that possess a clear research question, logically coherent arguments, and make a substantive contribution to contemporary art or cultural issues. At times, although I might have a personal preference for a particular creative direction, I still need to set aside my personal tastes and return to academic standards to judge its rigour and persuasiveness.

Throughout the collaborative discussions, I have also gained a deep appreciation for the ethical responsibilities inherent in peer review. As reviewers, we must consistently maintain respect, impartiality and a constructive approach, exercising particular caution when evaluating submissions from authors of different nationalities, linguistic styles or varying levels of expressive ability. For instance, when faced with an abstract where the language is not entirely fluent but the ideas are novel, we should focus on the intrinsic value of the content rather than being overly critical of the form of

expression. This experience has taught me how to strike a balance between rigorous academic judgement and professional empathy.

Furthermore, by observing the differences of opinion among reviewers, I have come to recognise that academic selection is often a process of collective deliberation, rather than a decision that can be made by a single reviewer alone. Through discussion and the comparison of viewpoints, the team is able to reach a more balanced decision. This process has also made me realise that trust within the academic community is built upon fairness, dialogue and inclusivity. Overall, this review experience has deepened my understanding of the collaborative nature of conference planning, academic exchange, and the culture of art and design research, whilst laying an important practical foundation for my future academic development.

015	Conference category: Immersive Imaginations Live talk or Pre-record: Pre-record Abstract: This project examines how culinary heritage can be reinterpreted as a future-oriented design resource through the construction of contemporary visual systems. Taking <u>taralli napoletani</u>, a traditional food from Naples, as a case study, the research investigates how material culture can be translated into a coherent design language that bridges historical identity and contemporary modes of communication. <u>Taralli</u> originated in the late eighteenth century as an act of resourceful reuse, transforming leftover dough into a widely recognized local specialty. Over time, it has become embedded in everyday life, embodying social practices, informal economies, and collective <u>memory</u>. Rather than approaching this heritage as a static artifact, the project frames it as a dynamic cultural system with the potential for reinterpretation. The methodology is practice-based and unfolds in three stages: analysis, abstraction, and <u>application</u>. First, the project conducts a cultural and formal analysis of the object, identifying key visual and symbolic features — most notably its circular, intertwined geometry, which conveys notions of continuity, connection, and resilience. Second,		5 Excellent 5 Using traditional food as a gateway to 'cultural heritage' is an excellent approach. The design methodology is clear, progressing from analysis and abstraction to application. The idea of transforming a concrete concept into a usable design system is both comprehensive and highly inspiring.	Accept Accept

My online review