

**WELCOME TO THE
CYBERPADDOCK**

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

BURN Arts, Inc and the Modifyre Community wish to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Country upon which Modifyre takes place, the Bigambul and Kambuwal Peoples.

We also wish to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Country upon which many of us live, learn and work, the Jagera and Turrbal Peoples. We honour their Ancestors and pay our deepest respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

We extend that respect to all First Nations People, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the nation. We honour and respect their continued cultural and spiritual relationship to their Traditional Lands, Seas and Waters and recognise their unique and valuable contribution to society.

Sovereignty was never ceded.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BUG

Dear Burners,

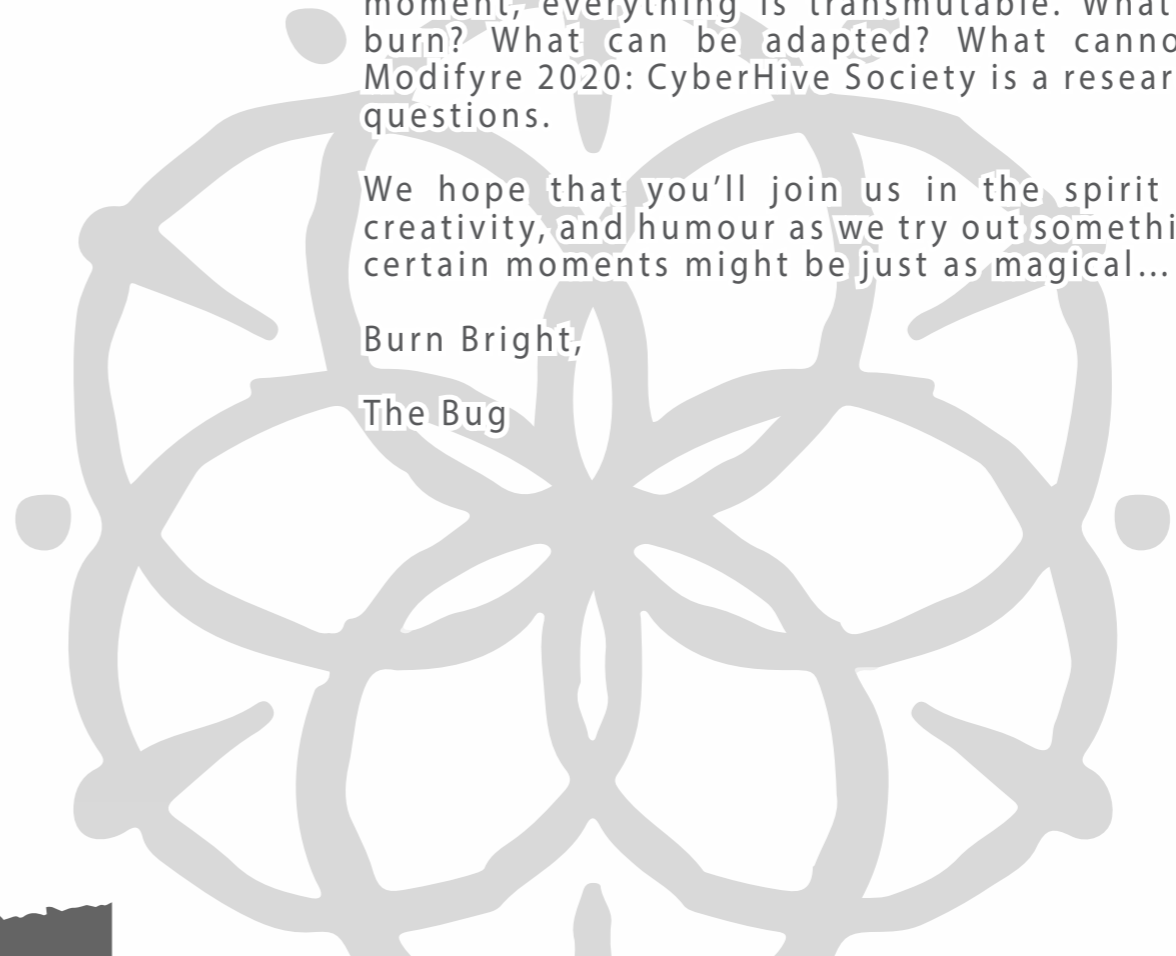
What a time! We've been thinking of our community during this difficult moment.

While we are disappointed that we cannot gather as normal in real life, we are so excited to be able to meet on our newly formed Cyberpaddock. Thanks to the hard work of our Event Production Team and the participating theme camps, we'll still be burning, gifting, dancing, performing, bantering and ritualising together as we discover the future direction of our community. In this moment, everything is transmutable. What is the essence of a burn? What can be adapted? What cannot be compromised? Modifyre 2020: CyberHive Society is a research project into these questions.

We hope that you'll join us in the spirit of experimentation, creativity, and humour as we try out something new - who knows, certain moments might be just as magical...

Burn Bright,

The Bug



INTRODUCTION

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Modifyre 2020 is an online affair. As we do with the physical paddock, we have created a digital platform as our "blank slate" to be populated with our community's wildest ideas for participatory art in Cyberspace!

Our game designer and team of digital illustrators have created an interactive and participatory experience that will run over a weekend. Individuals will be able to make their own avatars to chat with each other and explore our Cyberpaddock with all of the theme camp's offerings.

To participate, there is no IT experience necessary. You just need a computer, internet and a ticket!

Never been to a Burn before? Check out last year's survival guide [HERE](#) for an in-depth round up of why we burn, how we burn, and our Guiding Principles.

TIMES, DATES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Modifyre 2020 starts from 12:00pm (midday) Saturday 4th July, and ends at 9:00pm Sunday 5th July. Our event closes officially after the Temple Burn on Sunday night. However, while there are no scheduled events after this time, the platform will remain open until everybody logs out.

As usual, we will be scheduling a Welcome to Country & Effigy Burn on Saturday night, and Temple Burn on Sunday night, all complete with radical participatory offerings. We are also hosting a Town Hall Meeting on Sunday afternoon for our community to come together and discuss where we take our community next.

In addition, our theme camps have created a smorgasbord of creative offerings to explore. This includes a single livestream for the entire duration of the weekend by our sound camps featuring beats, burns and performance bugs!

To see the exact schedule for these events, you will be able to access our Event Guide via the Modifyre website. This guide is being populated and updated automatically as theme camps schedule their activities, so you can see what's happening and where and keep checking in throughout the weekend.

ONE IMPORTANT THING!

Before we begin, we have an extra important request. As a participant of Modifyre 2020, we ask that you DO NOT share the links of the events that you attend to non-ticket holders! That means no posting the links on Facebook events or passing them to your mates. This is important not only because this is a fundraiser for the Inglewood community and thus our events are just for ticket holders, but also so that we are able to know who is attending Modifyre from a safety perspective. As with a physical burn, if anyone wants to attend a theme camp event either digitally or in real life, they must buy a ticket!

Thank you in advance!



ENTERING THE CYBERPADDOCK

BUYING A TICKET

Tickets for MODIFYRE 2020 are on sale now via our website. No ticket = no entry to the Cyberpaddock!

All proceeds from tickets, minus a carbon offset are going to the local community of Inglewood, where Modifyre normally takes place.

Since this event is also a fundraiser, we do ask that anyone who is attending, even if they are visiting as part of a group in someone else's house and never make an avatar themselves, buys a ticket.

IMPORTANT: Ticket sales will close two days before our platform opens, on Friday 3rd July at Midnight! This means tickets cannot be purchased during the event.

GETTING ONTO THE PLATFORM

1. Go to the URL which will be clearly listed on the landing page of the Modifyre website: www.modifyre.org
2. Enter your order number and the name as it appears on your ticket.
3. Make your avatar look fabulous.

You're ready to explore!

HOW DOES THE CYBERPADDOCK WORK?

Our online platform is created like a game. It's been made so that it is as simple as possible to use.

As with a burn on our physical paddock, you can get dressed up, walk around with your avatar, chat to other burners, explore the theme camps and the environment, and attend events that the theme camps and other venues like The Heart are hosting. You can chat to people in the area by clicking the small chat bubble in the bottom left corner and typing your message.

When you enter a theme camp, you will see a list of links on their blackboard, some of them with specific scheduled times. When you click one of the links, it will open in a new tab, which will be to whatever activity the camp is offering! It might be a Zoom room, a livestream, a chat room, a pre-recorded video, a game, an artwork... anything is possible.

While this tab is open and you are not active on the Cyberpaddock, your avatar will go to "sleep" in the theme camp. When you come back to this tab, you can pick up from where you left off. However, if you close the tab, you will have to login again and you'll end up back at your camp. However, if you are logging in a second time with the same ticket, it will remember your avatar so you don't have to build it again.

Please note that, as with a theme camp offering on the paddock, Modifyre has no control over the events that happen on any external platforms or their content.

KIDS

You'll know if someone you are chatting to is under 18 via the tags on their speech bubbles.

Kids under 13 are permitted to walk around our platform with an adult avatar. Under 18's are permitted to explore on their own, however it is the responsibility of the guardian who purchased the linked ticket to supervise their use of the platform.



ONLINE PARTICIPATION

GIFTING & LINKING

What does Gifting look like in our online environment? Perhaps you share your favourite recipes, type some poetry, share a digital artwork, or tell a joke! These could be typed straight into the chatboxes, or you could link to a webpage that has some previously-uploaded content.

Please note: Suspicious URL's will be blocked, however most of the common platforms for hosting content such as YouTube will be "whitelisted" meaning that those links will work if they are posted. With that said, if you are planning to be sharing a piece of content on an uncommon host site, you might want to email info@modifyre.org with the link to get it whitelisted in advance.



THE HEART

Our heart/centre camp will have an interactive blackboard on which you can sign up on the day to host a workshop, talk, musical event, performance or anything else!





YOUR HOME SET-UP

INDIVIDUALS

If you have the three essential elements to getting onto our Cyberpaddock (ticket i.e. order number and name, computer, internet), then you are good to go! Our advice is to connect your laptop or PC to a TV screen via HDMI cable. Make sure you are situated somewhere with decent internet speed/bandwidth so that you can watch the livestreams and videos without delays and glitches.

If you can set the laptop up near the TV screen and use that cam, or set up a portable cam, even better! Then we'll all be able to see all your beautiful faces, outfits, dance moves etc.

If you are not tech-savvy, you can always ask another tech-savvy human to help you get set up!

GROUPS

You may wish to explore the paddock with friends! At the time of writing, we are permitted in Queensland to host a group of up to 20 people at our private residences. Here are some elements you might want to consider for setting up your gathering space:

Group Login: You can log on as a group of up to 10 people on a single computer! You may want to connect your computer to a screen or projector and add a webcam so that you can all clearly see what's going on and be seen by others on the platform.

Multiple Computers: You may like to remind people to bring their own laptop, or you may want to set up a few with webcams around your residence so that participants can chat to others in any spaces that are open in the different camps. You also have the option to open a few laptops in different camps and let your visitors mill around between them.

Livestream: Our sound camps have organised a livestream for the entirety of the burn, which includes the footage of our effigy and temple and all the associated ritual/performance fun! You might want to put this on a large screen or projector to watch together throughout the weekend.



BURNER SAFETY & HEALTH

HARMFUL INTERACTIONS

Moderangers:

As with a burn, our Moderangers will be walking about the Cyberpaddock to lend a hand if you are in need of assistance. They will be identifiable by their avatar. There will also be a "Call for Help" button enabled on your screen which notifies a Moderanger and lets them teleport to you (don't we wish this could happen in real life?!) Please note - the Moderangers are not trained tech support, their focus is on interpersonal interactions and safety.

Theme camp administrators also have the ability to eject or ban anybody from their theme camp events that they consider to be causing distress or harm. If you can speak to a theme camp admin, please do! If a user is rejected from multiple camps, it will automatically alert our Moderanger team who have the ability to ban someone from the Cyberpaddock permanently.

"Ignoring" People:

If you don't want to interact with someone any longer, you have the option to "ignore" someone on the platform. You can do this by clicking on someone's name which will open a menu with the "ignore" option. Once this happens, you can no longer chat to each other, or see the name or features of each other's avatar.

If enough people ignore an avatar, it will send an alert to our Moderangers to investigate. However, you can also let a Moderanger know directly.



CONSENT & CYBERSAFETY

A few years ago, Modifyre formalised consent as our official 11th Principle! However, in our online environment this principle has some new dimensions to consider.

Screenshots:

Similar to taking a photo on the paddock, our participants need to ask consent before taking a screenshot and/or sharing that with anybody.

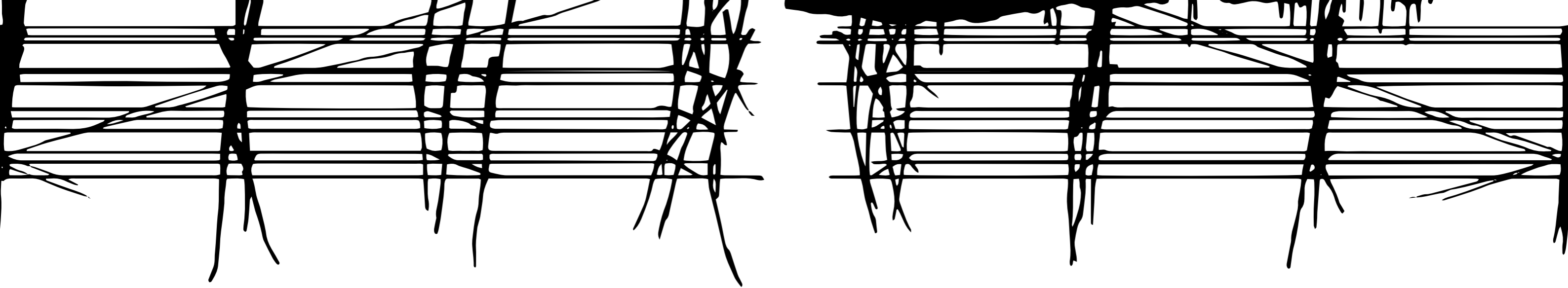
Nudity:

Please consider that there is a difference between a naked person walking around onsite at Modifyre and a naked person on a webcam. On a webcam there may be less context, no possibility to avoid it in advance from far away if you're just not that into it, and potentially very awkward cropping...

Illegal/Compromising Activity:

Not only do things translate differently online, we sometimes tend to forget that the internet is a public space. It is good to remember that all local laws still apply in an online environment. We encourage participants to directly message anyone doing anything illegal or compromising on camera and encourage them to step away. The golden rule is, if you wouldn't do it in a crowded room at a public event, don't do it online.

Don't be afraid to call a Moderanger to help facilitate these discussions if you need to.



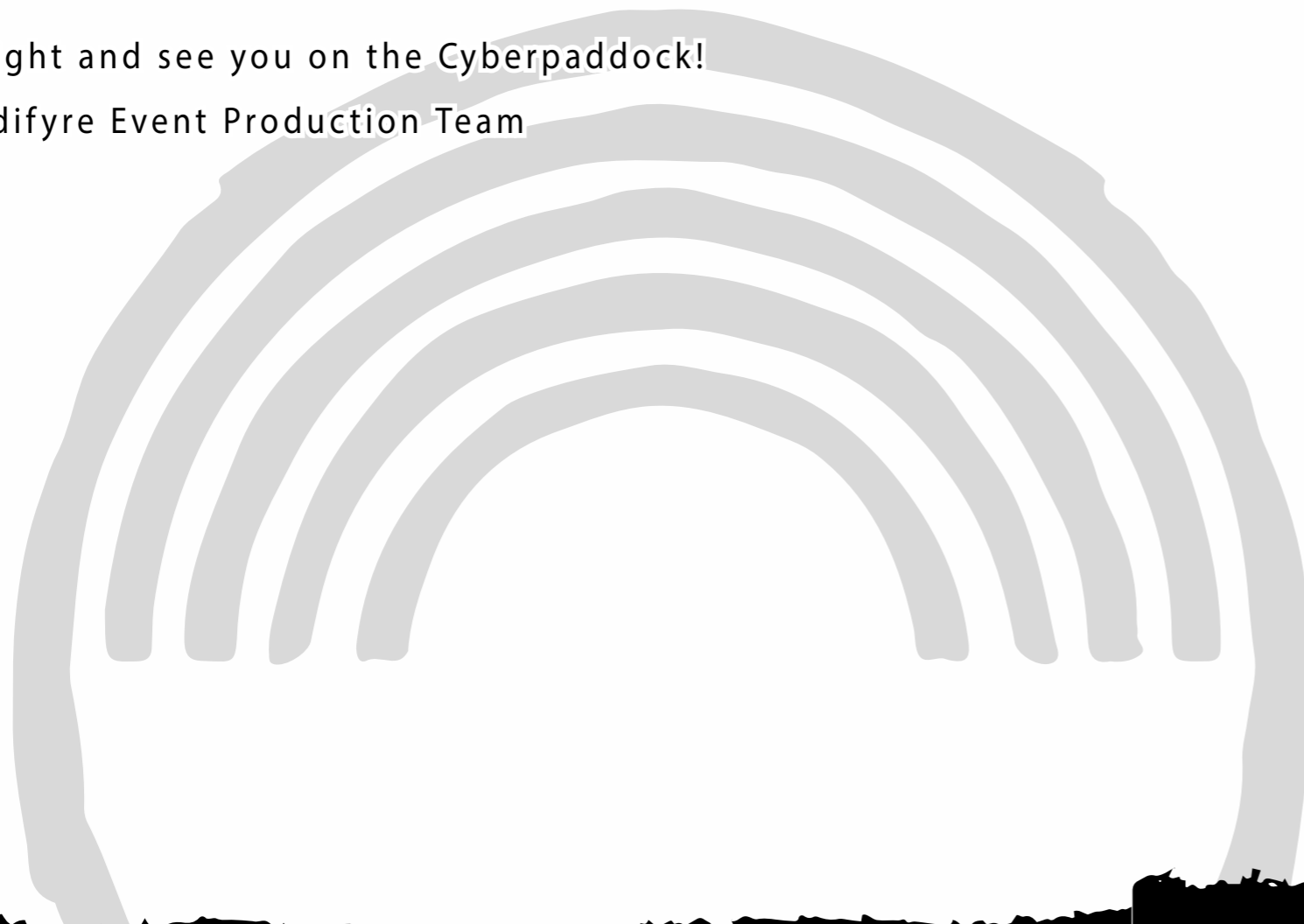
GETTING IN TOUCH

From the whole Modifyre Event Production Team,
thank you in advance for bringing your magic -
it wouldn't be a burn without you!

Don't be afraid to email us at info@modifyre.org
or message us via our Facebook Page

Burn bright and see you on the Cyberpaddock!

The Modifyre Event Production Team



2020 CYBER-GLOSSARY

Avatar:
A representation of how you want to be seen in the digital realm

Bandwidth:
How much data you can upload and download per second

Cyberpaddock, The:
The main platform that comprises Modifyre in 2020

Domain:
The main website address/homepage of the website that you are linking to- e.g. www.zoom.com

Facade:
The “front door” to your Theme Camp on the Cyberpaddock

Foyer:
The place when, on entering through the front door, participants can see your offerings and links to your external activities.

Livestream:
A live transmission of your event over the internet (generally non-interactive)

Moderangers:
Our digital rangers!

Platform:
A software or website or app that allows you to interact with the world wide web

Server:
A computer that lives somewhere else and serves you

Whitelist:
Our approved list of domains, which just makes sure that people aren't linking to any extremely shady/illegal corners of the internet.

