Narrative Shifts

Session 1: Optional Prompt: Session 1 is all about questions, and we asked 100+ questions across 17 calls since 2015. Below, we selected a question from each year that speaks to us these days. Feel free to reflect on one, or write other questions that one or some inspire for you and your work. You may print this out or simply do the prompt in a journal. You may also visit our magazine landing page for more.

In 2015, we asked: Might the plasticity of our language be responsible for the gaps between us? In 2016, we asked: Is it too late to re-choreograph our consumption of news and alter our dependence on technology? In 2017, we asked: Why do we reject bodies in danger? In 2018, we asked: Is there a power that is ever responsible? In 2019, we asked: What does forgiveness look like from where you hurt? In 2020, we asked: What have you recorded during this time, and what are you trying to forget? In 2021, we asked: How do we claim the kind of joy that creates a rupture for passage through all the horror and despair? In 2022, we asked: What truths have you unearthed beneath the falsitudes, and how is what is real related to what's possible? In 2023, we asked: How do we do things not in spite of but alongside — in relation to — everything that is happening around us? And this year, we asked: What are we even waiting for, and where is the line between resting, recuperating, giving up, and irresponsible avoidance? Which of these questions speak to you or you work right now and why?

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Think: what questions are you asking yourself and others these days? What questions are others asking you? What questions are you surrounded by in the news, on social media, or while in coffee shops? What questions aren't being asked?