



# REIMAGINING RITUALS

# COMBINED INVITATION AND CONSENT FORM

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**Principal Investigator:**

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**Co-Investigator:**

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Graduate Student, Mdes 2023

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**Invitation:** You are invited to participate in a research study. This research is being done by Leea Contractor, an Emily Carr graduate researcher, who is expanding on the role of the Designer in society, and the growing field of Design for Social Change. You are being invited to participate in this study as you are part of the youth of the Parsi Diaspora.

**Purpose of the Research:** Parsis have preserved the crux of the Zoroastrian religion by using storytelling and oral communication of their history to pass down knowledge from generation to generation. As the diaspora expanded in North America, many rituals that were once frequently practiced in India and Pakistan were forgotten or abandoned.

The importance of cultural preservation has been a topic of discussion for sociologists, anthropologists and ethnographers for some time now. Design's role in cultural preservation is relatively new, but with the expanding role of the Designer in society, and the growing field of Design for Social Change, there is a strong case that can be made for the cross-over of these disciplines.

This thesis research aims to deepen the connection that Parsi Youth in North America have to their culture, by preserving and amplifying the ceremonial rituals performed in the Parsi culture and making them more accessible to her target audience.

**What You Will Be Asked to Do in the Research:** In the first stage, you will have already volunteered to fill a questionnaire and have now chosen to self identify your availability for the Focus Group session. For these sessions you will be required to attend this open-ended discussion which will be revolving around yours and other participant's involvement in Parsi rituals.

**Risks and Discomforts:** There are no expected risks to participants in this study. If conversations bring up personal and sensitive information, please keep in mind that we do not expect you to share anything that you do not feel comfortable sharing, and we can stop or take a break at any point in time. All precautions will be taken to keep this information as generic as possible. The researcher will also anonymize any connections or descriptions that may reveal your identity.

**Benefits of the Research:** This research work will feature in my published thesis and will exist as an available resource for students and researchers in the field of design, communities and their diasporas.

**Voluntary Participation:** Your participation in the study is completely voluntary and you may choose to stop participating at any time. Your

decision not to volunteer will not influence the nature of your relationship with the Principal Investigator and the Co-Investigator either now, or in the future.

**Withdrawal from the Study:** You can stop participating in the study at any time, for any reason, if you so decide by sending an email to the Co-Investigator at [lcontractor@ecuad.ca](mailto:lcontractor@ecuad.ca) with the subject line 'Withdrawal from REIMAGING RITUALS. Your decision to stop participating, or to refuse to answer particular questions, will not affect your relationship with the Principal Investigator and the Co-Investigator or with Emily Carr University of Art + Design either now or in the future. You can withdraw your consent no later than January 15, 2023. In the event you withdraw from the study, all associated data collected will be immediately destroyed.

**Access to Results:** You will be notified of the completion of the research via e-mail. The researchers will provide a copy of the result in a password protected PDF document. If you wish to opt-out of accessing the results you can state that in the Access to Results section below.

**Confidentiality:** All information documented during the research will be held in confidence and unless you specifically indicate your consent, your Name, Pronouns, or any information that could personally identify you will not appear in any report or publication of the research. Your data will be safely stored in a password protected laptop and only the Principal Investigator (Dr. Bonne Zabolotney) and Co-Investigator (Leea Contractor) will have access to this information. All data collected as part of the research will be stored in a password protected laptop of the Co-Investigator until April 1 2023, and then deleted. Only the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator will have access to this data.

**Questions About the Research?** If you have questions about the research in general or about your role in the study, please feel free to contact Leea Contractor (Co-Investigator) by sending an email on [lcontractor@ecuad.ca](mailto:lcontractor@ecuad.ca) This research has been reviewed and approved by the Research Ethics Board at Emily Carr University of Art + Design and conforms to the standards of the Canadian Tri-Council Research Ethics guidelines. If you have any questions about this process, or about your rights as a participant in the study, please contact the Research Ethics Coordinator, Research + Industry Office at Emily Carr University of Art + Design. (Telephone 604-844-3800, Ext 2848 or e-mail: [ethics@ecuad.ca](mailto:ethics@ecuad.ca)).

**Legal Rights & Signatures:**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (your name), consent to participate in the research **REIMAGINING RITUALS** conducted by **Leea Contractor**. I have understood the nature of this project and wish to participate. I am not waiving any of my legal rights by signing this form. My signature below indicates my consent. I also confirm that I am at least 19 years of age, the age of majority in the Province of BC.

**Direct quotations & use of names:**

Although your decision can be changed during the course of this research, please indicate your preference for the use of direct quotations in the research:

- Yes, I consent to the use of anonymized direct quotations in this research.
- No, I do not consent to use of direct quotations in this research.

**Access to Results:**

- I want access to the final results of the research
- I do not want access to the final results of the research.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Participant

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Investigator

