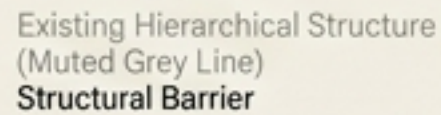


## Can an Institution of Care Remain Hierarchical?

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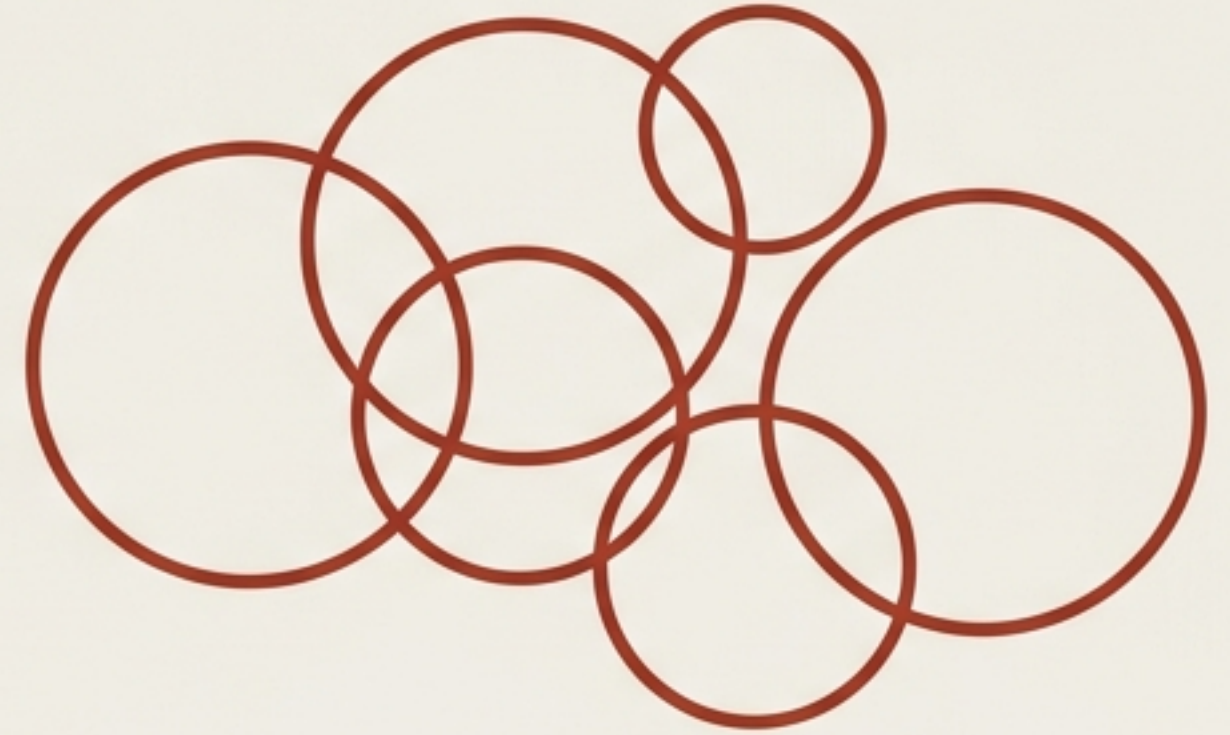
Post-Hierarchical Intervention  
(Deep Brick Red Line)  
Radical Structural Break  
Permeable Boundary  
Redefinition of Agency

## Disruption of Power Dynamics

■ Rigid Hierarchy  
■ Post-Hierarchy/Agency

A post-hierarchical analysis inspired by Renata Petrauskaitė-Juodeikė's review of the Contemporary Art Centre (CAC).

# The Curatorial Shift: From Hermeticism to Care



Elitism, conceptualism, and institutional distance.

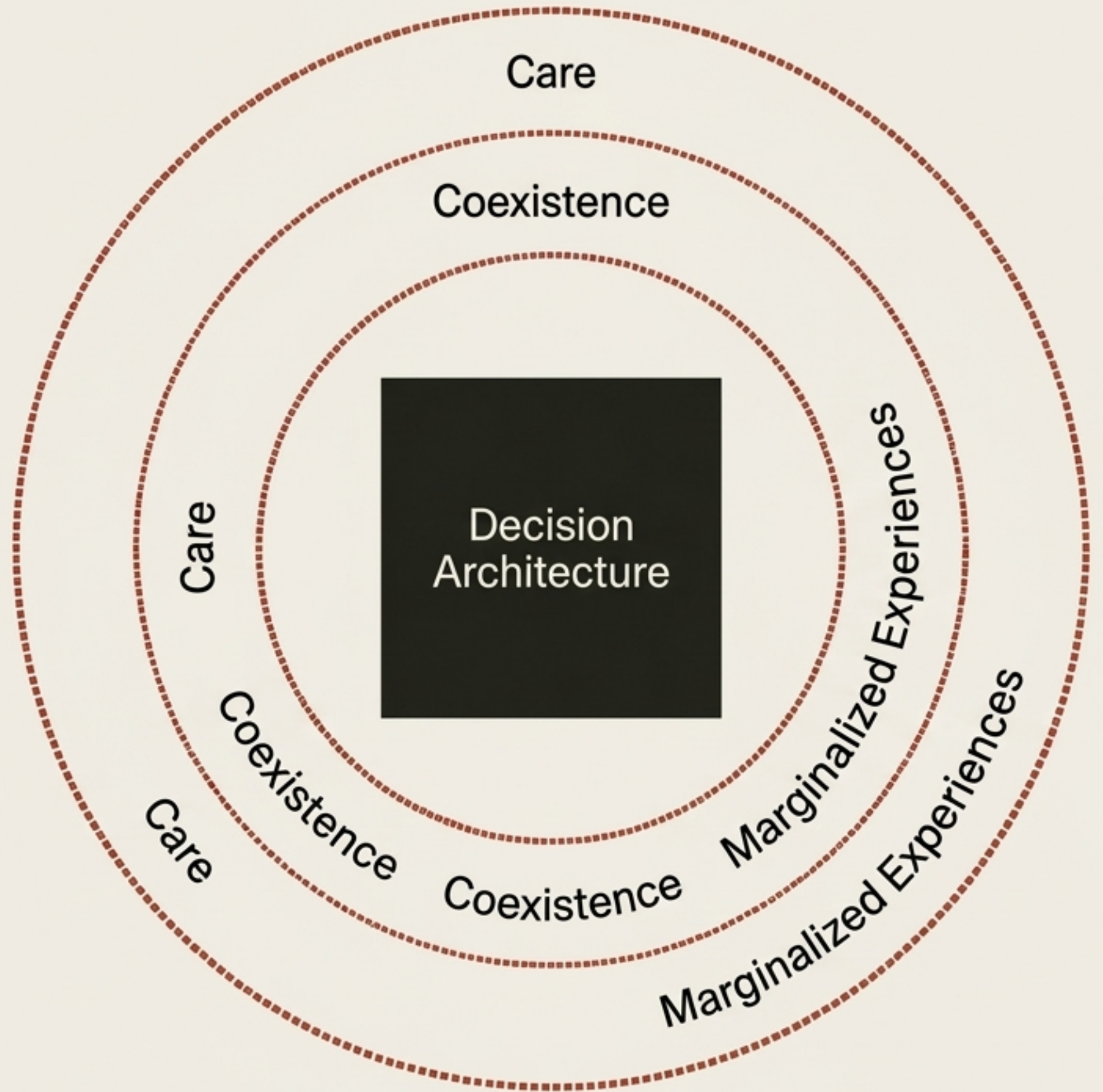
Themes of care, generosity, friendship, otherness, and interspecies coexistence (sympoiesis).

Recent exhibitions at the CAC, such as “Superglue, or How to Make a Friend,” “Bells and Cannons,” and “Walls Are Nocturnal Animals,” mark a shift from political detachment to explicit engagement with war, invisible power, and posthumanist imagination.

# A Caring Center is Still a Center

An art institution determines what becomes visible and which futures are imaginable. A curatorial shift redefines the institution's relationship with political reality, but if the decision-makers remain the same, the hierarchy is intact.

Posthumanist or post-hierarchical content does not by itself create a post-hierarchical institution.



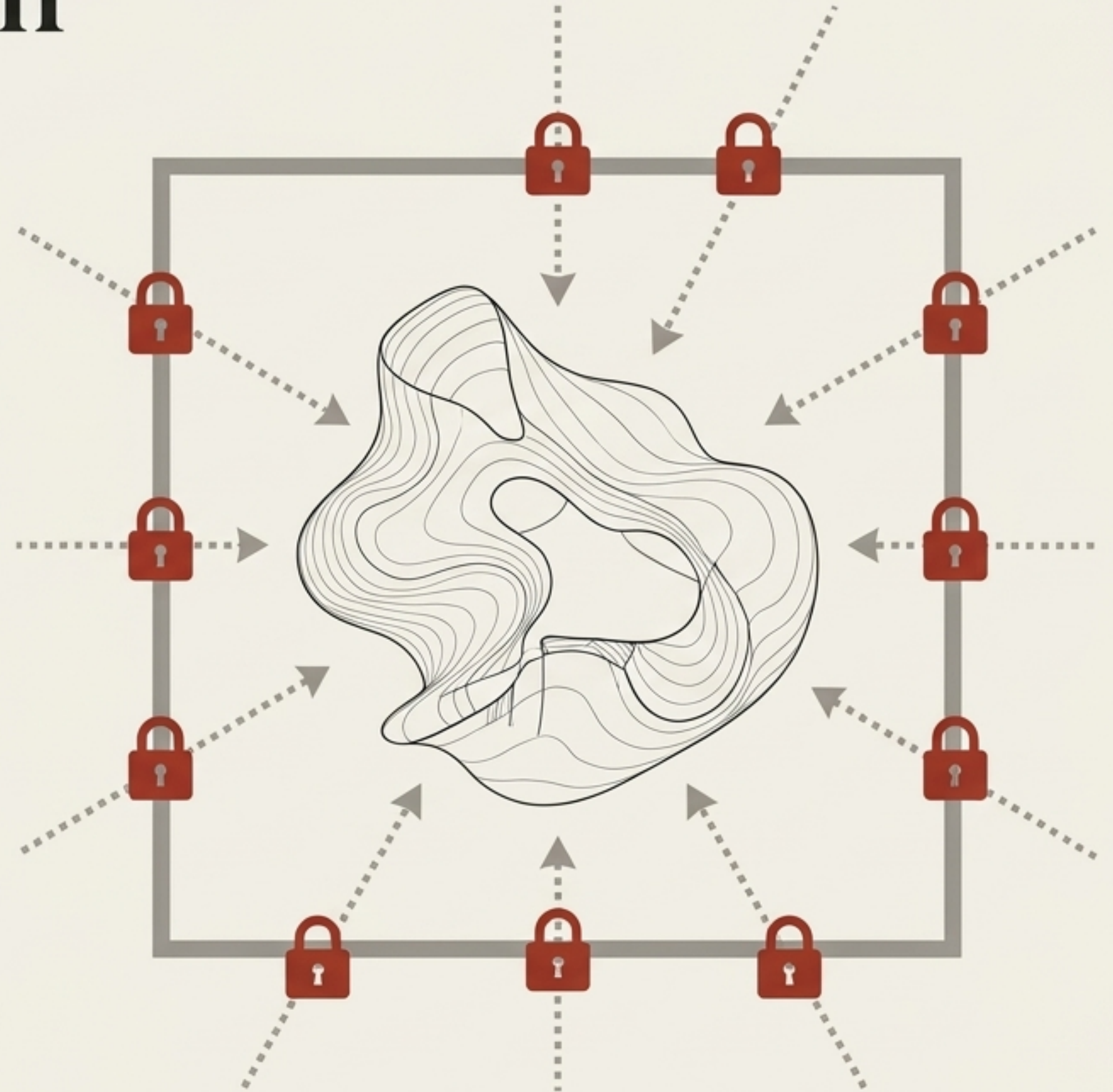
# The Illusion of Touch

## The Contradiction

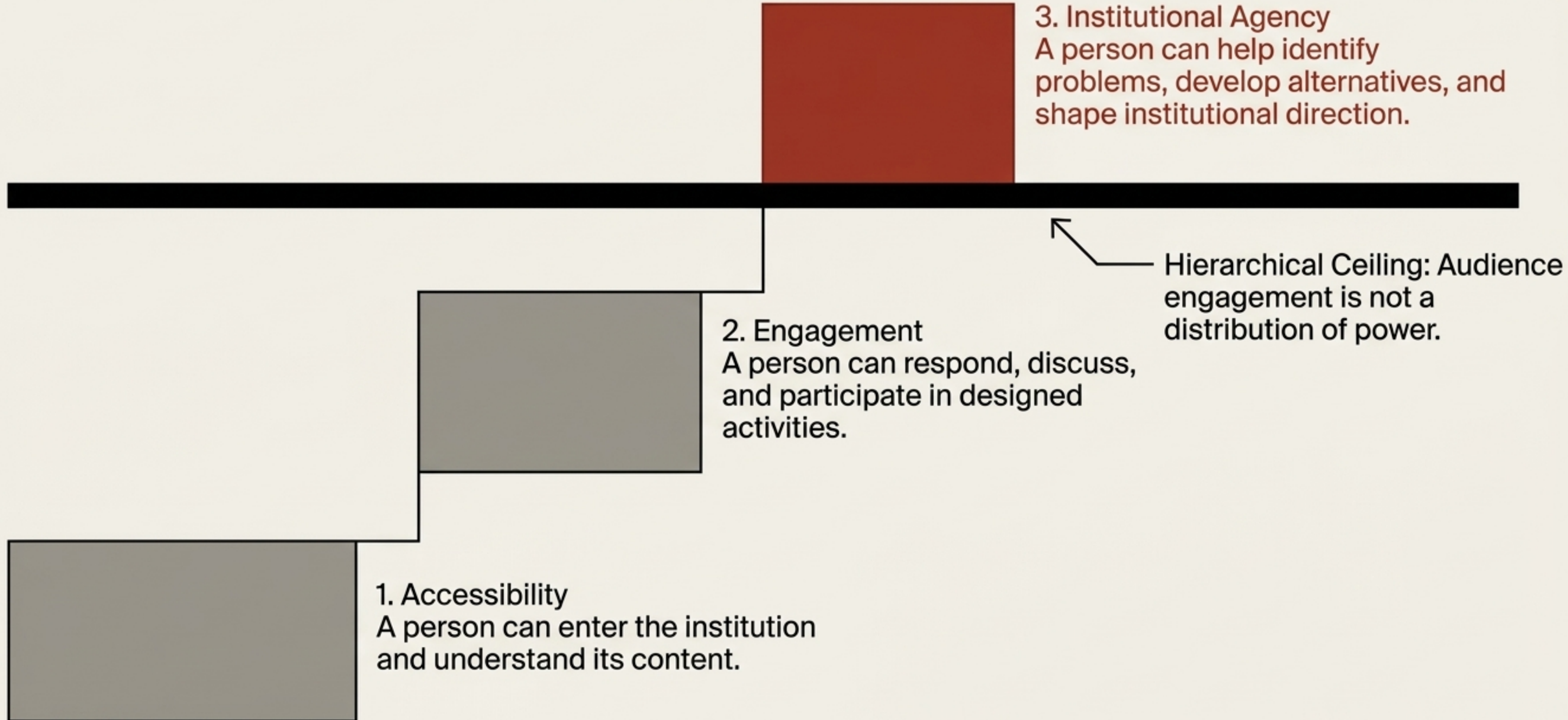
The international exhibition 'Superglue' reveals a critical paradox: it speaks of proximity and making-with others, yet the sculptures themselves may not be touched.

## The Metaphor

Visitors are invited to cross boundaries imaginatively, but are not empowered to affect the system that sets those boundaries. Engaging with a theme is not the same as sharing power.



# The Ladder of Agency



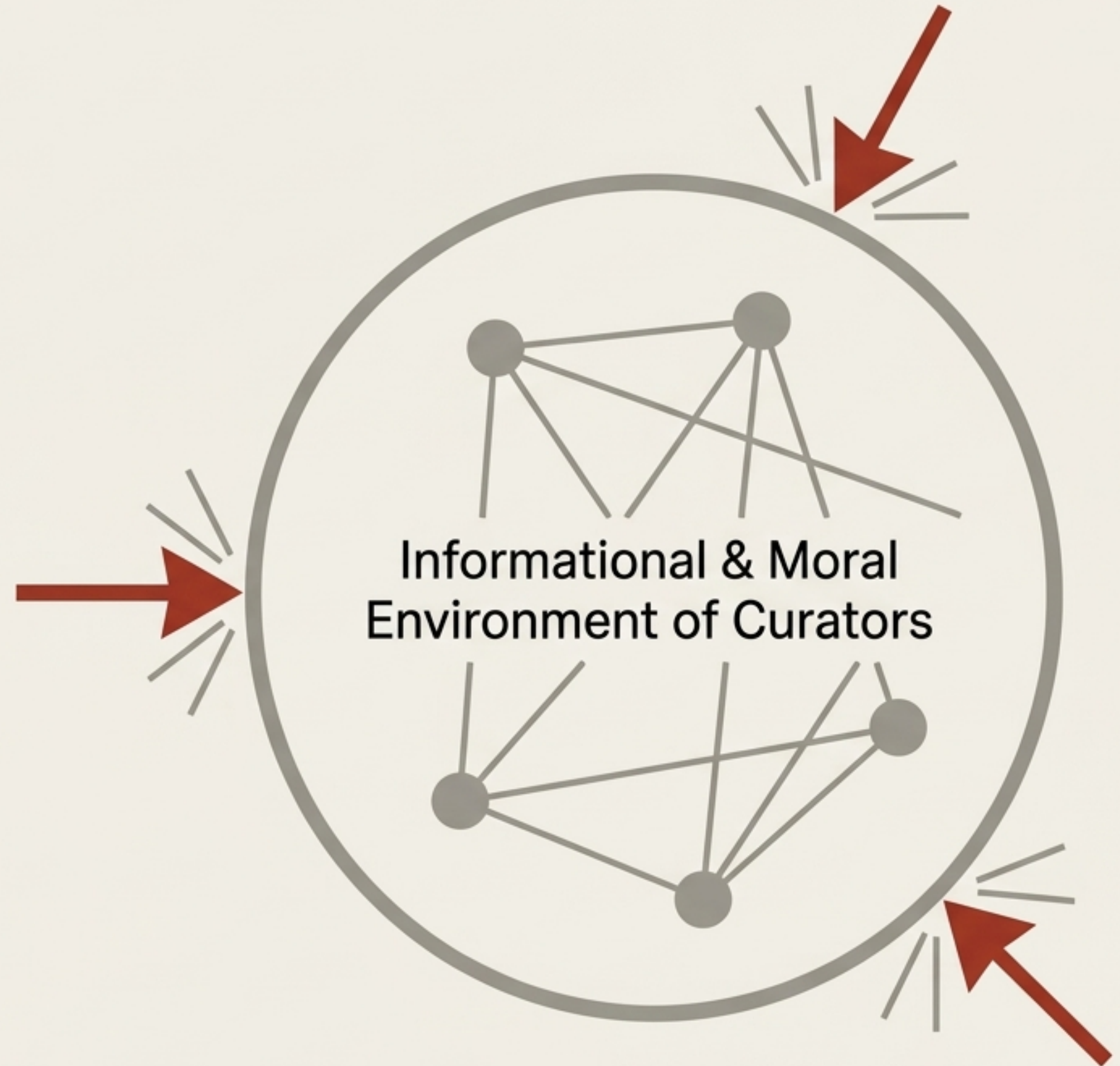
# The Epistemic Limits of a Closed Group

## The Diagnosis

Invisible influence isn't just external corruption; it happens when institutions don't reveal how themes are selected.

## The Result

A curator may sincerely resist political conformity, but remain bounded by their environment. Some perspectives naturally appear dangerous or irrelevant not out of malice, but due to the natural limits of a closed group.



# Two Different Institutions

## ■ Caring Hierarchy

The center selects a program of care.

Curators decide whom to include.

Audience is invited to experience and interpret.

Marginalized groups are granted visibility.

Co-creation is an exhibition theme.

Invisible external power is criticized.

## ● Post-Hierarchical Institution

Participants shape the program itself.

Problems and alternatives are formulated distributively.

Audience contributes to institutional knowledge.

Affected groups help determine conditions of visibility.

Co-creation is a mode of decision-making.

The institution's own selection power becomes visible and testable.

# Post-Hierarchy is NOT Majority Taste



## The Misconception

Distributing power does not mean assembling an exhibition by public vote. Art cannot be reduced to a survey or platform ranking.

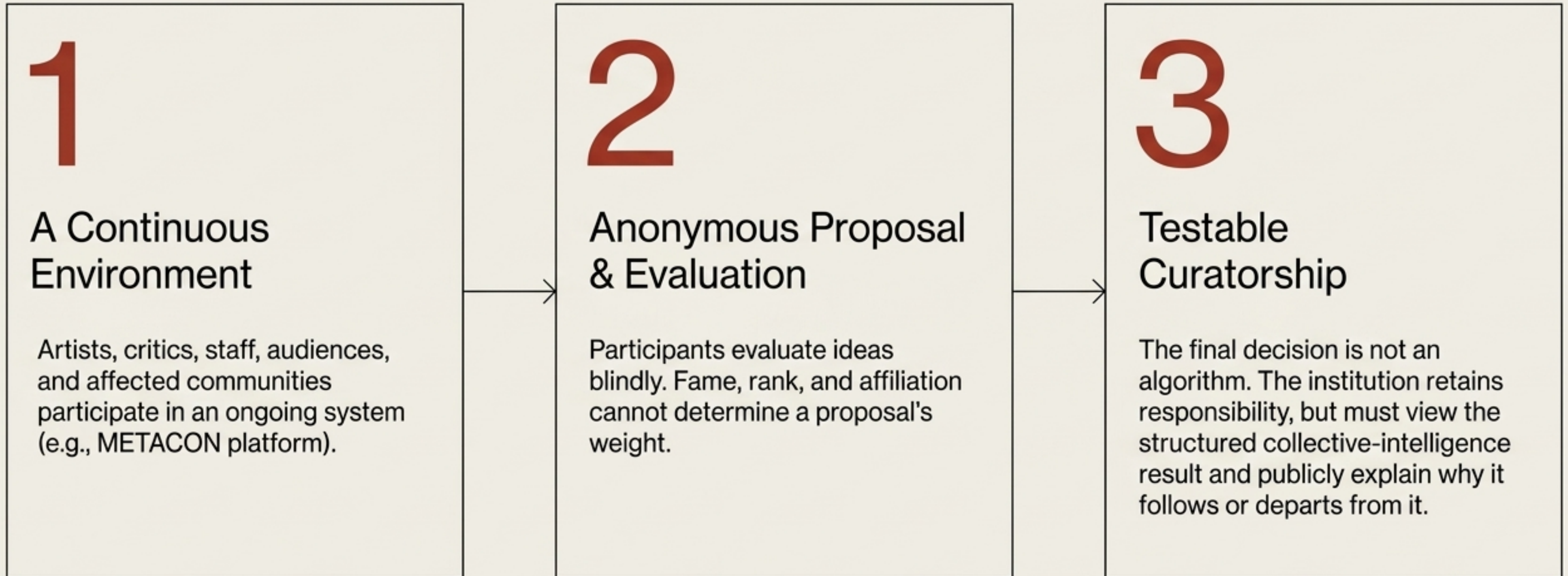
## The Realignment

Curatorial expertise (artistic, ethical, historical) remains vital for navigating minority perspectives that may initially be unpopular.

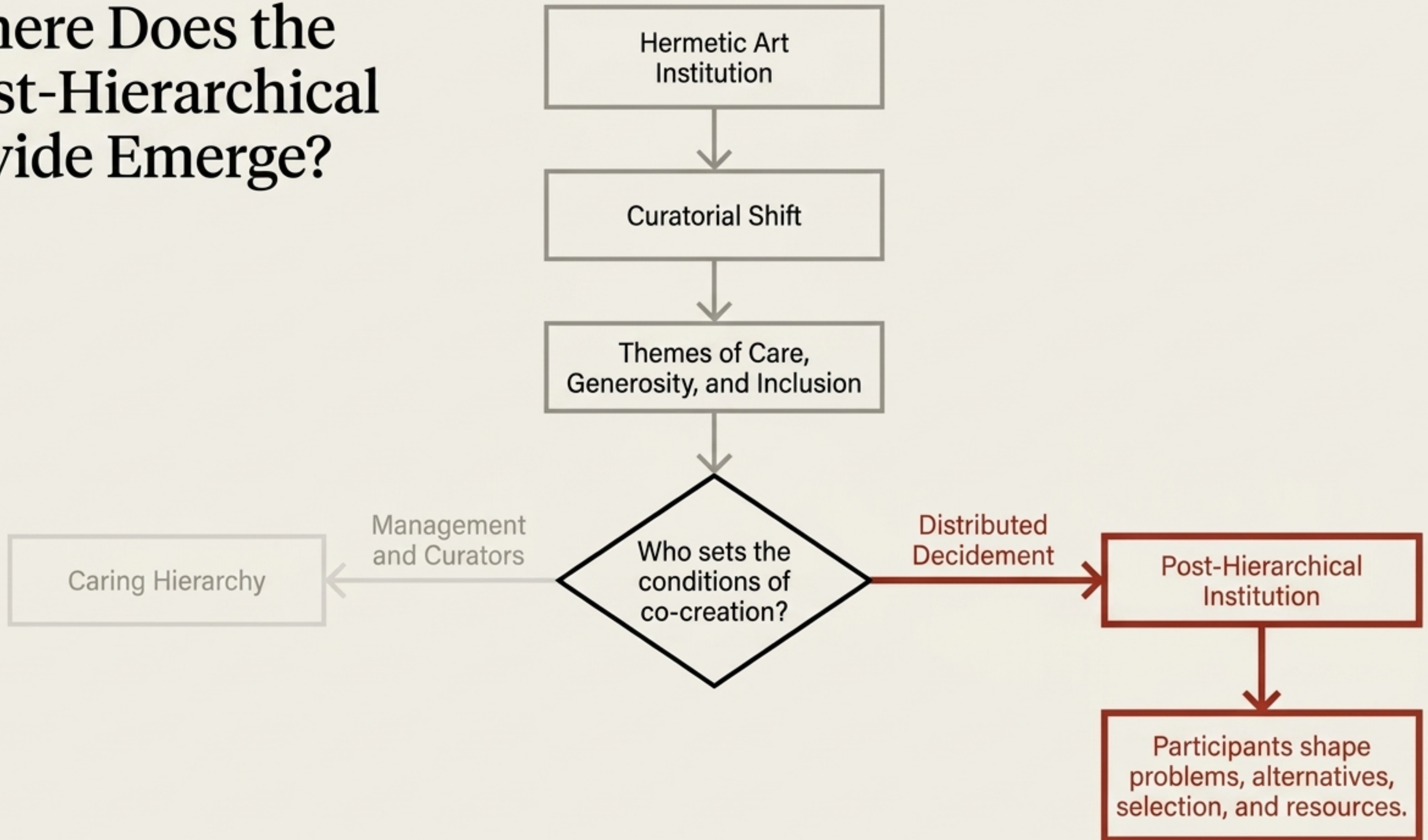
## The Core Rule

Post-hierarchy separates competence from a monopoly on decision-making.

# The Architecture of Collective Intelligence



# Where Does the Post-Hierarchical Divide Emerge?



# From Collective Imagination to Collective Agency

An institution may encourage people to imagine a world without dominant hierarchies while excluding them from decisions about its own operation.

An institution of care becomes post-hierarchical not when the center begins caring for others, but when others gain a real capacity to shape what is cared for.

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We must ask not only what the institution says, but who decides what it will say.

