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ON...HORIZON

NEWSLETTER 4

Highlights on Research and the Arts from EU4ART_differences

EDITORIAL

In this issue of *On...Horizon. Highlights on Research and the Arts from EU4ART_differences*, the alliance is delighted to announce the *Artistic Research Days* or *A.re Days*, three days of events which will take place in September 2023, coinciding with the European Researchers' Night. On that occasion, the alliance will synchronize calendars, alternating online and onsite formats, for a very dynamic program created to broaden the horizons of artistic research and to present some of the results of the projects carried out by EU4ART_differences. The *A.re Days* will also be the opportunity to showcase some of the results of the artistic research laboratories (LABs) that were officially presented at the *Labification-Metaphor or Practice?* press conference in Budapest on 23 March 2023.

Over the last months, all AR LABs established by the alliance continued to hold workshops and collateral events that involved EU4ART_differences students and researchers. The reports on the workshop *Research Strategies in Interviewing*, organized by the Dresden University of Fine Arts (HfBK Dresden) and the exhibition *Circle of Arts* in Turin with the participation of doctoral students from the Art Academy of Latvia, will give you some insight. In addition, Raitis Smit and Rasa Smite exhibition *Atmospheric Forest*, which we mentioned in earlier newsletters already, is also on view now at Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein.

The lectures and workshops that took place during last year's conference *Artistic Research: Methods, Strategy and Outreach*, hosted by the Dresden University of Fine Arts have been documented and published.

The newsletter concludes with some updates concerning our project portal on the Research Catalogue (RC) - artistic research database and publishing platform - and with the participation of EU4ART_differences at the Research Catalogue Partners Meeting in Tilburg in June 2023, where the community discussed the value of the platform for documenting artistic research, and its new features available for users.

WAITING FOR A.RE DAYS

EU4ART_differences prepares three days of events for the European Researchers' Night



In recent months, EU4ART_*differences* has started to organize the *A.re Days* (Artistic Research Days). This three-day event by artistic research initiatives will take place from 27 – 29 September, coinciding with the European Researchers' Night on its last day. During the *A.re Days*, a flagship initiative piloted by the Fine Arts Academy of Rome (ABARoma), it aims to celebrate artistic research of all the partners' institutions. Indeed, it will take place at all EU4ART_*differences* academies simultaneously, alternating between online and on-site events, with the intention to open the doors of the academies to the local communities.

In the mornings, a varied program will be organized for the partners of the alliance, i.e. conferences on new technologies for Cultural Heritage, Peers'n'*differences* as well as webinars to present some of the results of the EU4ART_*differences* projects, such as the book on artistic research realized by the WP2 team and the publication in hybrid format curated by the Roman WP5 team. A course on Artificial Intelligence, specially designed for the students of the alliance, will be inaugurated on this occasion with an open lecture by Professor Capucci at ABARoma.

On September 29, 2023, during the European Researchers' Night, the first results of the Roman *CARE laboratory – Creative Artistic Research Ecosystem* will be presented by ABARoma. The laboratory was realized in collaboration with the National Institute of Nuclear Physics / Roma Three University.

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LABIFICATION - METHAPHOR OR PRACTICE?

EU4ART_*differences* presents all the AR Labs at the press conference in Budapest



held on 23 March 2023 at the Hungarian University of Fine Arts.

One of the main goals and tasks of EU4ART_*differences* is to create a LAB(oratory) with the participating institutions - the Hungarian University of Fine Arts (MKE), the Dresden University of Fine Arts Dresden (HfBK Dresden), the Academy of Fine Arts (ABARoma) in Rome and the Latvian Academy of Art (LMA) in Riga - through which the concept of artistic research, its organization, and the possibilities of research and development will be interpreted. Due to the different local contexts and institutional traditions, the partners will develop individual concepts and launch their LABs in collaboration but independently of each other.

The workshop presented the institutional initiatives to date, followed by a panel discussion on the current and future functioning of the LABs, which provided an opportunity to directly experience some artistic research topics by MKE students.

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RESEARCH STRATEGIES IN INTERVIEWING

Workshop in Dresden for EU4ART_*differences* Lab



On April 24-25 2023, the EU4ART_*differences* organized a two-day workshop on *Research Strategies in Interviewing* for Meisterschüler as part of the pilot project for the third study cycle at HfBK Dresden. The workshop was led by Prof. Nicole Vögele, professor of class for "Moving Image" at the Dresden University of Fine Arts.

The two-day interview workshop consisted of two parts: after examining a series of film interviews and different interview formats, participants did their own interviews followed by intense discussions.

Ana Pireva, participant of the pilot program at HfBK Dresden, reflects on the course.

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“ATMOSPHERIC FOREST” BY RASA SMITE AND RAITIS SMITS

Exhibition Opening in Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein



The exhibition "Parliament of Plants II" takes place in Vaduz at Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein from May 5 to October 22, 2023. It shows more than fifteen artworks by international artists, including the immersive VR artwork *Atmospheric Forest* by Rasa Smite and Raitis Smits, and the new installation *Plants_Intelligence. Learning like a Plant* by the research team: Yvonne Volkart (lead), Felipe Castelblanco, Julia Mensch, Rasa Smite.

The piece *Atmospheric Forest* by Rasa Smite and Raitis Smits is the outcome of a three-year artistic research project on Pfywald, an ancient Swiss Alpine coniferous forest suffering from drought due to climate change. To create the *Atmospheric Forest* VR artwork, the artists scanned the Pfywald creating a virtual point cloud environment, and visualized the data provided by scientists. The data sets collected during one growing season included measurements of volatile emissions, resin pressure in pine tree trunks and changing weather. The artists transformed these data into animated particle flows, revealing the complex interaction between the forest ecosystem and atmospheric processes. The VR viewer can navigate through the emitting tree sand virtual forest with observation towers, pink labels attached to the plants, measuring 'bonds' around the trunks, and other scientific 'artifacts'.

The viewer also can observe the forest from the bottom up, and follow the path inside the tree trunk to go far up above the forest, becoming a part of the emitting ecosystem. *Atmospheric Forest* as well as *Plants_Intelligence* and other artworks exhibited at the Parliaments of Plants II exhibition testifies to a new view of our relation with "more than-human" beings, who are inextricably linked with our own survival.

ARTISTIC RESEARCH: METHODS, STRATEGY AND OUTREACH IN DRESDEN

Conferences publication available for download



Research at HfBK Dresden and Technische Universität Dresden in collaboration with Landesverband Bildende Kunst Sachsen. The event focused on the approaches, possibilities, and perspectives of Artistic Research in the field of Fine Arts. Over 100 attendees from around the world participated both in person and online. The event aimed to showcase Artistic Research in Dresden, where various aspects of this research practice are currently being carried out. The lectures and workshops from the event have been documented and are now available for download.

[DOWNLOAD PUBLICATION](#)

“CIRCLE OF ARTS” IN TURIN

Riga’s professional doctorate program students and lecturers exhibition



From 13 May to 18 June 2023, the Albertina Academy of Fine Arts in Turin hosted the exhibition *Circle of Arts* presenting the results of artistic research carried out as part of the professional doctorate program of the Art Academy of Latvia. The works of eleven doctoral students and four lecturers revealed the diversity of the artists' topics and techniques. In the context of the exhibition, the authors critically and curiously searched for approaches to solving various urgent societal issues using visual art, thus finding answers and even more questions.

This involves questions of deconstruction of memory and history, feminism and its various manifestations in contemporary art, interpretations of the history of religion and art, and the questioning of certain media represented by the artwork itself. The motif of nature also plays an important role. Interpreted through references to metaphysics, ecology, collective memory, and meditation, it encourages reflection, examination, and new attempts to discover ways to live in these troubled times.

The title *Circle of Arts* reflects the never-ending cycle of creative inspiration, in which artists relentlessly seek for new, innovative solutions to apply in their artistic research and creative practice. Students and lecturers involved from the Art Academy of Latvia's professional doctoral program: Veronika Frolova, Egons Perševics, Rasa Jansone, Atis Jākobsons, Nils Jumītis, Madara Kvēpa, Anna Pommere, Ansis Rozentāls, Elīna Brese, Sandra Strēle, Laura Veļa, Prof. Andris Vītoliņš, Prof. Ph.D. Kristaps Zariņš, Prof. Juris Petraškevičs, and Asoc.Prof. Ph.D Jaceks Kolasinskis.

THE RESEARCH CATALOGUE PORTAL PARTNERS MEETING



On 8 and 9 June 2023, EU4ART_*difference* took part in the Research Catalogue community for the *Portal Partners Meeting* in Tilburg (Netherlands), where some implementation and novelty functions were presented. Besides discussing new features, the event was an opportunity to reflect on the valuable contribution the platform makes to the dissemination of artistic research across Europe and to rethink its role in the alliance.

Since the launch of the EU4ART_*differences* portal on the Research Catalogue (RC), many steps have been taken to integrate the RC into the artistic research workflows. During the year, the project organized several workshops in each institution and set up a workgroup specifically dedicated to the implementation of the RC with members from all institutions. As a valuable tool for documenting art-based research, the RC core group held theoretical and practical workshops encouraging students to create an online portfolio in an international virtual space dedicated to artistic research. The alliance also established guidelines to regulate the different types of uses for portal members and to structure the review process before publication. The first expositions of some of the projects carried out by the alliance will be published soon.

INOUT, a group of students from ABARoma who presented their work at the summer school already submitted their work for review. Also a series of interviews of well-known artists is planned to be published during the Summer as a collateral project of CARE Lab.

NEXT EVENTS

27 - 29 September 2023

A.re Days | EU4ART_*differences*

ABARoma, Rome - on site

HUFA/MKE, Budapest; LMA, Riga; HfBK Dresden,
Dresden - online

29 September 2023

European Researchers' Night | ABARoma

Check out our [YouTube Channel!](#)

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