

Artistic Research @ Kristiania symposium in Oslo, Norway // AR@K21

Tuesday, 16 March 2021.

Call for Contributions: Distorted Identities/New Dilemmas

AR@K annual symposium

As we are slowly emerging from the global pandemic, we are taking stock and resuming our work. In the process, we recognize that artistic research has not only been responding to a concrete state of crisis but is recalibrating, reshaping and reconsidering the path ahead.

We are delighted to announce the return of the **AR@K symposium**, a one-day event at Kristiania University College in Oslo, Norway. The next symposium will take place on March 16, 2021, and we are looking for contributions from across the fields of artistic research.

The theme of this year's symposium is **Distorted Identities/New Dilemmas**. In recent years, issues related to so called *identity politics* are not only polarizing the public debate but have also been influencing conversations about how we conceptualize art. As polarized and populist as the discourse at times has become, it has also brought a raised awareness of the ethics of art and the individual responsibility of everyone involved in producing, teaching and consuming artistic products. Debates about *trigger warnings*, *safe spaces* and *de-platforming* have had a profound impact on artistic practices and our understanding of the contemporary artist. We come together to take stock and assess how artistic expressions can reflect on the current debates surrounding the explorations of personal and societal identities.

- How do we create, explore and teach art against the backdrop of necessary, but sometimes ruthless, public debates?
- How does art influence our language and vocabulary during those debates?
- What types of reflections and choices do artists have to make in a society with a new sensitivity?
- What can artistic research, both on contemporary and historical artistic expressions, teach us about cultural, political, social and sexual identities?

At AR@K21 we dare to ask: who are we as artists and researchers today?

We are encouraging artists, artistic researchers and academics from across the fields of (but not limited to) film, theatre, music, dance, literature, linguistics, cultural studies, social sciences, technology and computer sciences, media-studies, and pedagogy to submit abstracts of possible contributions. Embedded in this call is our ambition to explore and critically assess the broader transdisciplinary approaches to knowledge production through artistic research in existing institutional structures. Hence the invitation to academic practices and disciplines beyond the traditional field of artistic practice and research. This ambition will be visible in the programming of the symposium.

The abstract must have a title and be limited to 100 words. Presentation at the symposium should be a maximum of 20 minutes in length. Please state your name, affiliation and contact information. Also, include a brief biographical statement (100 words) detailing your artistic and research practice.

We encourage a variation of formats, such as performances, posters and installations (technical equipment and stage facilities are available), in addition to the traditional paper-presentations and lecture talks. Presentations requested in any Scandinavian language or English.

Please note: In light of the logistic uncertainties related to the covid-19 pandemic the symposium will most likely be conducted as a hybrid event, meaning that both on-site and digital presentations will be possible. Online streaming is being considered as an option. Practical issues related to the form of each presentation will be discussed with the participants individually.

Please send your abstracts to arak@kristiania.no

The deadline for abstracts is 1 February 2021.

Consult our website for previous contributors in the program-schedule.

<https://www.kristiania.no/om-kristiania/kalender/symposium-ark20-artistic-climates/>

Please feel free to share this call for contributions in your respective communities and to anyone who might be interested.

The Artistic Research Group at Kristiania University College, Oslo / 2021