

Future Art Education

Chapter 1. Swarming
Research program of LAB12, Athens School of Fine Arts,
powered by Onassis Foundation

'Open Call for ASFA students'

What if our needs and visions stand at the center of the future of art education? What if creative collaborations and solidarity become part of our artistic practice? What if the future of art education would enable us to become active agents of possibility, change and hope in tomorrow's world? What if we could co-create the future of art education today?

WHAT IS FAE?

Future Art Education aims to reinvent and redefine art practice by reinventing and redefining art education.

Future Art Education (FAE) is a research program of LAB12 the 12th Studio of Painting and Expanded Media of Visual Arts of the Athens School of Fine Arts and it is powered by Onassis Foundation. FAE is a two-year cycle of artistic research activities that aims to function as an ongoing experiment on art education. In infusing art education with a multiplicity of practices and tools, the goal is to create an atmosphere of possibility and collaboration. We envision to experiment and search for relevant and effective practices and structures in reinventing and shaping a new art education of the future.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The program will last two years, it is voluntary and in addition to the curriculum of ASFA. Future Art Education aims to create a network by inviting practitioners of different fields such as Artists, Theorists and Curators. Invited practitioners will contribute on a monthly basis to the program with their insights through a series of Lectures, Screenings and Workshops in which they share their (artistic) practices, tools and visions. The thematic territories will form a think tank, open for re-configuration by all participants. The participating students will form different working units. The program will be co-developed by these working units, thus creating a wide ranged network of research areas. The working units are invited to share their research and findings each semester in the form of an open studio to the other participants and the public.

WHAT ARE THE RESEARCH TOPICS?

As Future Art Education evolves over time and responds to the ideas and interests of the participants, there is no exhaustive and finished curriculum. However, there are a number of topics and discourses we find particularly interesting with regard to the overall question of the project. These topics also reflect the personal research interest of the organizing team/lecturers and we see them as an invitation to join a collective conversation. We are asking how to respond best to a world of turmoil and transformation? Old structures are coming to an end and at the horizons we can see new ways of living, working and dreaming together. In this ambivalent world, full of fears and hopes: What is the role of art and art education?

We are particularly interested in the following topics:

- After-Futures: Progress and its discontents, The End of the world for whom, Feminist (and other) counter apocalypses.
- The Body: Gender, Feelings, Touch, Somatic Practices, Movement, Perception, Sensing, Embodiment, Disembodiment
- Imagination: Worlding, Narrating, Speculating, Dramaturgies, Rhythm
- Digitality: XR, Immersion, Digital Intimacy, Embodiment, Technology, Gaming.
- Public Sphere: Protest, Public Action, Political and Social Justice, Division of Space, Power Structures of the In/Visible, Restructuring shared spaces.
- Ecologies: Spaces, Landscapes, Entanglements, art education in more than human worlds, Interspecies education.
- Empathy: Feeling, inhabiting, thinking with and through.
- Work: Conditions, Alienation, Exhaustion, Collaboration, Laziness, Forms of Subversion and Refusal.

- New Spirituality: Mysticism, Rituals, Haunting, Altered States of Conscience.
- Community: Tradition, Race, Collectivity, Structures of Collective Care

HOW CAN I BECOME PART?

If you are a student of ASFA you can send a motivation letter (250 words) expressing your interest in the program and a description of your own personal research interests in your work and how it relates to the topic of the Future of Art Education (300 words). Upon selection there are different levels of engagement to the program, however an active and continuous involvement to the project is expected. Participating in FAE does not lead to gaining ECTS points yet it demands focus and presence. All ASFA students are welcome to submit their proposals.

Please submit your application (in English) via this form (not email): <https://forms.gle/AEFZ4jjPhJZguCka9> until 16 April 2021(23.59 EET).

WHO ARE WE?

The idea of FAE is to work together in an open thinktank with all participating members from ASFA, LAB12, guest lecturers and the visitors becoming part of the team. The project was started and initiated by a group of founding-members:

Poka-Yio is a visual artist, curator and educator. In his practice he blends narrative, coaching and co-working techniques in fiction and non-fiction scenarios.

Rahel Spöhrer is a dramaturg and researcher working mainly in the field of theatre and performance, recently shifting her focus towards fine art. She works at Zeppelin University in the research project FEINART, gives workshops in (non-) academic environments, she is passionate about teaching and loves cross disciplinary exchange of practices.

Lukas Stolz is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Goldsmiths College London. His work transverses the fields of academic research, political activism, and cultural production. Lukas has a particular interest in creating critical, experimental, and humorous environments within and against existing institutions. When he lived in Athens for one year, he adopted three cats which he now misses very much.

Evi Roumani is an artist and a PhD Candidate at ASFA. She is an observer of visual phenomena. Her research studies the Image Act and the lives of images.

Tomomi Sasaki is a strategic designer based in Paris, interested in how we design the conditions for independent-minded individuals to grow and thrive together. She is a partner at the independent design studio AQ, a director of the ResearchOps Community, and a fan of weekend bicycle trips.

Dr Kostis Stafylakis is a visual artist and art theorist with a PhD in Political Science. He has been a post-doc researcher at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and ASFA. He has taught at ASFA and the University of Patras. His writings and research focus on the crossroad between visual arts and the "political" with emphasis on the role of the "mimetic" in contemporary post-digital practices. He has co-curated various shows, such as the 6th and the 4th Athens Biennale and has exhibited in various shows across the world.

*FAE will be held in English

*Feel free to contact us for any questions asfa.lab12@gmail.com