

A Summary of the FAULT LINES | InSEA World Congress 2023 held in Çanakkale, Türkiye

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The first hybrid InSEA World Congress was organized by Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University (Türkiye) and the Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB), in collaboration with two Turkish Art Education Associations: GÖRSED (Görsel Sanatlar Eğitimi Derneği), SEDER (Sanat Eğitimcileri Derneği). Çanakkale (pronounced chah-NAK-kah-leh) with approximately 200.000 inhabitants is a lively student center and a captivating coastal town in Western Turkey. In 2019, Forbes Magazine chose Çanakkale the “most ideal city to live in Turkey”. Çanakkale means “pottery castle” and the town was once a center for the production of high-quality kaolin for a flourishing ceramics industry. More than four years have passed since the last World Congress in Vancouver, Canada in July 2019. Normally, InSEA holds a World Congress every two years, but the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted this plan.

Fault Lines | InSEA World Congress 2023

Congress Theme

A place with a rich and complex history like Çanakkale, with remnants from Ancient Greek, Armenian, Byzantine, Greek Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim and Ottoman cultures in a country that geographically, culturally, and symbolically poises between Europe and Asia is an ideal spot engaging with concepts of change in art education in the 21st century. Derived from the location's geological situation, with fault lines running through this area and a consciousness of our times of great change, the congress theme of the InSEA World Congress 2023 built on the metaphor of Fault Lines.

The definition of a Fault Line is a break or fracture in the ground that occurs when the Earth's tectonic plates move or shift. What is the relationship between art education and geological processes? At first glance, some might think: Not much. One concerns the opening of the mind, stretching beyond traditional pathways, growing creatively and intellectually. The other is as old, rock-solid, and unpredictable as Earth itself. While

not as dramatic as geological shifts and their looming pressure for change, the shifts in perspective of educators, researchers, students, and artists are central to developing new ways of knowing through the arts and affect a complex world.

The metaphor of Fault Lines implies the power of a line. It's both, an infinitely malleable form and metaphor for the borders and divisions that make up our world. As we struggle with the symptoms of a divided society, large-scale displacement of human populations, increasing wealth gaps within and between nations, educational inequality, accelerating climate change, and the challenging role of arts in times of popularism, it becomes even more urgent to reflect on these conditions and offer possibilities of coming together and break new ground.

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Congress Sub-Themes and Outcomes

While art represents a vivid site for learning, it also perpetuates and makes visible concurrent systems of oppression and exclusion. As the grounds of inequality shake and shift beneath us, will the arts and education deepen the rifts in society or become our bridge and pathway for the 21st century? How can art education contribute to resolving today's challenges?

The Fault Lines | InSEA World Congress 2023 welcomed traditional and non-traditional presentation forms, held by schoolteachers, artists, museums educators, students, community arts educators, and university researchers at all levels.

The congress chairs, Prof. Dr. Martina Riedler and Dr. Enver Yolcu encouraged diverse, contemporary projects in art education practice and research that explore fractures and shifts in our lives as educators and artists, that wander along or cross faults and ultimately overcome and consolidate tremors that we experience in the education system and beyond.

The InSEA World Congress 2023 brought together about 370 delegates from over 50 countries at the

campus of Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, from September 4th-8th, 2023. With almost 100 onsite sessions, 27 onsite theoretical and practical workshops, four keynotes that were also streamed live, a juried digital art exhibition, a juried onsite exhibition, and a student exhibition in the city's fine arts gallery, as well as other related gatherings, it turned out to be an extraordinary international gathering. In addition, almost 130 delegates presented their work in 27 virtual live ZOOM sessions and several workshops. All virtual presentations were recorded and are available for viewing at the InSEA Member Space at www.insea.org

Onsite and virtual presentations, panels, posters, pecha kuchas, round table discussions, and studio as well as theoretical workshops explored the notion of Fault Lines from a variety of perspectives, for example:

- Learning through art
- Classroom practice
- Social justice, change and equity
- Racism and discrimination
- Postmodernism and art education
- Postcolonialism, identity and otherness
- Art, Education and Sustainability
- Inclusion, disability, art and education
- Reconceptualising the (art) education curriculum
- Social and community engagement
- Posthumanism and art

In this context, the understanding of pedagogy carries with it ideas that pedagogy implies a critical approach to teaching and that those who engage in it believe that pedagogy carries with it a hope for social transformation through education.

The following Keynote Speakers held invigorating talks and made a precious contribution:

İNCI EVINER — Artist and Professor of Art & Design at Kadir Has University in Istanbul, Türkiye: Art Education as an Artistic Medium: The 'Co-Action Device' Project

KIT WISE — Professor of Fine Art and Dean of the School of Art at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia: The Interdisciplinary Imagination

SARA BURKHARDT — Professor of Art Education and Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design in Halle, Germany: COLLECTING — MAKING — TRANSFORMING: Unfolding a Material-Based Art Education

MIRA KALLIO-TAVIN — Winnie Chandler Distinguished Professor of Art in the Lamar Dodd School of Art, University of Georgia (USA): The Need for a Dream of Justice Through Art Education

The Congress Program and Book of Abstracts represents the fabulous sessions during the congress and can be downloaded from the congress website. This extensive book reflects the collective dedication of the volunteers, reviewers, and presenters for advancing research and practice in our international arts education community. These contributions covered a broad range of topics that invite us to imagine and reflect upon "Fault Lines" through its inextricable connection to research, teaching, learning, and artistic endeavors. The high quality of the abstracts represents timely experiences and insights from the field, allowing us to create a rich dialogue and knowledge exchange locally and internationally. We trust that this will be an impetus to stimulate further research, collaboration, and innovative practice in the areas of arts education and beyond.

Social Events and Cultural Tours

The Congress Welcome Reception at Troy Museum & UNESCO World Heritage Troy Excavation Site was hosted by the Turkish Ministry of Tourism. Attendees explored the treasures of ancient Troy and learned more about the myth of the Trojan War that has captivated people for thousands of years.

Çanakkale province is divided by the Dardanelles straits, sprawled over the Asian and European continents. On the second evening, delegates cruised the Dardanelles with a ferryboat, one of the world's narrowest straits used for international navigation, and learned about its great importance throughout history, especially World War I. Congress participants also took opportunity and booked a tour to WWI battlefields at Gallipoli peninsula. The region has three museums and is dotted with cemeteries and monuments. Today the Gallipoli battlefields are a

peaceful national park, covered in scrubby brush and pine forests, with many quiet coves and sandy beaches and several luscious vineyards.

Others explored charming Assos which reached the pinnacle of its glory when Plato's protégé, Aristotle, founded a school of philosophy here in 340 BC. St. Paul is reputed to have passed through Assos on his third biblical journey. Assos is on the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage.

Another spot in our program, the beautiful, windy, little island of Bozcaada is covered in vineyards. New York Times Bozcaada Island under the "52 best places to go in 2017" and many congress participants found out for themselves why.

On the final congress day, delegates were swept away by Mevlevi Whirling Dervishes of Çanakkale, performing the mystical Sufi ceremony known as sema at the Mevlana Kültür ve Sanat Evi.

The International Society for Education Through Art (InSEA) is a non-governmental organization and official partner of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

InSEA is also a non-profit organization, its purpose is to promote and advance education through art, design, and crafts in all countries, in addition to nurturing intercultural understanding.

To learn about InSEA and its mission, as well as upcoming events, visit our website at www.insea.org

For more detailed information about the InSEA World Congress 2023, visit our congress website at www.insea2023.org or follow the hashtag #insea2023