Northern Interventions: Art-Based Action Research for Sustainable Future

Mirja Liisa Hiltunen University of Lapland, Finland

Abstract

This round table reflects critically the changing socio-cultural circumstances in the North and seeks to investigate future directions for socially effective and culturally sensitive initiatives that use arts-based methods to bring benefits to local circumstances.

This round table is coordinated by Northern Art, Community & Environment Research (NACER) group and invite the audience to join the conversation. The group is built on multidisciplinary expertise: professors and doctoral students of art education, fine art, applied visual art and service design come together in the study of Northern and Arctic issues and to support sustainability of the environments and communities. They combine an understanding of visual art education as a social activity with a strong vision of the innovative potential of contemporary art. Methodologically, the group share an interest in the development and application of Art-Based Action Research (ABAR). ABAR is an approach that aims to develop the professional methods and working approaches of the artist-teacher-researcher or artist-researcher in addition to seeking solutions to known problems and future visions in environments and communities.

The session will be in three main parts first, a short introduction from the NACER group leaders, Prof Hiltunen and Jokela, accompanied by other members of the group giving an overview of their topics. Second, group discussions moderated by doctoral students and third, an opportunity for joint reflection and feedback.

Keywords

Art-based action research (ABAR), Northern art, Environment, Community.