

on the achievements, proposals of the partner institutions  
and the results of the discussions

# Bergen - Krakow

Intermedia Faculty of Fine Arts Academy in Krakow, Poland and Performance Art Bergen study visit done as part of Education Programme; Professional Development of Staff [EOG/21/K1/D1/W/0020] NORD-STREAM-LIVE I. - live art research.



## the achievements



The roof tops of Bergen - photo by Wysakowska / Walters, 2022

### **The major achievement of the meeting in Bergen should be**

considered within the parameters of academic inspirations gained during our formal and informal conversations. The partners had an opportunity to present their individual achievements and best practices of support to students and local artist communities in their countries as well as forge a tenet of the exchange of solutions that work in practice.

This exchange of experience and best practices helped both sides to reflect over the differences, but also similarities between the partner organisations and cultural institutions visited in Bergen. All in all, it turned out that irrespectively of a place, art and culture institutions are challenged with similar changes in our societies. The way forward can only be found in forging strong cooperative knowledge sharing communities. And in this respect, the visit to Bergen of Polish group of academics did exactly that. The Intermedia department of Fine Arts Academy in Krakow has been working with PAB for over 10 years. In that time, conditions have been changing, people have been changing, new perspectives have been invited. The visit therefore achieved a moment of pause whilst

both partners could reflect over the personal, institutional changes happening progressively over time and think creatively about the future cooperation.

### **Achievements in nutshell:**

- \* academic inspirations and exchange of educational solutions;
- \* an overview of similarities and differences in the practices;
- \* a summary of shared experiences and challenges with the scope of social change in the respective countries;
- \* ways of establishing communities of knowledge exchange;
- \* a review of 10 year-long cooperation practices;
- \* establishing potential ways forward.



An exchange of experiences during a visit to BIT Teatergarasjen - photo by Kot, 2022

## the proposals



In the photo, Arti Grabowski is sharing information about Performance Studio, which is runs at Intermedia Faculty - photo by Kot, 2022

### We summarised our proposals in the following way:

- \* It is proposed that an independent, action-oriented and practice-based research shall increase the competence of academic staff, students, independent artists and cultural institutions participating in it;
- \* The outcomes are aimed at narrowing equity gaps in knowledge, expertise, and any other scopes of action;
- \* We share a belief that a collective knowledge of partner organisations and a process that ensures quality, independence, relevance and collaboration are all critical for the success of the cooperation plan between partner institutions;
- \* Partner institutions need to work out a methodologically sound and accessible to multiple audiences plan of research;

- \* Two established researchers and practitioners will be asked to review draft products of the cooperation to provide feedback and to refine artistic quality, clarity of communication and relevance to the partner institutions mission statements;
- \* We shall call to that position Kurt Johannessen and Artur Tajber;
- \* The core collaborative team is assumed to consist of people participating in the study visit;
- \* One or more practitioners - such as lectures, students, independent artists, or other staff members may be invited to the process if need be;
- \* The projects developed by the partner institutions will be borne from shared needs of the partners;
- \* The team shall not set the agenda but will work with the partners to develop research questions based on the needs identified by the partners through regular meetings and engagement;
- \* Projects will be improvement-oriented by proposing possible paths and resisting urges to identify 'the best' and 'the worst' outcomes;
- \* Findings will be disseminated in ways that are accessible for all partners;
- \* The project's success will be measured by its long-term effects on respective communities of knowledge.



Drawing the future - photo by Kot, 2022

## the result of the discussions



The team immersed in discussions captured by Klaudia Kot in the streets of Bergen - Kot, 2022

## The discussions showed us that there is more to partnership than just shared goals.

Study visit to a partner organisation, by its definition, should provide opportunities for knowledge transfer, intercultural learning and insight into solutions of solving shared problems. We truly managed to form a strong intercultural team focused on strengthening the partnership and developing ideas for the next 10 years of international experience exchange.

By the end of the visit, it was clear to us that international collaborations are initiated not only on the basis of positive impressions and shared goals but personal links, shared personal values and research questions. We all agreed that study or research projects should be based on the improvement policies, or on development of new research groups. But, yet, ultimately, all collaborations are influenced by emotions at different levels. And these were strong throughout the visit. We all strived to establish strong and clear communication methods, we recognised different degrees of our experiences, we learnt

to trust each other and we focused not only on comparability, but most of all, on compatibility. We agreed that our mutual future goals are the most important. We want to research topics related to nature, climate-crisis, changing power structures. We want to focus on the meaning and role of humans in relation to geographical, biological, social and political contexts. We want to discover more about our respective cultures and conventions by which we operate. And we are keen to use our experiences in personal lives to influence and help the process of the future professional cooperation.



Viewing one of the exhibitions spaces at Bergen Art Academy - Wysakowska / Walters, 2022



# intermedia

Akademia Sztuk Pięknych im. Jana Matejki w Krakowie

Bergen - Kraków

2022