

SENSUOUS KNOWLEDGE 4

An International Working Conference

on Fundamental Problems of Artistic Research and Development

at Solstrand, Norway 7 Nov – 9 Nov 2007

Context, Concept, Creativity

Call for presentations

The annual international *Sensuous Knowledge* conference, arranged by Bergen National Academy of the Arts (Kunsthøgskolen i Bergen, KHiB) at Solstrand, close to Bergen, Norway, is known for its distinctive format: A limited number of artists and designers - involved in higher art and design education – not more than 70 in all – meet for three days in these spectacular natural surroundings to listen to a few significant key note speeches, but first and foremost to enjoy ample time for group discussion of artistic research and development projects. The examples are presented by a selection of the group members themselves – experienced researchers as well as newcomers to the field – and perhaps the most significant trait of the conference is that participants remain with their group fellows throughout the whole conference, thereby allowing discussions to progress from example to example. “A high-powered conversation or ideas exchange” is how one former participant has described *Sensuous Knowledge*.

The general aim of the conference is twofold: to develop ways of talking about, analyzing and evaluating various forms of artistic R & D, and to consider the special nature of cognition related to artistic creativity. Using the subtitle of last year’s conference, the ambition is to “develop a discourse” by focussing on – and maybe experimenting with – various ways of presenting, debating and reflecting on examples of artistic R & D.

This ambition is underlined again by the two last words of the subtitle of this year’s conference, “concept” and “creativity”: The formation of a concept is both a creative and cognitive act in itself, but what kinds of concept can we use when talking about creativity? The first word of the subtitle, however, points to the fact that both art, design and research always take place within a broader context, one which may, for instance, give rise to ethical questions.

With this call we want to invite practitioners from all art disciplines (including design and the performing arts) to submit proposals for presentations (up to 30 minutes each) of completed or ongoing R & D-projects for the 2007 *Sensuous Knowledge* conference. Please send us just one page (or two at the most) describing the format of your presentation, with a summary of the main points and main artistic, discursive, or ethical challenges that your project entails, with a note on what kind of audio or visual material you may want to present. In many cases a few images may help clarify what your presentation will be about.



Kunsthøgskolen i Bergen
Bergen National Academy of the Arts

The deadline for presentation proposals is 14 May 2007, and you will be informed of whether your proposal has been accepted by 12 June. A general invitation to participate in the conference, a preliminary program, and details about registration, conference fee, etc. will also be sent out in early June.

Proposals should be sent to
lcb@khib.no

Lin-Christin Berentzen (Artistic Research Coordinator) can also be contacted for more information at
+47 55 58 74 07

See reports from the 2004, 2005 and 2006 conference at:
www.sensuousknowledge.org

Information about Solstrand Hotel & Bad: www.solstrand.com

Bergen National Academy of the Arts (KHIB) is one of the two independent institutions of higher education in the visual arts and design in Norway. KHIB has three departments: Dept of Fine Art; Dept of Design and Dept of Specialised Art.

Students can take a three-year Bachelor degree and a two-year Master degree in the following areas: visual art; interior architecture; furniture design; room design; visual communications; photography; printmaking; ceramics; and textiles. A part time study in creative curating is also offered. Research fellows at PhD level are included in the academic staff. KHIB has 300 students and a staff of 100, full-time and part-time.

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