



Artfulness Journal

of visual essays

2024

Posthuman &
New Material
Philosophies

Anthropocene

Child/ren

Arts &
Neo-liberal
Academia

Edited Collection
Difficult Dead
Book Chapter
Death in Pixar
films

Output:
The Australian
Sociological Association
Conference, 2022
Death in Pixar
films

Output: Video
Children's Accounts
about Death & Dying
7:30

Imaginative
Death
50%
Society
Abstract

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Nakladnik / Publisher
Učiteljski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu
Zagreb, Savska cesta 77
www.ufzg.unizg.hr

Za nakladnika / For the publisher
Siniša Opić, dekan

Centar za izdavaštvo / Publishing Department
Antonija Balić, voditeljica / Head

Urednice / Editors
Marija Cestarić i Antonija Balić

Lektura / Copyediting
Marija Cestarić

Grafička priprema / Layout
Palabritas d.o.o.

ISBN 978-953-380-017-2

2024

Dragi čitatelji,

pred Vama se nalazi prvo izdanje Artfulness Journala - časopisa vizualnih eseja s prve konferencije pod nazivom Artfulness. Na online je konferenciji u rujnu 2023. u intenzivna dva dana gotovo stotinu izlagača, slušača i voditelja radionica imalo priliku razgovarati o preko četrdeset tema koje su povezane s novotvorenicom artfulness. Taj su pojam nastao od engleskih riječi „art“ (hrv. umjetnost) i „mindfulness“ (hrv. usredotočena svjesnost) sudionici konferencije izvrsno prihvatili te su ga uspjeli primijeniti u svojoj praksi, odnosno uvidjeli su da ga u svojoj praksi već na neki način i primjenjuju pa su objedinjeni na ovoj konferenciji imali priliku podijeliti zajednička iskustva i viđenje umjetničkog u kontekstu odgoja i obrazovanja, a dijelili su svoja iskustva tako entuzijastično i ponosno da smatramo kako se pojam artfulness mora i dalje širiti. Jedan od načina za to je i ovo izdanje koje imate pred sobom.

Vizualni eseji koje ovdje imate priliku vidjeti nisu tako često korištena forma za pisane radove, ali smatramo da su idealni za umjetnike i praktičare jer kao što svi znamo „slika govori više od tisuću riječi“ te kratka i jezgrovita forma vizualnog eseja tako dobro pristaje današnjemu dobu u kojem nemamo puno vremena, a opet se želimo nadahnuti novim idejama i spoznajama te saznati nešto novo. Nadamo se da će vas ovaj Artfulness Journal nadahnuti i potaknuti da se i sami okušate u primjeni artfulnessa u svome radu i životu te da ćete se i sami u budućnosti okušati u oblikovanju vizualnog eseja. Zahvaljujemo svima koji su se priključili konferenciji Artfulness 2023, a pogotovo onima koji su se odlučili poslati vizualni esej za Artfulness Journal. Smatramo da ste svi Vi nositelji umjetnosti, kulture u svojim sredinama, zagovornici pozitivnih promjena u društvu i drago nam je što smo svi zajedno bili dio jedne lijepe priče te se nadamo da ovo nije kraj naše suradnje!

Urednice

Dear readers,

In front of you is the first edition of Artfulness Journal - a magazine of visual essays from the first conference called "Artfulness". At the online conference in September 2023, over two intensive days, almost a hundred presenters, listeners and workshop leaders had the opportunity to discuss over forty topics related to the newly created concept artfulness. The participants of the conference accepted this term created from the English words "art" and "mindfulness" and were able to apply it in their practice, that is, they saw that in their practice it was already in some way applied, so united at this conference they had the opportunity to share common experiences and views of art in the context of upbringing and education, and they shared their experiences so enthusiastically and proudly that we believe that the concept of "artfulness" must continue to spread. One of the ways to do that is this journal you have in front of you.

The visual essays that you have the opportunity to see here are not such a commonly used paper form, but we think that they are ideal for artists and practitioners because as we all know "a picture is worth a thousand words" and the short and concise form of the visual essay fits so well in today's age in which we don't have much time, and yet we want to be inspired by new ideas and knowledge and learn something new. We hope that this Artfulness Journal will inspire and encourage you to try your hand at applying artfulness in your business and private life, and that you will try your hand at creating a visual essay in the future. We would like to thank everyone who joined the Artfulness 2023 conference, and especially those who decided to submit a visual essay for the Artfulness Journal. We believe that all of you are bearers of art and culture in your communities, advocates of positive changes in society, and we are glad that we were all part of a beautiful story together, and we hope that this is not the end of our cooperation!

Editors

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Building a Boat for Tempestuous Times / Stories of Sirens not Semen: Hybrid Women with Bodies of Birds, Heads of Humans and Souls of Love

Hybrid Women (UK/ITALY):

Dr Alice Bell, Programme Leader Fine Art, University of Lincoln (UK)

Dr Gaia Del Negro, Independent Researcher, University of Milano Bicocca (Italy)

Dr Silvia Luraschi, Independent Researcher, University of Milano Bicocca (Italy)

Ms Marina Sossi, Independent Artist, London (UK)

Hybrid Women are a feminine, fierce, feeling collective. This visual essay presents two different kinds of artistic creation. A video that shows our feminist relational digital research across borders starting from the question "What object has your (M)other made for you?". And an interactive arts participatory workshop on our collective multimodal practices created during a convivial experience during the Artfulness conference in Opatija (Croatia). This work emerged from crossed and overlapping friendships and Alice Bell's previous doctoral research on producing *Techno Sensual Acts of Love*, through the activation of an adapted form of her new framework for enabling deep relational encounter through participatory practice-based research (PartPb), 2022. This framework was conceived first through her TETTT project, (Transformational Encounter: Touch Traction Transformation, Bell, 2019). Our aim is to explore women's unconscious embodied memories through performative dialogue.



PHOTO 1 Spring: 7th June 2023 - working online from different rooms of our own houses (UK/Italy)

PHOTO 2 Summer: 26th July 2023 - analysis of the process online from indoor to outdoor spaces (UK/Italy)

2) Video work

Alice Bell curated an edited video *Stories of Sirens, not Semen (2023)*, to describe our collective performative exchange of artworks (photos, videos and audio recordings) related to our research question on the (M)other made object. The online dialogue saw an exchange of materials take place between the four of us that interwoven and co-created our M/other made objects over two seasons, Spring and Summer 2023. The video was created in September and shown for the first time during the Artfulness conference.

PHOTO 3 Autumn: 26th September 2023 - living together in the same flat as sirens (Croatia)





PHOTO 4-7 stills from our video Stories of Sirens, not Semen (2023)



3) Living together

From September 22nd to 26th we lived together in a shared flat in Opatija. Despite the conference having moved online, we decided to keep to plan and meet in person after many months of online interaction. We prepared big salads, some did yoga, some swam, and we all took long walks together. We facilitated an online workshop on Building a Boat for Tempestuous Times which was originally planned for the seaside shore and then creatively adapted for online delivery. On the last day in Opatija we went to the seaside on a small secluded pebble beach. The day was windy and sunny. We improvised a new live video playing with yellow blankets and the sea.

'Marina emerges from the sea with various feminine vessels floating around her.

The sea is life, the ships, the different communities in which we sail.

Our big galleon Mothership is Gaia, her anchor attached to the seabed, nurturing all. Her sails have weathered storms and tempests and have been repaired many times. Alice passionately puts up new sails as she nobly exalts new arrivals.

There have been men and women overboard, forests and islands landed upon. Silvia's lifeboats and wooden rafts have been of great service.

Two twin tugs tow the galleon - they are our work boats.'

(Text co-written between Diana Corps Alice's mother and Alice Bell used to open the workshop)



PHOTO 8-9: 24th September 2023 - leading the workshop online during the Artfulness Conference (Croatia) and standing near the emerging assemblage of our creative process barefoot

PHOTO 10: 25th September 2023 - visiting with our blankets the solitary beach Jelenšćica that served for fishing.



4) Conclusion

The Hybrid Women project performer's story using daily life artefacts. There are so many things that live across borders.

Our first result was a video that reproduces the spiraling process between Motherhood and Otherness in an intergenerational and trans-national dialogue that opens new possibilities of living powerful relationships between ourselves and the more-than-human beings (such as spirits, creation ancestors, divinities) intimately bound or entangled within places and bodies.

The experience of living together in Opatija generated an improvised interaction and enchantment on the seashore, metaphorically embodying themes of womanhood, landscape, and collective mindscapes. This final enactment taking place at the sea was captured on video and named *C/ Littorial Fuire* (2023), the littoral being the unowned zone between sea and shoreline.

during the FLOW embody-in-site International Performance Art Symposium <https://www.flowsymposium.org/> (2023).



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PHOTO 12: 24th September 2023 - The girl with the seagull statue in Opatija by the sculptor Zvonko Car (1956), the inhabitants call her the nympa (Croatia)



