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In the Space between Art and Culture:

Performance Art as an Integral Form of “Doing” Culture (Abstract)

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In the space between art and culture:

Excerpts of field studies are presented involving multi-disciplinary artistic media, which use an artistic research approach to seek integral forms of artistic, cultural and societal input in the sense of "Doing Culture". These field studies were offered as an artistically oriented research platform entitled Lab Inter Arts Projects (2008-2013, project leader Helmi Vent) as part of the curriculum at the Mozarteum University in Salzburg, Austria. Students from all artistic, pedagogic and scientific study programs at any of Salzburg's public universities were welcome to enroll.

When considering study concepts which – in keeping with the theme of this conference – relate the Arts and Humanities with each other, the performance projects presented here as audiovisual documentation examples can be categorized under Applied Humanities based on performative arts. With regard to university-level educational concepts, the aim of these projects is to expand the somewhat mono-culturally oriented teaching and learning cultures in university art education by using more participative and socially-oriented forms of making art (see the film examples) and to demonstrate the wide-ranging potential of the space between art and culture for guideline development at universities of the arts.

The unpredictability, indeterminability and happenstance of world events constantly give us reasons to rethink our culture and cultural education – beyond the differences between one's own culture and a foreign culture, beyond the rivalries that separate people. In recent decades, contemporary concepts of transculturality have created the most diverse images of the blends that can be found in the network of cultural relationships.