



## **Interdisciplinary Art Education in Serbia - Bridging the Gap Case study: University of Arts in Belgrade**

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It is well known that the arts bring together extremely diverse and complex artistic practices and theories and, therefore, they cannot be thoroughly explored and studied through one single discipline. Trends in the domain of higher education have shown significant changes lately in terms of the rise and importance of the interdisciplinary study programs worldwide.

This research mainly focuses on the interdisciplinary art education in Serbia, i.e. interdisciplinary study programs of the University of Arts in Belgrade seen as the way of bridging the gap between the traditional art practice, management and theory (research). The study is based on data and experience gained from the case study – the five study programs which were founded in 2001 (Cultural Policy and Management, Polymedia Arts, Digital Arts, Scene Design and Theory of Arts and Media).

One of the main objectives of the study is to recognize and prove both the importance and the benefits of the interdisciplinary art education which provides additional theoretical knowledge and skills to artists when it comes to contemporary practices, since it crosses the traditional boundaries between different academic disciplines, moreover, between art as practice and humanities.

In addition, former students of the Cultural Policy and Management study program were surveyed and statistical analysis was conducted in order to determine relations between students' educational background prior to their enrollment in this master course, as well as their current occupation. The idea was to determine the percentage of students who remained in their home areas after completing the course in interdisciplinary studies. That is to say, the aim was to point out the impact of interdisciplinary art education on students' (future) professional practice.

Last but not least, the study discusses the sustainability and future of (interdisciplinary) art education as such, contributing to future research on similar topics.