

IMMART Researcher Projects

RESEARCH PROJECT

The Art of Meeting. Actualizing Social Capital and Mobilizing Agency when International Migration Meets the Arts

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My research interests lie in deepen the understanding of how privilege, difference and culture interconnect in this era of globalization and migration. I have a particular interest in addressing the issue of how social inclusion and exclusion arises in cross-cultural encounters (e.g. work, study, leisure time) and how this in turn impacts wellbeing.

RESEARCH PROBLEM

In this period of the age of migration when populism and anti-immigration sentiment is rife among power holders and 'ordinary' citizens across the globe, I engage in critical action research that studies if, how and under what conditions different forms of social capital are and are not stimulated, accumulated, and mobilized when international migration meets the arts. The research investigates furthermore which kinds of agency are mobilized at that meeting point, how and by whom, in order to better understand the opportunities and limitations that migrants and non-migrants are confronted with in the co-creation of communities and in participating in the labour market. In line with the mission of IMMART, I take a holistic approach to non-migrants as well as migrants, and to the role of cross-national multi-agent networks. With the actions undertaken throughout the research, I aim to facilitate sustainable systemic societal change.

RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

Situated in Denmark, I analyses the process and outcomes of active engagement with artists and cultural workers with 'native' and 'non-native' cultural heritage, as well as with a broad range of public and private sector stakeholders in Denmark, Finland and Sweden.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

Hermeneutics, critical research, participatory action research, observation, ethnography, collaborative autoethnography

KEYWORDS

action research, ethnography, collaborative autoethnography, participation, social capital, agency, migrant agency, community cultural wealth, co-creation, community, difference, intra-action, agency, power relations, sustainability

ACTIONS

- Mapping of the current resources available to Danish and Danish-speaking and foreign artists and key stakeholders in Denmark
- Qualitative interviews with members of the IMMART network and key stakeholders in the Nordic Region
- Focus group meetings with artists from the IMMART network and artists of foreign origin and key stakeholders in Finland and Sweden

OUTPUT

- Mono and interdisciplinary scholarly and artistic production
 - Book chapters, academic and non-academic articles on related issues covering processes, practices and policy
 - Knowledge production via researchers, arts and culture practitioners, artists in the IMMART network alone and in collaboration with members of the network and international partners