

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

V COMBART

ART, ACTIVISM AND CITIZENSHIP

3 TO 5
JULY 2024

REVOLUTIONS,
PROTESTS AND AESTHETIC-
POLITICAL ACTIVISM

CALL FOR
PROPOSALS

FACULTY OF ARTS AND
HUMANITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTO
PORTO, PORTUGAL

COMBARTCONFERENCE2022@GMAIL.COM | COMBART@EVENTQUALIA.NET
HTTPS://COMBART.EVENTQUALIA.NET/PT/

International Conference

V COMbART: Art, activism and citizenship

REVOLUTIONS, PROTESTS AND AESTHETIC-POLITICAL ACTIVISM

The 21st century has seen various upheavals and a continuous resurgence of protest revolutions leading to social change. We can take as an example the Arab Spring, that took place in North Africa and in the Middle East, from 2010 onwards. These movements fought for justice, democracy, human rights, the dignity of life, and against police and/or (para)military abuses. In the same period, several protests also erupted because of the financial crisis, mainly in southern European countries. In other contexts, such as Brazil, Hong Kong, Kenya or Senegal, there have also been massive dynamics of protest, directed at power. At the same time, the post-pandemic period saw large-scale wars break out. The 21st century has been marked by constant global insecurity, in the sense that there have been several military and political confrontations, from Ukraine and Russia, through the conflicts in Sudan, Israel and Palestine.

At the same time, we are witnessing the rise of populism, xenophobic and homophobic discourses, employed by a far-right that threatens a set of values that we thought were guaranteed.

Change, resistance and opposition have often been brought about through art. In the present century we are witnessing the revival of political art. It is increasingly common for artists to engage in the defense of political ideologies and in the elaboration of activist practices engaged with different social movements — such as climate justice, feminist, LGBTQIA+, anti-racist movements, among others. This notion of political art dialogues with multiple performance practices and performativities related to the broader field of artistic creation. **These aesthetic and visual protests, in fact, demonstrate the transformative potential of individuals as social agents, that is, they show that any individual is capable of carrying out aesthetic-political actions. Historically, the arts have been associated with revolutionary processes of various types.** In addition to the collective dimension of the revolution, artists who adopted a political position and portrayed revolution and protest in their artistic creations are also important.

The focus of the fifth international conference COMbART focuses on the intersection of three thematic and analytical dimensions: revolutions, protests and artivisms, recovering the notion of aesthetic-political activism. In this call for proposals, we deal with the axis of *praxis* but also with the creative *ethos*, deepening the relationship between theory, practice, protest and social change, in its most radical sense: with political-visual positions. We seek to understand the ways in which aesthetic-political action is associated with an order of practices, such as poetic terrorism and Hakim Bey's art of sabotage; the countersexuality of Paul B. Preciado; or the guerrilla art of Frederico Moraes and Luis Camnitzer, to give just a few examples. With the notion of aesthetic-political activism, we intend to put bodies and voices in evidence, mapping their role of criticism/promotion, in relation to the concept of revolution and protest. We intend to deepen the myriad of connections between artistic practices and aesthetic-political activism and to envisage changes in the form of social and digital protest in contemporary times.

**** Over the last few years, the COMbART conference has been a forum for discussion around engaged creative and artistic practices. We understand that art, culture, as well as a set of other creative practices not included in these categories, can constitute expressive fields with a relevant role in the way citizenship is built in contemporary times. ****

The fifth international COMbART conference is a collaboration between different entities. The organization involves the Institute of Sociology of the University of Porto (IS-UP), the Interdisciplinary Center for Social Sciences (CICS. NOVA), the Transdisciplinary Research Centre «Culture, Space and Memory» (CITCEM) and LabEA - Laboratory for Research in Art Education / FBAUP. Also partners of this event are the Luso-Brazilian All the Arts Network (TAA) and the Luso-Brazilian Research Network in Arts and Urban

Interventions (RAIU). It is thus intended to bring together a diverse set of knowledge, disciplines and arts, opening the submission of proposals to researchers from areas such as sociology, anthropology, history, art history, cultural and creative industries, cultural economy, cultural and social geography, urban planning, cultural studies, communication sciences and related disciplines. such as illustration, music, performance, film, visual and performing arts and new technologies.

Submission of proposals

Papers that present research results or reflect on the articulations between cultural/artistic practices and activism and political participation are accepted, taking into account a set of axes:

Artistic creations and forms of social protest

Aesthetic-Political Activism and Revolutions in the 21st Century: Socio-Historical Perspectives

Protests, communities and (new) social movements

Technologies of Protest: The Technologization of Social and Political Revolutions

Global Challenges and Grammars of Resistance: Aesthetic-Political Activism Materialized

Articulations between activism and youth creative practices

New social movements between the local, the virtual and the global

Crisis, resistances and social change

A(r)tivism in the public and private spheres

Artist Research Methods

Submissions and respective communications can be made in Portuguese, Spanish or English. Abstracts should have a maximum of 500 words and clearly explain the context of the research or theoretical reflection to be presented at the conference, indicating the objectives, conceptual assumptions and methodology, as well as the expected or achieved results. They must also be accompanied by an English version and a short biography of the author(s) (max. 150 words), which includes their affiliation and contact information. The limit is one submission per author (as first author).

Submission of proposals:

<https://combart.eventqualia.net/pt/2024/inicio/>

Important Dates:

Submissions: until February 27, 2024

Communication of results: March 31, 2024

Registration: until April 30 (late until May 15), 2024

Final Program: June 1, 2024

Conference: July 3-5, 2024

Registrations:

Anticipated: students 40€ + professionals 85€

Late: students 60€ + professionals 120€

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Venue:

Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto

Coordination:

Paula Guerra – IS-UP, CITCEM, CEGOT, DINÂMIA'CET-Iscte - University of Porto, Portugal

Ricardo Campos - CICS. NOVA - New University of Lisbon, Portugal

Cat Martins – LabEA/FBAUP - University of Porto, Portugal

Patrícia Pereira - CICS. NOVA – Polytechnic Institute of Leiria, Portugal

Tiago Barbedo Assis – LabEA/FBAUP - University of Porto, Portugal

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Ricardo Campos - CICS. NOVA - New University of Lisbon, Portugal

Sofia Sousa – Institute of Sociology - University of Porto, Portugal

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Patrícia Pereira - CICS. NOVA – Polytechnic Institute of Leiria, Portugal

Sidarta Landarini – Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and University of Porto, Portugal, Brazil

Susana Januário – Polytechnic Institute of Porto – School of Education, Institute of Sociology – University of Porto, Portugal

Tiago Assis - LabEA/FBAUP, IS-UP- University of Porto, Portugal

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Monika Salzbrunn - University of Lausanne, Suíça
Mykaell Riley - University of Westminster, Reino Unido
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Simone Luci Pereira – Universidade Paulista, Brazil
Tiago Barbedo Assis - LabEA/FBAUP, IS-UP- University of Porto, Portugal
Vi Grunvald - Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Organization:

Institute of Sociology of the University of Porto (IS-UP)

Interdisciplinary Center for Social Sciences (CICS. NOVA, NOVA FCSH and IPLEIRIA)

CITCEM – Transdisciplinary Research Centre «Culture, Space and Memory»

LabEA - Laboratory of Research in Art Education / FBAUP

Support:

Eventqualia

Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Porto

Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto

Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT)

Luso-Brazilian Research Network on Arts and Urban Interventions (RAIU)

All the Arts Luso-Brazilian Network (TAA)

Rectory of the University of Porto / Santander

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ORGANIZACAO:

