

Information iArts

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iArts is a joint programme of the Maastricht Academy of Performing Arts, the Maastricht Academy of Music, the Maastricht Academy of Fine Arts and Design at Zuyd University of Applied Sciences

General Information

The world is increasingly changing. Facing the prospect of a second collapse of the global economy, humanity is searching for a sustainable economic, social and cultural plan to take us into the future. Classical boundaries between disciplines are no longer of any significance. Innovation is taking place in between science, economics and arts. Do you want to part of this future and be a 'critically engaged artist' of innovative and artistic concepts which combine entrepreneurial and social issues? Does your imagination go beyond the limits of science and arts? Do you think in terms of projects rather than classes? If so, iArts is the answer.

iArts stands for interdisciplinary Arts, an intensive international three-year Bachelor programme for the creative and intelligent multitalented. It builds bridges between the arts, sciences, society and entrepreneurship. This hybrid is a joint initiative of the Maastricht Academy of Performing Arts, the Maastricht Academy of Music, the Academy of Fine Arts and Design at Zuyd University of Applied Sciences.

iArts is a professional higher education art programme with the aim of educating and training students to become critically engaged artists; to become inquiring, entrepreneurial and socially engaged thinkers and creators, who are capable of translating social and scientific issues into their artistic and interdisciplinary practice.

The programme is an exciting cross-over of artistic skills, academic reflection, research and entrepreneurship. They are connected in projects and seminars with a strong focus on today's societal issues. This makes iArts the first bachelor's programme in the Netherlands to link interdisciplinarity in the arts to academic scholarship and partners outside of the academy.

Why?

Tomorrow's artists will take on the roles of entrepreneurs, policy makers, executive producers and researchers. They disclose new grounds where knowledge and art can be meaningful: in an airport, within a social network, under a microscope. This is the philosophy of iArts: art should ceaselessly explore where it can make a difference.

What can I do with an iArts degree?

The iArts programme trains you to be a critically engaged artist. A critically engaged artist is a creative thinker and creator who addresses social and scientific issues in his artistic and transdisciplinary or interdisciplinary practice. The critically engaged artist combines the skills of an artist, entrepreneur and researcher and develops and produces relevant interventions for current (world) issues.

What will I study in the iArts programme?

Projects

The iArts programme is a 4 year bachelor's programme in a 3 year period, which makes it a very intense, high-density programme. In the course of the programme you'll work on a series of projects. You'll invent creative and original solutions for current social and cultural issues, in the form of artistic products or artful interventions. Think installations, films, performances, and games. Think meetings, publications, plans, and enterprises. Each and every intervention will be the result of interdisciplinary teamwork. Your teachers are experts in their fields and have experience with interdisciplinary encounters.

The Programme

The core of the study programme is a project-based educational model. All skills and projects relate to one of the following domains: Arts & Society, Arts & Sciences, Arts & Entrepreneurship and Arts & Culture.

The study programme is built up around the following skills: Home Based Learning (involving skills such as Writing, Singing, Reflection, Journalistic Research, Visual Language, Presenting), Personal Research & Development Lab (involving skills such as Photography, Materials and Techniques), Expert & Artist Exchange (Projects with different partners in the world from Arts, Sciences and Society), Shared Knowledge and Collective Lab.

Futhermore theory education and disciplines such as art history, art analysis, dramaturgy, philosophy, text analysis and sociology are drawn on in order to explore specific themes addressed in project education in more depth.

All these tools, methods and strategies will prepare you to become a 'critical engaged artist'.

Focus

During the programme, you'll further develop your own direction of artistic and intellectual growth. You'll also learn how to manage your projects professionally and make them financially viable.

In the second year, there is time to further train your capacities in projects with external partners.

In the third year, you'll develop and complete a graduation project of your own. You'll write a graduation thesis in which you describe the research done in preparation of your graduation, the concept you developed based on this research, and your artistic working process, as well as the entrepreneurial aspects of your entire graduation project. Next to the thesis, your graduation project consists of an artistic part for which you can choose your own artistic medium.

Who is it for?

iArts is an extraordinary programme for extraordinary people. Our students are open-minded and take a broad interest in the world around them. They are creative and have critical minds. They are multi-talented, motivated and prefer to develop these talents by working with others. They love studying and creating things. And they're willing to work beyond boundaries.

You'll start in the first year of the bachelor with approx. 20 students, a small number of students guarantees optimal attention and exclusive education.

On average, you'll have 20 contact-hours a week, and a minimum of 20 hours of independent study (alone or with your study group).

Formal requirements

- pre-university secondary education (or equivalent)
- evidence of artistic aptitude
- advanced in English
- collaborative skills

When?

First year students start on 2 September 2019. It's important to apply for the assessment procedure as soon as possible, preferably before June 1 2019.

The round 2 assessments for 2019 are planned in week 16 (17-18 April) and in week 25 (19 -20 June), and if necessary we will organize a last round in August (see also page 10).

Where?

iArts is located in the heart of Maastricht, a European centre of culture and home to 11,000 students. The city's numerous festivals and events reflect its diverse cultural and historical influences.

Projects first & second year

In the first and second year of iArts, students work on four different projects, of nine weeks each. Each project is connected to one of the four domains, has a different approach, a different theme, and different guest-teachers. The programme of iArts is project-based, structured by the interactions that the arts sustain with culture, sciences, society and entrepreneurship. In the projects you learn to work in an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary way.

In addition to the projects, the curriculum consists of a baseline: an in-depth programme with attention for theory, practical education and reflection. In theory education, disciplines such as art history, art analysis, dramaturgy, philosophy, text analysis and sociology are drawn on in order to explore specific themes addressed in project education in more depth.

Examples of recent projects;

Below you will find examples of the different projects of past curricula.

Project Arts & culture: 'Imaging the Brain, Imagining the Brain'

In collaboration with the Faculty of Psychology & Neuroscience, Maastricht University

The projects of the domain Arts & Culture cover understanding fine arts, aesthetics and culture. Starting point for year one is exploring human nature and the brain, year two dives into human habitat and behaviour. Therefore, first year students do artistic research in outsider- and naïve art and art from prehistory till now, intertwined with researching cognitive neuroscience. Visual arts are connected with perception and thus our brain. Gaining knowledge about functions and dysfunctions of the brain opens up a whole area of interesting topics for translation towards a multi-disciplinary artwork. The first year's final presentation contains themes like Korsakov, epilepsy, autism, schizophrenia, dementia and the consciousness and unconsciousness.



Project Arts & Society: 'Spheres'

In collaboration with 'Het Geluid Maastricht'

Het Geluid Maastricht will host a semester at iArts. This interdisciplinary theatre company has experience in making site specific (music) theatre performances that reflect on culture and society. The site, the performance space takes an integral role in the performances. Sites are chosen carefully and tell a story together with text and sound.

In this project students were invited to create a text and make, together with their team, their own site specific performance. They found inspiration from the magnum opus of postmodern philosophy: 'Spheres' by Peter Sloterdijk. In his book, Peter Sloterdijk describes how human kind sequentially created bubbles, globes and foam as spheres to live in. His texts are a philosophy, a reflection on culture and a culture history all in one. Besides that, his texts contain numerous vivid and concrete examples. These examples make his book an immersion in contemporary life and very useful for theatre.



In this semester, we close read texts from 'Spheres'. Students got an overview of philosophy, culture and theatre history to frame Sloterdijk's texts. They learned how to create performance concepts based on theoretical texts. They got tools to create multilayered texts with a clear and consistent dramaturgy: research methodologies, interview techniques, writing for theatre and the basics of dramaturgy were part of the curriculum. To be able to create a performance, students learned the basics of scenography, using sound and music, movement and performance techniques and using voice. Finally, they tried to find a basis and support from the community: entrepreneurship and public relations are necessary to find an audience for site specific performances.

In this semester, they learned to independently create a performance. They were guided and were given tools to create a consistent and meaningful

text and performance.

Project Arts & Sciences: 'The robots are coming'

In collaboration with EIZT (Expertisecentrum voor Innovatieve Zorg en Technologie, Expertise Centre for Innovative Care & Technology)

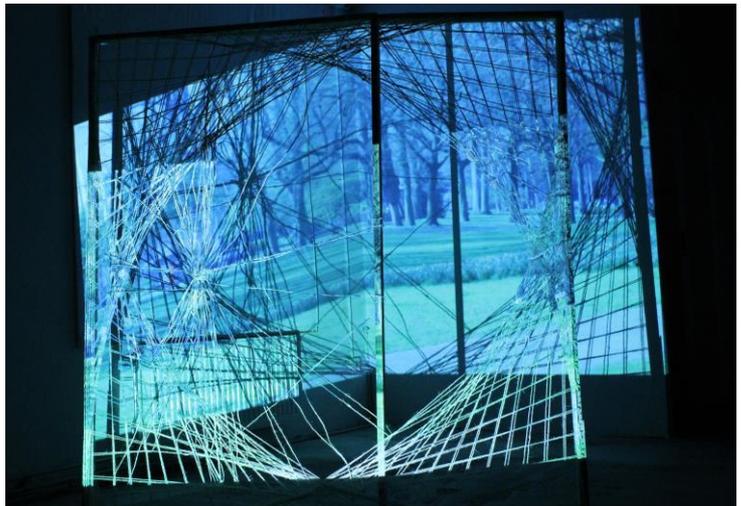
In this 9-week Arts & Sciences course, iArts students collaborated with researchers from EIZT, the Centre of Expertise for Innovative Care and Technology of Zuyd University of Applied Sciences. At EIZT researchers of human-robot interaction study the use and implementation of care robots in health care. How can therapeutic robots best be designed and implemented given the requirements of the patient and care professional? The iArts students met the scientists and their robots (Paro, KASPAR and IROMEC) and were challenged to contribute to the scientific practice from the artistic perspective.

www.eizt.nl

Project Arts & Society: 'The place where I want to grow old and die'

In this course, students explored the theme of the aging society from various disciplines: from scientific research to literature, and from architecture to philosophy. The students subsequently made an exhibition with the same theme, where they took on the roles of curators as well as producers. Each student translated their research into a 'chapter' of the documentary-exhibition about the aging society.

In addition, each student made an artwork within this framework. By executing this project, the students gained skills in, among others, researching, curating, scenario-developing, exhibition production, and PR & communication.



Curriculum third year

Graduation

As a beginning expert, you now have the chance to prove that you can invent, develop, create, produce and present an interdisciplinary project to an audience of experts as well as people who might encounter your work for the first time. Furthermore, you work on a thesis in which you describe and reflect on your research. You are your own project manager, and it's your responsibility to set up and execute each part of your graduation project. This project should comprise crucial elements of the four domains culture, society, entrepreneurship and sciences.



Application Form

Personal details

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Nationality _____

Date of birth _____

Place of birth _____

E-mail _____

Website/blog _____

Please include a recent photo of yourself.

Education & Experience

Education (*name of institute(s) and level of education*) _____

Diploma + date _____

Extra courses _____

Projects _____

Other relevant experience _____

Motivation

Include a motivational letter of maximum 1 A4.

Inspiration

Make a film of yourself (maximum of 4 minutes) in which you show us your potential to become a critical engaged artist. You can think of:

- What drives you?
- What are your fields of interest?
- What in the world needs to be addressed?
- Give some examples of your work etc. etc.

The film can be made with a (professional) camera or your mobile phone.

Assessment procedure iArts

Round 0

To start your assessment procedure you fill in the application form, include the photo and the motivational letter and upload your film on your You Tube channel and send the link to iarts@zuyd.nl, or send your MP4 per We Transfer to iarts@zuyd.nl.

We will let you know by email if you passed round '0' within 10 days after receiving **all 4** items.

Round 1

When the iArts assessment-committee thinks you are an appropriate candidate for iArts you'll be invited to write a short essay about a certain topic before the end of that week.

We will let you know by email if you passed round 1 within 10 days.

Round 2

If you pass round 1, you'll be invited to come to Maastricht for the final assessment round. During the year we have several assessment rounds. As mentioned above, the round 2 assessments for 2019 are planned in week 16 (**17-18 April**) and in week 25 (**19 -20 June**), and if necessary we might organize a last round in August (see also page 10). The duration of this round is 2 days. During these days you'll have to present yourself in an artistic way, this can be a performance, installation or anything you like to do as long as you are part of it.

During the assessment you'll do a micro-project with fellow candidates. We'll observe how you collaborate with team members, how you think and work and what results this generates. After this you'll also receive other assignments this can be in teams or individually.

We will let you know if you passed this final round in the evening of the last assessment day, or the next day.

Non-EU students:

Only after passing successfully rounds 0 and 1 the evaluation committee will decide whether they feel it is necessary to have you participate in round 2 in Maastricht or that an alternative solution can be offered.