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ELIA Biennial
Conference 2022
23–26 November
Helsinki, Finland

CALL FOR
CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline
15 January
2022

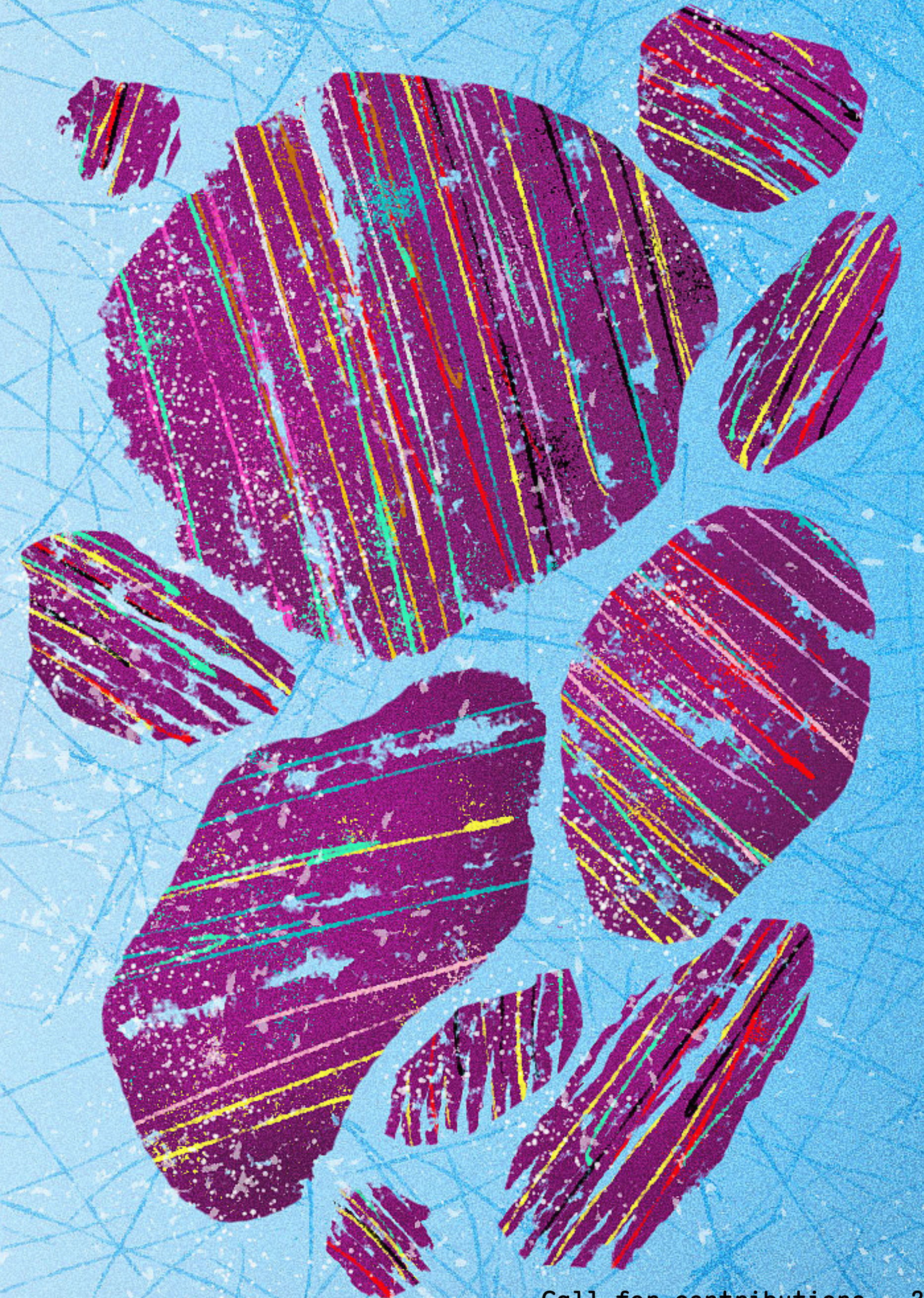
We find ourselves skating on thin ice. Trying to maintain balance while moving forward. The past two years have taken their toll, but unexpected ruptures have given way to new flows of thought, ideas and discourse.

So many big questions – climate crisis, inequality, the changing role of arts education, students hungry for radical change. We feel anxious, enlightened, depleted and excited.

ELIA Biennial 2022 seeks to create an open exploratory space for all. A place where the unique complexities facing higher arts education today can be picked up, turned over and closely examined to see what lies beneath. We want to look at all sides from all angles. Run our fingers down the cracks, study the joins, take the rough with the smooth and discover those hidden gems.

Hosted by University of the Arts Helsinki in Finland, in the spirit of togetherness we search for greater understanding, engage in necessary dialogue to enable the growth of resilient dynamic ecosystems which embody and feed the needs of humanity, the environment, the arts and social justice.

Join us.



Pebbles on the beach...

(These questions are examples of topics that could be addressed at ELIA Biennial 2022. We encourage all contributors to choose their own stone(s) to unturn.)

What role can the arts and arts education play in the race against climate change?

Are classical musicians and fine art painters today's radical artists?

How do we deal with discrimination and 'cancel culture' in arts education?

Is now the time to bring back utopian thinking?

How can we embrace controversy in art making, discourse and arts education?

How can we continue to nurture courage and resilience in the face of the unknown?

How can we create balanced eco-systems that feed the needs of arts education staff and students in sustainable ways?

Who decides on the creation and curation of diverse curricula?

What are we looking for?

ELIA believes in the illuminating capacity of arts education, and the idea that the form of a presentation can be as inspiring as its content. Therefore, as a platform for educational innovation, the ELIA Biennial Conference refrains from giving overly specific guidelines.

A wide variety of formats are welcome, such as:

- Revelatory, transformative projects and works in progress that address current dilemmas or critical questions;
- Student-driven initiatives and co-creative processes aimed to bring about innovative methodologies;
- Artistic interventions that address current dilemmas and challenges and move towards developing a greater understanding;
- Creative digital approaches that engage the audience and encourage discussions;
- Processes and methodologies which deal with the challenges we currently face;
- Submissions that expand and challenge the format. We encourage proposals which are interactive, surprising, involve audience participation and are not merely academic paper presentations.

The ELIA Biennial Conference suggests contributors depart from the following set of design principles:

- Experience over production
- Experimentation over conventional
- Unexpected over predictable
- Participate over observe
- Provocative over regular
- Inspiration over information
- Energise over deplete

Who can apply?

Representatives of ELIA member institutions from all artistic disciplines such as students, lecturers, researchers, artists, senior managers, administrators, international officers, supporting and technical staff members are welcome to submit proposals.

Projects involving students or by students are encouraged.

Artists, cultural organisations, arts and cultural sector professionals, producers, curators, makers and technical managers are all welcome to apply in collaboration with ELIA member institutions.

How to apply?

Be creative. Your chosen format should stimulate lively debate, enable co-creation, facilitate dialogues, encourage participation and move towards creating a common understanding.

The ELIA Biennial Conference challenges applicants to pitch an idea for their contribution in the form of a short 2-minute video. This video will be used by the panel to select the contributions for the ELIA Biennial Conference. Applicants should be aware that video submissions should be fit for posting on the ELIA Biennial website.

These are the mandatory submission requirements:

- Presentation title
- Format description*
- Disciplines (artistic and non-artistic; if applicable)
- A description (max. 300 words)
- A video of 2 minutes in which the idea for the session is presented
- Descriptive biography of presenter(s) (max. 300 words)
- Technical requests
- Contact details

** If you wish to submit an academic paper, please notice that, if selected, you will have to provide the final version 1 month before the start of the conference. The paper will be published and shared with participants prior to the event.*

The required information should be filled in on the submission form available at the ELIA Biennial Conference 2022 website: <https://elia-artschools.org/surveys/?id=ELIABiennial22>

The working language of the ELIA Biennial Conference is English.

Submissions should be sent by 15 January 2022 at the latest.

Please note: submissions not making use of the online form or presented in a language other than English will not be taken into consideration.

All submissions will be peer-reviewed by an international experts panel, and the selection will reflect a balanced division of regions, countries and disciplines. The international peer-reviewers panel will make the first selection, which is presented to the Steering Group of the ELIA Biennial Conference 2022 for the final choice.

Selection criteria:

- pertinence to the theme
- geographical and discipline balance
- innovative quality
- interactive format
- students' (active) involvement

Applicants will be informed about the selection results by the end of February 2022 at the latest. Successful applicants will be offered a reduced participation fee.

For further information, please visit the ELIA Biennial Conference website or contact ELIA Conference Manager Janja Ferenc at janja.ferenc@elia-artschools.org

