

RESEARCH THEME

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Title of the doctoral research Rethinking the role of the Arts in Design Culture

Proponent professor Luca Guerrini

Abstract

The disciplines of art and design are going through a period of substantial transformation. If the increasing complexity of contextual conditions pushes design towards new fields of research and action, then reflection and production in the field of art appear equally varied.

The study originates from the awareness that this new condition questions, and therefore redesigns their mutual relations. Moreover, it acknowledges the vocation of both art and design, to verify and overcome their disciplinary limits, in search of relationships and comparisons with other fields. This vocation demonstrates how innovation actually resides in the contiguous territories: where skills mix, margins fade and paths intertwine, research finds fertile ground for development.

The study aims to explore issues such as:

- _ What are the areas in which art and design can still collaborate in generating visions, environments, objects and services?
- _ What are the themes that this renewed collaboration can address, in light of the changed social and market conditions?
- _ What are the methods and tools for this interaction in design research and practice?

Providing answers to these questions sets an ambitious goal. First of all, it is necessary to draw a map of the reciprocal new relations between art and design, starting with identifying a series of specific in-depth studies, each of which can motivate an entire doctoral research. To this effect, the research proposes a long-term program, divided into phases, with the contribution of several researchers.

Keywords Visual and performing arts, reflective practice, design theory