Art-Science Interfaces In Resilience Research

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Abstract

For decades, Resilience theory has provoked scholars to think beyond disciplinary boundaries and pushed scientific practice towards integrative work across sciences and humanities, towards policy and the public. This resulted in an increasing body of experiences for instance in the interface between science and arts.

The interface between arts and science is expanding as research institutes around the world devote attention to the possibilities (SRC, SPARCS, SARAS). Art-Science endeavors create possibilities for challenging binary epistemic structures that animate these encounters, including culture/nature, intuition/reason, mind/body, aesthetics/functionality. Fruitful Art-Science collaborations contribute to the generation of novel ideas, influences public interest, stimulates connection between mind and heart, and helps us face uncertainty in novel ways (Carpenter et. al. 2009). Embracing uncertainty involves reframing and creating new language to handle complexity. Through its generative power art-science can be a trigger for change and promote surprising openings for transformations.

We propose a round discussion session ignited by empirical examples of art-science in action. In this dialogue we will explore a range of questions around art and science experiences. We invite resilience scholars to share their experiences and we are especially interested in how art-science cooperation can open up for transformations. We would like the session to promote a collaborative network of artists-scientists.

Session’s overarching questions are:

- What are key triggers of fruitful art-science collaborations?
- What have been necessary boundary conditions?
- What is the value added for sustainability science?
- What are opportunities for future work? Where is it most necessary?

Suggested contributions:

Francis Westley. A review of art-science in sustainability work

Anna Emmelin, Diego Galafassi. Barefoot science: scripting Baltic Sea narratives between

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theatre and social-ecological models

Per Olsson. Coral Guardians
Kathlyn Rathwell. Inuit Art

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