

## The Art of Deco-ding emotions

As a team of four we invite you to contribute to the stream we are hosting at 'The 11th Art of Management & Organization Conference' taking place in Nancy, France. Withing the global theme of 'New Total Arts for Sustainable Futures', the city of Art Nouveau will inspire us to explore 'The Art of Deco-ding emotions'. The stream will emphasize how art can be used to decoding emotions.

Although emotions are perceived as an important element to trigger a sustainability mindset, relating to the soul component of the three dimensions of sustainability, i.e., body, mind and soul, research is not clear about how emotions facilitate sustainable behaviour. Emotions can positively or negatively influence engagement for sustainability challenges. Relatively little importance is attached to the link with values. We all have specific values in relation to sustainability. We value nature, equality, etc ... However, these values are not always activated. Anomalies can trigger these values. Past challenges, like the financial crisis and Covid-19 pandemic, have shown that change is only temporary. Once the crisis has passed, people fall back into their old patterns of consumption, organizing, living, being.

Active artmaking and other creative processes have the potential to improve well-being and to trigger emotions. Art in general has the potential to engender hope, to foster reflection, to focus our attention, to become comfortable with uncertainty and boundaries, and to feel. And when we feel, we care, which can be the necessary in-between to acting and to a sustainable transformation.

One part of the stream is a group process of creating a real-life art project based on the paintings of Vincent van Gogh. The participants will select one painting that will be used to make a photo mosaic. For the extension of the selected painting, the participants will use their imagination to determine the aspects they would like to add to the painting within concepts of sustainability. The whole process aims to invite how emotions were triggered. The end result is a photo mosaic that can be exhibited during the conference.



Russell's (1980) circumplex model of affect will be used as a basis for decoding the emotions. Darsø's (2004) concept of artful creation is also used as an inspiration. The focus is not solely on the output of the artistic process but on the discovery of the importance of performing activities in an artful way. It helps individuals recognizing the significance of connecting with their emotions and integrating them into their work. Additionally, art-making in art based initiatives stimulates reflective and contemplative learning, allowing individuals to explore challenges and gain insights through metaphors and analogical models provided by the aesthetic experience.

The second part of the stream gives proposers room for sharing their own arts-based practices of triggering and de-coding emotions within the context of sustainability. We would like to

invite proposers to fit their arts-based approach within one or more pillars of sustainability, i.e., people, planet, prosperity, peace, partnerships. The co-creation of art can take different forms, like music, dance, poetry, theatre, photography, film. The aim will not only be to trigger emotions by the co-creation of art, but also to explore how to read them, in other words, suggesting ways of de-coding emotions.

Please submit a 750-word proposal, as a Word.doc, wherever possible, in size 12 font, Times Roman. Also include in your proposal how long the co-creation of art will be and how much time you need for introduction and debriefing. Proposals are due by 02nd December 2023 and should be sent to [aomo2024nancy@gmail.com](mailto:aomo2024nancy@gmail.com), copying in stream convenors Ingrid Molderez, [Ingrid.molderez@kuleuven.be](mailto:Ingrid.molderez@kuleuven.be); Pascale Maas, [pascale.maas@kuleuven.be](mailto:pascale.maas@kuleuven.be); Sabine Bacouel-Jentjes, [sabine.bacouel-jentjens@iscparis.com](mailto:sabine.bacouel-jentjens@iscparis.com); and Kim Ceulemans, [k.ceulemans@tbs-education.fr](mailto:k.ceulemans@tbs-education.fr).