



# INTER-SCHOOL WORKSHOP DIVERSITY ACTIONS

April 1-3, 2021 at La Villette Makers, Paris and online

A 3-day workshop designed for design students to initiate direct actions for diversity and inclusion within their schools and universities.

In February 2020, within the framework of the conference "Towards Sharing Common Futures - Celebrating diversity for a more resilient and convivial society through design", at Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs (EnsAD) in Paris, we conducted a short format inter-school workshop to collectively reflect on the involvement of design schools in migration issues. Together we asked ourselves: How could design schools better integrate the realities of migration, the welcoming of people from elsewhere and the sharing of their cultures within them? About twenty participants, students and alumni from various schools (ENSAAMA Olivier de Serres, EnsAD, ENSCI, ESAD Valenciennes, Politecnico di Milano and Strate Collège) took part in this short form workshop.

This year, in the context of the Expo-action "Infinite Creativity for a Finite World" presented at Folie n°6 at La Villette in Paris (March 30 - April 18, 2021), and in partnership with the research team in design and social innovation of the University of Nîmes, L'Ecole des Arts Décoratifs invites design students to continue this research on diversity in design educational settings. We will broaden its context of action and collectively reflect on the theme of diversity as a whole.

Design students from different schools are invited to participate in a three-day workshop, from April 1-3, 2021, to imagine how design schools and universities can be transformed into radically welcoming, convivial, multicultural spaces.

This event sprouts from the need to build highly collaborative and caring cultures within the academic world, to work to actively dismantle all forms of discrimination, support a greater diversity of bodily and cultural expressions, and organize collectively to overcome the systemic violence turned against what is perceived as "other". The workshop will offer convivial spaces for the exchange of ideas and experiences, times of reflection and co-design around 3 angles: cultural diversity, diversity of bodies and biodiversity. Together we will explore ways out of the conscious or unconscious systems of discrimination, repression, exclusion and indifference.

In the era of globalisation, how can we reconcile individual and collective aspirations to have the plurality of cultures and identities recognised, without this resulting in a withdrawal into identity and a rejection of alterities? These paradoxical injunctions can be difficult to balance in a temporal context of learning and personal construction. However, the theoretical and epistemological opening of the disciplines of design and art to these questions constitutes a solid and effectively mobilisable basis for the workshop.

Design students from diverse backgrounds will be challenged to imagine their school as a better space of representation, expression, and emancipation for all bodies, all cultures, all identities, in the human and non-human realm. Drawing on their own experience, they will imagine together forms of design that can honor a plurality of ways of being and that can easily be activated in a concrete way within their school. After the three-day workshop, the group will be kept active by following up on the projects and sharing of best practices.

This project was initiated by Anna Bernagozzi (Ecole des Arts Décoratifs), co-created and coordinated by Carmen Bouyer (designer and artist), with the help of Béatrice Gisclard and Michela Deni (University of Nîmes) and Caroline Gsellier (designer, professor, associate member of PROJEKT, University of Nîmes).

## VENUE: VILLETTE MAKERS IN PARIS AND ONLINE

With students from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs, ENSCI Les Ateliers, Ecole Supérieure d'Art et Média de Caen, Ecole d'Art et de Design de Saint Etienne, Ecole d'Art et de Design de Valenciennes, Ecole Européenne Supérieure d'Art de Bretagne, Ecole de Design de Nantes Atlantiques, Free University di Bolzano, Haute Ecole des Arts du Rhin, Institut Supérieure des Arts de Toulouse, IROKO FabLab, Politecnico di Milano, Université de Nîmes, among others.

### THURSDAY 1 APRIL

#### 9.00-9.30am

Presentation of the global project and the workshop, synthesis of the preparatory work: issues, semantics, by Anna Bernagozzi (teacher and coordinator of the DESIS Group at the Ecole des Arts Décoratifs of the DESIS group at the Ecole des Arts Décoratifs de Paris), Carmen Bouyer (designer and artist), Béatrice Gisclard and Michela Deni (Laboratoire PROJEKT, University of Nîmes), Emmanuel Tibloux (Director of the Ecole des Arts Décoratifs de Paris)

#### 9.30-10.15am

Contextualisation with a philosophical approach with Virginia Tassinari, philosopher and design teacher, Product Design Department at the LUCA School of Arts in Belgium, and Design Department of Politecnico di Milano in Italy. She is the co-author of Designing in Dark Times: An Acedntian Lexicon, a radical reference book that calls designers and students to action.

#### 10.15-10.30am Break

#### CASE STUDIES - DIVERSITY OF CULTURES

#### 10.30-11.15am

Conversation between Marc Bazoud (designer, former director of the Design Department at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts ALBA in Beirut), Dimitri Zephir and Florian Dach, (designers, founders of dach&zephir studio and teachers at L'Ecole de Condé and L'Ecole Boule), and Caroline Gsellier, (designer, professor at Africa Design School, associate member of PROJEKT), on how to radically imbed multiculturalism within design education.

#### 11.15-11.30am Break

#### 11.30am-12:00pm

Francesca Gattello and Zeno Franchini from Marginal Studio will talk about "Counter-Colonial Aesthetics", an action-research on the potential of migration to reframe heritage and visions of contemporary Europe through the construction of a common heritage of diasporic identities through participatory practices and object making.

#### 12.00-12.30pm

Elise Connor, graphic designer and artistic director, co-founder of the Festival La fête du slip and of the collective GOOD 4 A GXRL with Mathilde Avogadro, a group created as a way to question design practices and design education with an intersectional perspective. During her studies at ECAL, Elise co-organised a student feminist movement. Her practice is focused on community and multiculturalism as a way to observe and question society.

#### 12.30-1.30pm Lunch

#### 1.30-3.00pm

#### CO-CREATION BETWEEN STUDENTS - CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Collectively imagining designs (objects or processes)

that can support the diversity of cultures within their school. Inter-school group of 4 to 6 people.

#### 3.00-3.15pm Break

#### CASE STUDY - DIVERSITY OF BODIES

#### 3.15-3.45pm

Manon Ménard, doctoral student in the PROJEKT laboratory (Unimes), is conducting research on educational inclusion through design as part of the project "Aspie-friendly, building an inclusive university". A national academic inclusion program for people with autism without intellectual disabilities.

#### 3.45-4.15pm

Iyo Bisbeck, interaction designer, researcher and creator of the interactive installation Wuta and of the Main Clé platform, which offers tools for questioning and learning to communicate with deaf or hard of hearing people. Iyo works at the crossroads of different fields such as art, social sciences, cognitive sciences and computer science.

#### 4.15-4.45pm

Mayar El Bakry, designer and researcher. Mayar is currently focusing her work on food and cooking as a means to create spaces of discourses, exchange and dialogue in and out of academia. Within her research, she emphasises cross-cultural exchange, social relevance and collaboration.

#### 4.45-5.00pm Break

#### 5.00-6.30pm

#### CO-CREATION BETWEEN STUDENTS - DIVERSITY OF BODIES

Collectively imagine designs (objects or processes) that can support the diversity of bodies within their school. Inter-school group of 4 to 6 people.

#### 6.30-7.00pm

#### CLOSING / INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN STUDENTS

### FRIDAY 2 APRIL

#### CASE STUDY - BIODIVERSITY

#### 09.00-09.30am

Tanya Ruka, independent designer, artist and researcher, founder of the Region Net Positive network and artistic director of Fog & Moon Studio. Tanya is active in environmental issues from an indigenous perspective in Aotearoa, New Zealand and globally, working with the Waitaha Executive Grandmothers Council.

#### 9.30-10.00am

Alexia Venot, designer, independent researcher and guest lecturer at Ensad Paris, founder of the collective and studio VIVANT.ES in the framework of the ExpoAction "Infinite Creativity for a finite World". She explores the issues of care through design and values interspecific modes of relationship from an ecofeminist point of view.

#### 10.00-11.00am

Andrea Tramacchi and Simone Francesin from FORMAFANTASMA, duo of designers, founders of the GEO-DESIGN department at the Design Academy in Eindhoven, Netherlands. The GEO-DESIGN master's degree offers access to diverse knowledge - from material history to cultural worldviews, from humanism to ecology, from plant and animal rights to artificial intelligence, from the earth's core to outer space.

#### 11.00-11.15am Break

#### 11.15am-12.30pm

STUDENT CO-CREATION - BIODIVERSITY  
Collectively imagine designs (objects or processes) that can support biodiversity within their school. Inter-school group of 4 to 6 people.

#### 12.30-1.30pm Lunch

#### 1.30-3.00pm

#### GROUP WORK PER SCHOOL ON A CHOSEN DIVERSITY ISSUE.

Choice of one or more concrete actions to be implemented in the school.

#### 3.00-3.15pm Break

#### 3.15-4.45pm

GROUP WORK PER SCHOOL ON A TOPIC A TOPIC CHOSEN FOR DIVERSITY.  
Development and co-creation among students

#### 4.45-5.00pm Break

#### 5.00-6.30pm

GROUP WORK PER SCHOOL ON A TOPIC A TOPIC CHOSEN FOR DIVERSITY.  
Development, co-creation and preparation of a short presentation

#### 6.30-7.00pm

#### CLOSING / INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN STUDENTS

### SATURDAY 3 APRIL

#### 09.00-11.00am FINAL REPORT

ALL STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE WORKSHOP PRESENT THEIR PROPOSALS  
imagined during the workshop to improve diversity in their school through design

#### 11.00-11.15am Break

#### 11.15am-12.00pm

#### FINAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Thank you for the help of the Virtual Care Lab and Anjali Lynn Nath Upadhyay of Liberation Spring.

#### REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Three-day workshop: to be a design student (limited space)

Online broadcast of the lectures / case studies: open to all

(no limit of places)

#### FEES

Free on registration

#### Link for registration

<https://forms.gle/1WKSHECmcZchunNU9>