



EUTOPIA -

The Knowledge Bazaar

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Institutional Abbreviations

Univerza v Ljubljani	UL	
Vrije Universiteit Brussel	VUB	
CY Cergy Paris Université	CY	
Göteborgs Universitet	GU	
Universitat Pompeu Fabra	UPF	
University of Warwick	UoW	



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1. Description

The Eutopia Knowledge Bazaar is a virtual space where ideas take shape. An evocative meeting point for art and science. A marketplace of knowledge open to society and devoted to exhibit the ultimate results of research carried out by the six member universities of Eutopia. A space of creation itself, where research is presented through experimental, audio-visual formats that are, by themselves, artistic investigation products. It invites the user to enter and browse among a myriad of images and sounds which disclose cutting-edge discoveries through innovative productions.

Each Eutopia university presents between one and three Knowledge Bazaar projects based on a selection of their significant research projects. The projects cover different disciplines and areas of knowledge, and have (a potential for) remarkable impact on society. For each project, a group of Eutopian students presents the process, the methodology and/or the outcomes of the research. The challenge is to expound the project in an audio-visual artistic manner, adding a cultural dimension to the research. Every audio-visual clip -of no more than 5 minutes- is to be complemented by a short textual description of the project. The goal, therefore, is for the video clips not to literally replicate the contents of the research, as in traditional scientific dissemination, but to produce a creative extension of the research.

Beside the research teams and the group of students, the Bazaar involves other agents. Essentially, the so-called art merchants. An art merchant is a tutoring figure specialised in the field of video-art creation, which helps students with the conceptualisation and production of the videos. Moreover, other agents participate: teachers, cultural and artistic institutions, and the Eutopian Knowledge Hubs themselves.

The Knowledge Bazaar's ambition is to create a dynamic community to ultimately foster curiosity and active involvement. The launching of the Eutopia Knowledge Bazaar is conceived as a live online experience supported by contemporary art museums in the different home cities of the Eutopia universities. The launch event broadcast some of the results of the Bazaar and convene artists and scientists to participate in a "six-points debate exchange." The event was designed in such a manner which could also allow for inclusion of some call-for-action activities or a hands-on dynamic session of in situ co-creation.

The Eutopia "Science & Arts Knowledge Bazaar: A Marketplace of Wisdom" was held on the 21 of June, 2022, streaming live from six different locations in or connected to the six participating Eutopia Universities. This website contains all the information on the event.



2. Projects

The Eutopia Knowledge Bazaar Demo Day included nine different projects from the six participating Eutopia universities. They concerned research projects from a variety of fields of knowledge: artificial intelligence, biomedicine, civil engineering, education, music technology, philosophy and the humanities in general, psychology, public health, sociology, etc. Here is a very brief summary of each of the proposals and the names of the contributors in each:

1. The INWORK Pilots: Workplace Mental Health Support for the West Midlands (UoW)

The <u>INWORK trials</u> are the initial pilot studies of four early interventions (SLEEP, REST, MENTOR, and BITE) to improve workforce mental health and productivity as part of the Mental Health and Productivity Pilot program. The project is being led by WMG at the University of Warwick, in partnership with the University of Birmingham and Mind, the mental health charity.

Contributors' names and institutions: Caroline Meyer, Nicole Tang, Lukasz Walasek, Talar Moukhtarian, Charlotte Kershaw, Krishane Patel, Sophie Tyerman, Anna Wallace-Hurley, Aggie Payne, Tabitha Jackson, Carla Toro (University of Warwick, WMG), Sean Russel (Coventry University).

Just Response and Recovery to COVID-19 in Informal Urban Settlements (UoW)

The University of Warwick, Open University and Slum Dwellers International (SDI) have published the policy findings of an AHRC-funded project that captured the experiences of young people during the pandemic and their recommendations for a just and resilient urban future. Living in informal settlements across eight African cities, young people working as part of SDI's youth federation led the recording of video diaries and interviews and participated in focus groups facilitated by SDI and UK researchers.

Contributors' names and institutions: Keith Hyams, Oyinlola Oyebode and Morten Byskov (University of Warwick), Arabella Fraser (Open University).

3. Coventry Creates (UoW)

Coventry was UK City of Culture 2021. At the start of the pandemic, the University Partnership between the University of Warwick and Coventry University recognised that the cultural industries faced venue closures, job losses and funding withdrawal. In response, they designed and funded a new project, Coventry Creates, in order to support collaborations between local artists and university researchers, bringing new perspectives and new audiences to academic work. In the last two years, the project has engaged with 30 pieces of research across multiple disciplines and produced 30 creative responses reflecting key issues and themes across the local region. The projects exhibited deal with topics such as loneliness and solitude, palliative care, and the increasing autonomy and infiltration of artificial intelligence into daily life.

Contributors' names and institutions: Jackie Hodgson and India Holme (University of Warwick).



4. Mindblowers (VUB)

The separation of art and science is an important feature of modern life – but it also constitutes a critical loss. With Mindblowers, the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the Flemish Royal Theatre (KVS) aim to reconnect different disciplines, bridging sometimes disparate elements and bringing them back into proximity. The Mindblowers exhibition follows five events and a book publication.

Contributing artists and scientists: Irene Gutièrrez, Fien Leysen, Niels de Winter, Karine Van Doninck, Caroline Vincart and David Bade. Special thanks to Lynn Tytgat, Catherine Vervaecke, Michael De Cock and Ian Komac.

5. Innovation through Artistic Representation at the University of Ljubljana (UL)

At the University of Ljubljana, our aim was to include students from various fields and backgrounds for the Knowledge Bazaar exhibition for a project including artistic representations of two chosen technologies: Hydrodynamic cavitation wastewater treatment (in cooperation with the Faculty of Engineering) and Ear & Eye identification (in cooperation with the Faculty of Computer and Information Science). Each of the concepts was created by the students and carefully guided towards successful implementation.

Contributors' names and institutions: Student teams of University of Ljubljana and mentors, dr. Jure Ahtik and Andrej Učakar, Jurij Gostiša, Benjamin Bizjan, Mojca Zupanc, Brane Širok, Žiga Emeršič, Blaž Meden, Vitomir Štruc and Peter Peer.

6. LUA, To the Future We Leave Behind (UPF)

This project is a creative reinterpretation in the form of an expository essay, with references coming from immersive exhibitions and science fiction cinema and which features luminescent aesthetics. Through LUA's speech (LUA being some sort of microscopic God that intervened in life's origin) it is shown that our planet stays in harmony thanks to symbiosis, which human beings are constantly altering, either willingly or unwillingly. In order to prevent our own destruction, and that of the rest of our living system, it is now time to act before we reach a point of no return.

Artists' names and institutions: Álida Rodríguez Batista, Laia Vila Robledo, Àlex Collado Serra (1), Eduardo Rodríguez Batista (Scientific advisor) (2) / (1) Audiovisual Communication Graduate, Pompeu Fabra University. (2) Predoctoral researcher at the University of La Laguna on an academic visit at Pompeu Fabra University.



Scientists' names and institutions: Xavier Serra (3), John Palmer (4), Marc Güell (5) / Pompeu Fabra University: (3) Department of Information and Communications Technologies. (4) Department of Political Science and Sociology. (5) Department of Biomedicine.

7. The Islands of Identity (UPF)

The project seeks to create a space for meditation on the body and its possibilities. Thanks to virtual reality goggles, spectators travel across the sea to the different islands of identity, which will ask us questions and make us think about who we are... Our time is marked by a strong need to understand what makes us constitute ourselves as we really are. In a world of images, idealised representations, and accelerated consumerism.

Artists' names and institutions: Ariadna Nuñez, Laia Caballero, Alberto Garrido and Dani Marzo (Universitat Pompeu Fabra).

8. Diffractive Drawing to Research Material-Based Processes (GU)

The methodology for this study is an entanglement of philosophic, artistic and scientific approaches to enquiring material and discursive aspects of students' analogue modelling and sketching investigations of theories and ideas that they deal with in their art studies. The study aims to develop current understanding of what material (human and non-human) and spatial aspects do as part of processes of knowing, to hopefully intensify the discussion about how higher education is prepared and implemented. For this presentation, the diffractive drawing will be used.

Contributors' names and institutions: Camilla Johansson Bäcklund (HDK-Valand, Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts, University of Gothenburg).

9. Proteody (CYU)

This project is part of a reflection on the point of view on "genodics" and "proteody". With a set of shots and notes in immersion with Olivier Gallet in the laboratory of the ERRMECe research unit, the project set out to meet "proteody" (a mixture of "protein" and "melody"), a science that challenges us by its ambiguity between the arts and music.

Contributors' names and institutions: Emma Crémier, Emma Fleury-Cancouet and Joana Peralta, advised by Charlotte Charbonnel and Olivier Gallet (CY Cergy Paris Université - École nationale supérieure d'arts de Paris-Cergy).



3. Calendar

The Eutopia Knowledge Bazaar was planned to cover the three-year span of the Eutiopia 2050 project:

- Year 1 (2020): Defining the concept
- Year 2 (2021): Creating the activity; selecting researchers and students; making the necessary academic adjustments with Faculty and Academic Management
- Year 3 (2022): Materialising, implementing, and disseminating the project



4. Demo Day: 21 June 2022

4.1. Features

All preparation for the Knowledge Bazaar from 2000 to 2022, as reflected in the calendar, converged on the Demo Day that was held on 21 June 2022. The central venue for the exhibition and performance was the <u>IDEAL Digital Arts Centre</u> in Barcelona. The event lasted about 2 hours and 15 minutes and it was attended by about 35 people on site and a substantial number of people watched the event live through streaming.

The organization was led by UPF, with the collaboration of the other participating Eutopia universities. The event was filmed and broadcast by the Eutopia Communications Office at CYU. It was streamed through the <u>Eutopia Youtube channel</u> and recorded as well, so the <u>event</u> can be watched on-line on demand. There have been over 200 views on the Eutopia YouTube channel.

4.2. Structure of the Demo Day

- Presentation: Mónica Bello, Head of Arts at CERN, Switzerland, and Manel Jiménez, VR for Culture and Communication at UPF.
- Touring of each project (video + live exhibition)
- Videos or live audience's reaction
- Closing remarks: Marcel·lí Antúnez, founder of La fura dels baus and mechatronic artist, who also carried out a unique performance



5. Budget

Video production: 3000 euros x university, which could be used to create up to 3 videos (1000 euros x video)

Screening and additional costs: 1.400 x university

Total cost for each university: 4.400 euros

Total cost for the alliance: 26.400 euros



6. Online resources

More information:

 $Website: \underline{\text{https://eutopia-university.eu/english-version/research/knowledge-bazaar}}$

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBtMStwn5WA