

Creative Connections

An AnthroArt Conference on Anthropology, Art and Action

Exploring paths towards a more inclusive world

November 4th – Mezanin, Palatul Universul, Bucharest

INVITATION

Unusual intersections can take us down new and powerful paths to explore social inclusion.

The path of anthropology creates understanding, brings insight and invites new ways of thinking about complex and systemic challenges. The path of action creates practical and tangible results into righting inequalities and providing relief in unbalanced, unequal systems. The path of art touches the heart, elevates the spirit and builds bridges across differences.

What might they teach and inform each-other when they come together and connect? Might it be that the power of an anthropological insight amplifies the force of an intervention? Might it be that a practical challenge of tackling inequality provides the seeds for a new question to direct the gaze of the anthropologist? Might it be that a touching piece of art amplifies and carries both the anthropological insight and the practical challenge to the eyes and hearts of communities?

These questions are sitting at the core of this conference.

Are you an anthropologist researching or studying the topic of inequality and social inclusion? Are you an organisation working to right social inequalities? Are you an artist interested to contribute to social inclusion?

Come join us for this one-day conference in Bucharest.

We are inviting scholars, NGOs and artists to showcase their work in the space of social inclusion and explore together where these unusual intersections might take us.

We will also share the first fruits of our AnthroArt project, showing how we brought together anthropology, art and action to engage with the themes of inequality and inclusion across three geographies: Romania, the Netherlands and Portugal.

Participation is free, based on [registration here](#). More information about AnthroArt [here](#).

PROGRAMME

10:00 – 10:30 *Registration and welcome*

PART 1 – Setting the scene: [AnthroArt](#) in a wider context

We reveal the background of the project, touching on the aims of the Creative Europe Programme that provided funding and the process of preparing our proposal. We introduce the partners and we say a few words about what we do, how we came together and why.

10:30 – 10:40 **Introduction**

10:40 – 11:05 [Corina Enache](#) and [Rosalie Post](#) – [Namla](#) (the Netherlands)

11:05 – 11:25 [Daniel Alves](#) and [Augusto Ferreira](#) – [Ambigramma](#) (Portugal)

11:30 – 11:55 [Maria Rădan-Papasima](#) – [Antropedia](#) (Romania)

PART 2 – Art showcase: connecting anthropology and art

An exhibition of artworks inspired by anthropology will be featured at the venue, in the presence of some of the artists who contributed, including over 35 illustrations created during the first year of our project.

12:00 – 13:00 **Tour of the exhibition and video projections**

13:00 – 14:00 *Coffee break and light lunch with salty and sweet pastry made by [MamaPan Bakery](#) – a social economy project that creates jobs for women coming from vulnerable groups.*

PART 3 - Anthropological insights on inequality and action for social inclusion

Anthropologists that bridge the worlds of academia and practice share their insights about applied anthropology and its role in building more inclusive societies.

14:00 – 14:25 [Dr. L.G.H. \(Laurens\) Bakker](#), associate professor at the Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands

On developing an applied anthropology programme at the University of Amsterdam, on the value of anthropology for society and its potential role in the NGO sector (video).

14:25 – 14:50 **[Dr. Irina Zamfirescu](#)**, lecturer at The Faculty of Sociology and Social Work Sociology Department, University of Bucharest, Romania

On engaged anthropology, housing inequalities and supporting victims of evictions in Bucharest.

14:50 – 15:15 **[Dr. Oana Ivan](#)**, visual anthropologist and lecturer at The Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeş-Bolyai University (Cluj, Romania)

On the involvement of Roma communities in flood risk management and collaborative approaches with local authorities.

15:15 – 15:40 **[Beatrice Manole](#)**, Advocacy Coordinator, Ateliere fără Frontiere, MA in Anthropology, the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania

On how anthropology can play a role in the way NGOs design their projects.

15:40 – 16:10 *Coffee break*

PART 4 – Connections: an open debate

The debate will follow questions proposed by the AnthroArt team as well as by members of the audience related to the role of anthropology in applied settings that tackle inequality, also including a focus on the value of the intersections between art and anthropology.

16:10 – 17:40 **Roundtable with the speakers and artists**

Closing & next steps

Final remarks and announcing the theme and highlights of the AnthroArt project in 2024.

17:40 – 18:00 **Closing speech from the AnthroArt team**