

Invitation

Art and Innovation: The Future of Interdisciplinarity

The Netherlands Study Centre for Technology Trends (STT) and Het Nieuwe Instituut cordially invite you to attend Art and Innovation: The Future of Interdisciplinarity, on 19 March at Het Nieuwe Instituut in Rotterdam.



Again and again, research reveals that by itself technology plays a rather modest role in innovation. Dealing with the truly complex challenges of the future requires an open mind and a broad perspective. Of course, research & development and patents are important, but so are creative thinking, clever management and the ability to connect the seemingly incompatible.

Interdisciplinarity is what we need, is often suggested. An approach that does not promote pigeonholing, but that takes the idea, that innovation depends on bridging disciplines, as its starting point.

By itself, this ideal of interdisciplinarity, in the context of innovation, is not a new one. The emergence of mono-disciplines and hyper-specialization has been criticized extensively. But what makes more recent debates on the matter particularly interesting is this idea that art and artistic practice play an important role in innovation. An idea worth exploring in greater detail, we figured.

Join us on March 19, 2014 for a lively afternoon of connecting art practice to innovation, and probing the future of interdisciplinarity.

We will address questions like:

Wherein exactly lies the value of being between (inter) disciplines? What can we really expect from interdisciplinarity? It adds complexity, but does it help to see through complexities as well?

And how does art fit in there? Is art yet another discipline, is art what binds other disciplines together, or is art above all a perspective? Can art help to deliver easy solutions or is the relation between art and innovation (fundamentally) different from that?

Art and Innovation: The Future of Interdisciplinarity is an initiative of The Netherlands Study Centre for Technology Trends (STT) and Het Nieuwe Instituut. For STT, March 19 marks the end of a foresight study in which new relations between art, science and technology were explored. Het Nieuwe Instituut will adopt the findings of these explorations, and will apply them in the development of their practice-based researches.

During *Art and Innovation: The Future of Interdisciplinarity* we will discuss the findings of the STT foresight study, reflect on interdisciplinary, artistic approaches to societal problems and engage in a debate on the relation between art and innovation.

In short

What: The Future of Interdisciplinarity

When: Wednesday, March 19 (13.30 -17.00h + drinks)

Where: Het Nieuwe Instituut, Museumpark 25, Rotterdam

Who to contact: please direct your questions to Annette Potting (potting@stt.nl)

What else: free admittance (registration required), language English

Seats are limited! Please register [here](#) for participation and you will receive updates on the programme.

Looking forward to meeting you on March 19 in Rotterdam,

Guus Beumer, directeur-bestuurder Het Nieuwe Instituut

Jacco van Uden, project manager Foresight Study on Art, Science and Technology