

Topic of the Year 2011 | 2012

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

ArteFacts. KNOWLEDGE IS ART – ART IS KNOWLEDGE

How do the arts conduct research? Is there such a thing as intuition in science? How closely or remotely related are science and art and what exactly justifies this strict differentiation? What is the relationship between synthetic biology and transgenic art? Might the arts provide solutions to problems, which existing value systems and conceptual categories cannot adequately address? Where exactly do science and art come in contact with one another? How do artistic and scientific disciplines differ in terms of their strategies for constructing reality? And finally, in what areas can art and science join forces to address the challenges facing society in the future?

"ArteFacts. Knowledge is Art – Art is Knowledge" is the Topic of the Year 2011|2012, presented by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, which aims to reassess the relationship between art and science. The merging of art and science in theoretical discourse along with concrete collaboration between scientists and artists offer new opportunities for identifying and discussing problematic social issues. Investigating similarities and differences in the process of understanding are just as important as re-evaluating role models, styles of thinking and conventions, which promote or hamper the search for new ideas on both sides. Over a period of two years, the Topic of the Year will provide scholars an opportunity to further study and probe the relationship between science and art, and invite individuals from a wide range of fields to share their opinions on the subject.

The "Topic of the Year" programme was established by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities in 2007 and is committed to promoting dialogue between the sciences and society. Its first goal is to inform the public about the Academy's research projects and encourage discussion. Secondly, it strives to bundle the activities of scientific and cultural institutions in Berlin and Brandenburg into one thematic complex, and in so doing, sustainably strengthen the regional network.

The Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities invites you to actively participate in the Topic of the Year and explore the many facets of the relationship between science and art!