Koizumi, Motohiro, Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan

Transformation in the Connections between Art and the Local Community in 1990s - 2000s: With Reference to Social Engaged Art in Community Arts Projects

The purpose of this report is to discuss the relationship between civil society and the arts in recent years. Since the 1990s, community based socio-political activities such as social engaged art, or collaboration art, have been increasing in number. Notable characteristics of these activities are that they are focused on political issues such as region development.

On the basis of field research into community arts projects, including the artists, directors and residents, the author argues that the relationship between society and the arts projects is being reformatted with the rapid progress of cultural, economical and political globalization. Through these arguments, the report provides considerations how arts projects and civil society are inter-connected and also discusses what is necessary to gain a good balance in the relationship between the arts and society.