

Helena Barbosa

Joana Quental

conference proceedings



2nd International Conference
**Art, Illustration and Visual Culture
in Infant and Primary Education**

Creative processes and childhood-oriented cultural discourses

2º Congreso Internacional
**Arte, Ilustración y Cultura Visual
en Educación Infantil y Primaria**

**Processos creativos e discursos culturais
orientados a la infancia**

2º Congresso Internacional
**de Arte, Ilustração e Cultura Visual
na Educação Infantil e Primária**

**Processos criativos e discursos culturais
orientados para a infância**



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Presentation *Presentación*

Helena Barbosa Conference Chair

Welcome to the 2nd International Conference – Art, Illustration and Visual Culture in Infant and Primary Education and welcome to Aveiro. The first conference was held in 2010 organized by the Painting Department of the University of Granada.

In this second edition the topics proposed were centred in the design field, because the Communication and Art Department of the University of Aveiro offers Graduation, MSc and PhD in Design. The main subject selected for this conference was “Creative processes and childhood-oriented cultural discourses”.

Considering the Design Course had the need to establish a field where the discipline could claim its independence, led to the reflection on all contributions generated accordingly. Among them, the triangular model - authoring, technology and program - presented by Professor and Designer Francisco Providência excelled. The proposed sub-themes reflect those concepts and new ones. In this sense, were selected the issues related with **(Memory and Memories)**, **(Author and Authors)**, **(Project and Projects)**, **(Technology and Technologies)** and **(New Approaches to Education)**. The aim was bring to light histories, experiences, ideas, creative practices and processes related with childhood. In this process there was a team integrated by the University of Aveiro (Portugal) with Helena Barbosa and Joana Quental, and three representatives of the first edition of the Conference held in Granada (Spain, 2010) with María Reyes González from the University of Granada, Fernando Hernández Hernández from the University of Barcelona and Imanol Aguirre from University of Navarra. The group worked privileging not only the essence of the previous conference, but also wanted to keep the aims to identify the successive editions of the Conferences (as regards the general topics of interest, the approach, the axis of work and the format).

Given the specificity of the issues of this conference there were invited four keynote speakers – Henrique Cayatte, Marisol Anguita, Eileen Adams and Francisco Providência – whose interests of knowledge and research are reflected in the fields of illustration, design, draw and education. The conference provided two discussion panels with the keynote speakers in order to promote reflection and debate with the public around the subjects presented.

There was a strong response in our call for papers considering the short time that was given, with nearly 120 abstracts, and were selected 105 submissions. There were represented eleven countries - Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Italy, Japan, Poland, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom and United States. Unfortunately, due to the global economical crisis we assisted a decreasing number of registrations, nearly 80, preventing the dissemination of research from many speakers, and opened a lot of constraints to the organization. Despite this, there was a particular interest around this Conference, where signed up people only as assistant, revealing the relevance and importance of this event.

Several initiatives have occurred since the first Conference through the commitment of María Reyes González Director of this first edition with Miguel Ángel Moleón with the publication



of papers presented at the first Conference that were published in the scientific journal “Invisibilidades”; the representation of Spain hosting a workshop at the 4th World Children's Festival held in Washington DC, following perspectives presented at the first International Conference; the launch of the new website with the history of the Art, Illustration, Illustration and Visual Culture in Infant and Primary Education conferences; and finally with new edition of a book only with selected articles presented in the first Conference. The Organization of this Conference is also establishing contacts to proceed to the publication of the best papers presented at this event.

Continuing with the biannual development of this International Conference, I'm also pleased to announce the next event will take place on 2014 at the National School of Fine Arts, University of Republic, Montevideo, Uruguay, under the coordination of Fernando Miranda and his Research Group on “Visual Culture, Education and Construction of Identity”.

Helena Barbosa

University of Aveiro
Department of Communication and Art



Art, Illustration and Visual Culture in Infant and Primary Education: themes presentation

Joana Quental Conference Co-Chair

Complexity, plurality and multiplicity are often used to describe contemporaneity. Authors such as Edgar Morin, Anthony Giddens, Thomas Luckmann, Peter Berger and Zygmunt Bauman converge on one point: *modernity is complex*.

From their approaches emerges the idea that in our days, a collective identity presumes the congregation of multiple individual identities.

Taking this propositions as a starting point for the *2nd International Conference – Art, Illustration and Visual Culture in Infant and Primary Education*, we are interested in discussing how these aspects determine today's design and visual culture: the transitory balances that every project aims to achieve and in a broader perspective, how this relationship unfolds the past, builds on the present and is projected into the future.

The 1st theme, **Memory and Memories**, intends to discuss the uniqueness of each person as a seed of collective identity, but also the influence of a collective memory on individual memories and the influence of these cultural discourses in childhood. Identities, individual and social play; construction and statement of the *self*; the desire to design in order to interact and communicate with others; affection and iconic memory as references; and the relationship between iconic memory and visual culture as a means of knowledge acquisition.

The 2nd theme, **Author and Authors** addresses the issue of the individual expressions that perform a collective significance. These expressions represent different ways of seeing, feeling, communicate and design – materialized in artifacts. Contributions related with the relevance of the authorship as a reference in the construction of self-identity and cultural discourses; the author's presence in the interpretation of reality and in the creation of fiction; the importance of personal experiences of artists, designers and educators when communicating and designing for children are debated in this theme.

The 3rd theme, **Project and Projects**, deals with the drawings and projects involved in shaping a greater idea of Drawing and Design. This issues discusses topics such as the relationship between design, typography and illustration and how these are fundamental in children's design, focusing on: the representation and the communication of an idea; typography as image; text versus illustration; image vs. interpretation; drawing in design and drawing as art (from symbolic to symptomatic).

With 4th theme, **Technology and Technologies**, we intend to discuss the importance and the influence of means, technologies and processes in the creation of different expressions. As Francisco Providência says, we are interested in *poetic* and *poietic* uses of technology as means of bringing on innovation. Topics such as drawing techniques and materials, artifacts production and technology, as a way to achieve a desired outcome will be discussed in this theme.

The 5th and last theme, **New Approaches to Education**, intends to discuss the engagement with experimental pedagogy. This includes contributions centered on new approaches in



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education, related with design, typography, image and playful learning, exploring the means of representation as a form of analysis / criticism / synthesis models – in order to promote a healthy growth that includes learning, education and play.

Moreover, we believe (and wish) that this *2nd International Conference – Art, Illustration, Illustration and Visual Culture in Infant and Primary Education* can be a pause in our busy life's and become a time for reflection, for encounter and changing experiences.

Be welcome in Aveiro and enjoy as much as you can.

Joana Quental

University of Aveiro
Department of Communication and Art