

VOL. 1 UNDISCIPLINED CONVERSATIONS

'Undisciplined Conversations,' a dynamic space for transdisciplinary dialogues between the arts, education and beyond, will take place monthly in the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy. Join us for conversation and light refreshments as we host invited guests who foster diverse research perspectives and invite our co-creating beyond our immediate disciplines. The nature of conversation is informal as we share in making vibrant ecosystems of learning together. Let us welcome a diverse community of scholars to enrich our educational discourses.

In January, we will host Marie-France Berard, Susana Vargas, and Elham Pouryamehr, distinguished scholars, practitioners, and researchers as invited speakers to share their extensive research subjects and offer insights into understanding of contemporary issues and inspire meaningful conversations, making the January event a unique opportunity for intellectual exploration and cross-disciplinary dialogue.

Together, they will open conversations about the multifaceted aspects of museum education, public awareness, and representation, providing a dynamic space to reassess and reimagine established concepts. Delving into various community and museum practices, our exploration will extend beyond traditional boundaries, prompting a reconsideration of how we approach learning in the contemporary contexts. By sharing different perspectives, this initiative aims to encourage innovative thinking and pushing the boundaries of conventional wisdom.

To join us for this NABER (Network of Arts-Based Educational Researchers) event, please reach out to Elly, elly.yazdanpanah@ubc.ca
Or feel free to drop-in on **January 31st, Wednesday, Scarfe 310 at 2:00 PM**

This event is supported by the Government of Canada's New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) [Anita Sinner, PI, NFRF-2022-00245, *Worlding Higher Education Differently: Co-creating a Technology-Art-Science Commons*].

Cet événement est soutenu par le fonds Nouvelles frontières en recherche du gouvernement du Canada [Anita Sinner, chercheuse principale, NFRF-2022-00245, *Worlding Higher Education Differently: Co-creating a Technology-Art-Science Commons*].



New Frontiers in Research Fund
Fonds Nouvelles Frontières en recherche



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada



Marie-France Berard

Marie-France Berard is an art historian who was responsible des visites at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal from 1995-2008, and gallery educator at the Vancouver Art Gallery from 2009-2020. At the University of British Columbia, she teaches in the undergraduate and graduate programs in arts and museum education. Her research interests encompass contemporary art theory, the historiography of art and museum education in Canada, the notion of the Deleuzian 'mediator', and in creating culturally relevant pedagogical spaces of encounters through the arts and in attunement with place. Marie-France is president and chair of the SIG on Education & Mediation in Museums at CSEA, and co-editor of the *Canadian Art teacher*.

Susana Vargas

Susana Vargas-Mejia has extensive experience in digital strategies and communications in cultural and educational institutions across Latin America, including the Bogota Museum of Modern Art - MAMBO. Specializing in developing digital strategies for art education and mediation within museum settings, she also holds a teaching position at the Department of Art History at the University of the Andes in Bogotá, focusing on art museums' digital challenges and opportunities. Additionally, Susana is involved in independent research, exploring topics such as museum education, digital strategy, the intersection of social media and culture, digital frontiers in museum practice, counter-monuments and pedagogy, as well as arts-based research methods.



Elham Puriya Mehr

Elham Puriya Mehr is an independent curator and lecturer based in Vancouver on unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. She received her BA and MA from Tehran University of Art, her Ph.D. in Art Research from Alzahra University, and completed her postdoctoral at Advanced Practice from Goldsmiths, University of London. Her research focuses on the potentiality of 'learning' in social spaces that generate new vocabularies, new practices, and new knowledge through the possibility of 'events.' She has worked internationally as an educator, curator, and writer over the past seventeen years, and presented at conferences, and symposiums, and delivered talks at international venues. She is co-founder of Empty Space Studio, a non-profit nomadic platform based in Tehran and Vancouver.

