Zurich University of the Arts (since 2007)

Does disciplinary diversity produce interdisciplinarity?

3 Steps

- Merger of Schools (2007)
- A new building (2014)
- Study reform (2022)

2007: Merger of the two colleges for design / fine arts and for music / theater / dance

- >**ZURICH UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS – 5 Departements**
  - Design
  - Theater, Film, Dance
  - Fine Arts
  - Cultural Analysis
  - Music

„A Future for the Arts"

I. Hopes and Dreams and Expectations…

- Structural reform
- New organisation
- new units / processes
- new financing
- 32 locations in two cities
- many interesting discussions
- few results

2014   **Campus Toni-Areal Zurich**   *One* Building for the Arts

II. Getting to know each other in daily life

- Personal encounters
- People get to know each other
- Curiosity arises
- Exchange of experiences and competences
- Joint use of infrastructure becomes possible
- Joint projects emerge – such as…

Immersive Arts Space

The Immersive Arts Space is a university-wide art/tech lab that serves as a research, teaching and production platform. With innovative and multidisciplinary projects, the team of the IASpace conducts a technologically-supported artistic examination of digital immersion, mixed realities and the convergence of media-based and performative practices. The activities in the IASpace are oriented towards contemporary aesthetic and methodological directions in international design and art and are primarily based on artistic (practice-based) research.

The key areas of the Immersive Arts Space are motion capture, projection mapping, volumetric capture and spatial audio. The equipment is characterized by a juxtaposition of highly professional technology on the one hand and consumer products on the other. Open source software is an important aspect in the development of new projects.

IMMERSIVE ARTS AND DIGITAL DAYS

The ZHdK Talent Talk on **November 4th 2021,** in the context of Swiss Digital Days features two presentations by emerging talents Stella Speziali and Chris Elvis Leisi from the Immersive Arts Space [more].

COMING UP: REFRESH#4

Spatial Dis/Continuities in Telematic Performances

Unraveling distributed space through 3D-audio, embodiment and Spatial Augmented Reality

Institute for Computer Music and Sound Technology (ICST)

But still…

- Language and communication difficulties
- Different qualitative perceptions, ignorance of disciplinary conditions
- Everyone is busy
- Lack of pressure from one's own area
- Ideologisation of the interdisciplinary
- A certain weariness due to the constant demand: be interdisciplinary!

III. Opening the Doors

- Removal of the fences
- Enabling permeability instead of forcing it

>>> Study reform!

Majors and Minors

- disciplinary majors (150 ECTS BA / 30 ECTS MA)
- interdisciplinary choice of minors (15 / 30 ECTS)

In ten years from now, our alumni will be working in professional fields unknown today. The skills in demand in the future will be more diverse, more individual and more cross-disciplinary. To enable graduates to meet future professional requirements and ways of working, we have fundamentally reformed our programmes.

leave it up to the students

- **Deepening and Specialization**
  Students can specialize within their subject area by studying one of its sub-areas in depth.

- **Expansion and Supplementation**
  Students can acquire knowledge, skills and competences in another field or a specific subject area.

- **Individual Area of Study:** In their individual area of study, students select individual modules. They focus on individual goals or on a project. Students may pursue an individual area of study instead of taking a minor.

# The study content becomes lush

hdk
Zürcher Hochschule der Künste
Zurich University of the Arts

DE / EN   Watchlist

All Major and Minors

Find your individual favourite! Our configurator provides an overview of all Bachelor-level majors and minors. Filter by disciplines, interests and competences to find an individual selection of suitable programmes.

Master's programmes will be announced in autumn 2022.

Search   Filter

Bachelor   Master   Watchlist

Some conclusions

- Interdisciplinarity is not an ideology, it is not "the future", but it contains the future, or its solutions to problems.

- Immersion is a key: an embodied way of understanding the world and removing the material / digital divide

- Critical approach to technology: it is not the content of the work, but a mediator of important questions (critical-technical practice)

- Quality is crucial: outcomes still have to meet disciplinary standards

- Interdisciplinarity does not arise by itself - or at most on a small scale. It needs the organisational space for it and incentives.

Implementation from 2022 –
still Hopes and Dreams