

# SENSUOUS KNOWLEDGE 3

An International Working Conference

on Fundamental Problems of Artistic Research and Development

at Solstrand, Norway 8 Nov – 10 Nov 2006

## Developing a Discourse

**Now is the time to register**

«A high-powered conversation or ideas exchange» – this is the description one of the 70 participants – artists, designers, and academic staff in higher art and design education – gave of last year's *Sensuous Knowledge* conference. And now the Bergen National Academy of the Arts (Kunsthøgskolen i Bergen, KHiB) is once again preparing its annual international conference at Solstrand, close to Bergen, Norway. Also this time it will be a conference with a few agenda setting key note speeches, but first of all with ample time for discussing examples of artistic research and development presented by the participants in the working groups.

The first *Sensuous Knowledge* conference was held in October 2004. Its subtitle, «Creating a Tradition», pointed to the double aim of the whole series: to develop ways of talking about, analyzing and evaluating various kinds of artistic R&D, and to consider the special character of cognition related to artistic creativity.

The 2005 conference, subtitled «Aesthetic Practice and Aesthetic Insight», focused on the latter aim. Presentations and discussions centered around the question whether artistic R&D should take the natural sciences as a model, try to develop strict methods and hope for new, factual and generalizable knowledge, or whether it should rather gather inspiration from the humanities, develop hermeneutic methods and try to provide some kind of broader insight.

With the subtitle «Developing a Discourse» we want this year's *Sensuous Knowledge* conference to focus on – and maybe experiment with – various ways of presenting, arguing about, and reflecting on examples of artistic R&D. And while the 2005 conference was concerned with the boundary between artistic R&D and traditional research, the 2006 one will treat the relationship of artistic R&D to art and design as such. We expect presenters to address the question what makes their work an example of R&D and not (only) a work of art or a design product. And we expect the discussions in the groups to start from here. Maybe the difference is not so much between the actual products, but rather lies in the way we talk about them? Maybe the difference is a question of discourse?

Once again the most important part of the conference is the discussions in the working groups. All participants are also going to meet to attend to and discuss a few key note speeches and presentations in plenary sessions. Three plenary sessions with international speakers are being planned. The website of the conference ([www.khib.no](http://www.khib.no)) will be updated in June/July with information about the key note speakers and a list of group presentations.

To secure the possibility of open discussions even in the plenary sessions (and to preserve the format of a working conference) we have decided to set a limit of 70 participants, divided into four working groups, each gathered around 5-6 presentations. This means that we have only found room in the programme for about one half of the many interesting proposals that we had received by the deadline in May of our call for presentations. And it also means that we cannot guarantee all of you who may want to participate in the conference without doing a presentation, that there will be room for everybody. If we have to choose between interested participants, we shall not only use the «First come, first served» principle, but also try to compose groups whose members can be expected to have valuable exchanges of views etc. for the benefit of us all.

### **Practical information:**

The conference takes place at Solstrand Hotel ([www.solstrand.com](http://www.solstrand.com)), a beautiful place at Os, right on the fjord, 40 minutes south of Bergen (about 30 minutes by bus or cab from Flesland airport). All participants have to arrange and pay for their voyage themselves.

The conference will start with lunch on Wednesday, 8 November, and end with lunch on Friday, 10 November.

The conference fee of **NOK 5.000** includes board and lodging at the hotel (single room). Invoice will be sent by mail.

With this we want to invite practitioners from all art disciplines (including design and performative arts) to register their interest in participating in the working conference «Sensuous Knowledge 3: Developing a Discourse».

**Deadline for registering is 13 September 2006 and you will be informed whether your participation has been accepted by 2 October.**

#### **Please register by filling in:**

- Name
- Invoice address
- Phone
- E-mail
- Occupation/position
- Institution
- Subject area/art form

**Submit it to: [tlo@khib.no](mailto:tlo@khib.no)**

Please note that cancellation of your participation is only possible before 20 October. After that date board and lodging has to be paid in full.

### **Bergen National Academy of the Arts (KHIB)**

Bergen National Academy of the Arts is one of the two independent institutions of higher learning in the visual arts and design in Norway. KHIB has three departments: Department of Fine Art; Department of Design; and Department of Specialised Art. Students can take a three-year Bachelor degree and a two-year Master degree in the following areas: visual art; interior architecture; furniture design; spatial design; visual communications; photography; printmaking; ceramics and textiles. KHIB has 300 students and a staff of 100, full-time and part-time.

[www.khib.no](http://www.khib.no)



**Kunsthøgskolen i Bergen**  
Bergen National Academy of the Arts