

Proposal for GUS Academic Summit

AI in Education

Authenticity: Human Creativity in the times of Artificial Intelligence

Have you noticed the growing trend around us where people strive to find their true, authentic self? Striving for *awareness* and to be *present in the moment* instead of being lost in the apps, social media and the digital world? Is AI going to make things even worse or everyone is just overreacting?

Authenticity -a rather obsolete term until recently- seems to be back in our vocabulary. There are reasons for this and it is worth looking into it, particularly, in education. The latter, shaped by cultural context and historical tradition, faces new complexities with the rise of Artificial Intelligence. Far from a tabula rasa, we are as individuals "children of our era," standing "on the shoulders of giants", products of a lineage that both enables and constrains us. This proposal examines how AI tools interact with one`s creativity and ways of finding solutions. With one`s sense of authenticity, and how this could possibly be outlined. Is it personal voice, relational depth, creativity and curiosity? Can the easiness of AI tools reduce student`s critical thinking and creativity? Drawing on 20th-century philosophy, notably Heidegger`s critique of technology`s enframing and Benjamin`s warnings of mechanical reproduction`s alienating aura, it explores how AI amplifies these concerns.

Dr. Giorgos Kontis (b.1981 Athens) is a visual artist and researcher. He studied at the Athens School of Fine Arts, at the Academy of Visual Arts (AdBK) in Munich and at the University of Arts (UdK) in Berlin. He holds a MFA from the St.Joost Academy in Breda, the Netherlands, and has completed his PhD in Painting, at the Royal College of Art in London, on the notion of Authenticity. He is a lecturer at the BSBI Faculty for Creative Industries in Hamburg.