

Coupling “arts & sciences”: Inspiration and innovation to increase ocean literacy

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Projects associating "arts & sciences" are rapidly emerging both at national and international levels. For the past fifteen years, several original initiatives associating arts and science, including performance projects, artist residencies, training courses and festivals, received the support of different instances. These projects have for common objectives to share knowledge and go beyond the limits of their own disciplines to create new objects of communication and experimentation. The enthusiasm of the general public, as well as the cultural and scientific communities, for such projects confirms the major impact that these transdisciplinary approaches can have on the communication of knowledge and awareness of environmental issues, especially in the remote deep-sea. This dialogue between artists and scientists should also inspire new generation of students and early-career scientists with new perspectives on their practices, raise their awareness of transdisciplinary issues and place creativity at the heart of their scientific approach. This "arts & sciences" alliance may enhance their own disciplinary training, while enriching their ability to open up and find avenues to dialogue with others. This special session will be one of surprises and will include conferences about “art & science” initiatives in marine and deep-sea sciences in particular and including a round table with artists and scientists and why not, short performances.