

Report Disorderly Woman Alliance meeting 5 October 2023 Athens



Introduction

After successful HERStory events in Basel 2018, Barcelona February 2019 and Amsterdam December 2029 (see published reports on the website <https://www.disorderlywomen.net/>) COVID happened and we had to cancel the HERStory in Berlin!

We organised several online meetings but it was difficult to find the same momentum. We therefore decided to approach everyone on the Disorderly Women database (over 120 women leaders in the cultural sector) for their opinion about possible next steps for the Disorderly Women Alliance. We were pleased to discover that almost all those who responded wanted the initiative to continue, so we organised a think-tank meeting to address the practicalities of doing so through open a conversation.

This meeting took place in Athens on October 5th, in SIC, a gallery/artist residency based in the centre of Athens, with 9 delegates from 7 countries. Not everybody who had hoped to join us was able to do so in the end but all your responses informed our agenda.

During the meeting, we worked further on developing the Disorderly Women Manifesto, as well as discussing the future of the Disorderly Women Alliance. We include a short report below.

Warm wishes,
Carla, Chrissie, Mercedes

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Discussions

The discussions were divided in three parts:

1. *Who are we, where do we come from?* chaired by Chrissie Tiller

After an introduction on the history and context of the Disorderly Women Alliance participants shared their experiences of the specific post-covid problems they have encountered as women leaders.

2. *Towards a Manifesto*, chaired by Mercedes Giovinazzo

A draft Manifesto was discussed in three groups:

- Towards EQUALITY
- Towards SOLIDARITY
- Towards VISIBILITY

In a plenary we discussed the text that emerged in detail and you will find the endorsed Athens Manifesto attached to this report.

3. *Where are we going?* chaired by Carla Delfos

First the use of the Manifesto was agreed: it will be disseminated to all Disorderly Women we have in the database, but also it will be shared with various cultural organisations to use and implement.



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The question if the Disorderly Women Alliance should be continued (or not) did not need to be discussed long, the network is there and services a purpose, we agreed that:

- the DWA should not be called an organisation but a movement
- the topic of female leadership is one of interest but decided it felt better to focus the discussion on women *in* leadership
- as well as being intersectional we agreed the Alliance should also focus on the intergenerational, especially as the term leadership is still in transition
- we could create a private Facebook group, which would make it easy to communicate with each other and share relevant material and information.

Possible activities for the future:

- We received a generous invitation from Ana Garcia López to organise a HERStory event in Granada, where she works at the University. We are going to explore the possibilities!
- We will also explore the possibility of preparing an application for a future EU project

Participants

Mercedes Giovinazzo, Director Interarts Barcelona, Spain

Margarida Montenegro, Board Member Portuguese Museology Association, Portugal

Inês Bettencourt da Câmara, Founder Mapa das Ideias, Portugal

Ruth Jakobi, Secretary General European Music Council, Germany

Chrissie Tiller Writer, thinker, practitioner and educator, UK

Carla Delfos, Founder European League of Institutes of the Arts ELIA, Netherlands

Marlise van der Jagt, Artistic Director Dat Bolwerck, Netherlands

Cornelia Dümcke, Director Culture Concepts, Germany

Anna Ochmann, President ARTeria, Poland

