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**Academic paper (20+10 min)**

*Topics:* Contemporary artistic and art educational approaches to diversity and cultural changes

*Keywords:* gender, queer, sexuality, feminist pedagogy and research, artistic research, arts-based research

### **FAQ (Feminism and Queer/Frequently Asked Questions) in Art Education**

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This presentation features gender sensitive pedagogical and thesis research in art education. The research group consists of two university pedagogues who have studied their own epistemologies and pedagogical practices in relation to gender and sexuality sensitive art education and of a group of graduate and doctoral students who have studied art and art education framed by queer and feminist theories and pedagogies.

The university course that was closely studied was reformatted in 2015 in response to students articulating a clear need for performative pedagogy and gender/sexuality sensitive art education. Five professionals in dance, theatre and costume design have visited in this course to conduct workshops with students and faculty. Suominen and Pusa (with pedagogical contributions from Valja) continue to study the themes relating to gender and sexuality aware/sensitive art education and explore central themes related to the topic in the introduction chapter.

The presented thesis research varies in their theoretical and research approach as well as in regards to their artistic orientation. All of the studies utilize art, visual culture or social media and all of them in their unique ways question normative practices in education, art, cultures, and societies.