

# Call for Papers

## ***The Art of Comparison***

6<sup>th</sup> Conference

**ESA Research Network for the Sociology of the Arts**

Rotterdam, The Netherlands

November 3-5, 2004

The 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Research Network for the Sociology of the Arts of ESA (European Sociological Association) will be held November 3-5, 2004, at Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The Department for the Study of the Arts and Culture will host the conference on the occasion of its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The conference programme features keynote lectures, plenary discussions, paper sessions, and workshops. The theme of the conference, "*The Art of Comparison*", is an invitation to assess critically how the social study of the arts might be advanced through various forms of comparative research (over-time, cross-national, between different art forms, across cultural domains) and how sociologists of the arts might take advantage of approaches and insights developed outside of their own discipline, for example, within the fields of cultural economics, art history, or media and communication research.

The organizers look forward to seeing proposals for conference papers or for a workshop (e.g. around one or more recently published books, a particular research theme or approach). Topics are invited in the following and related fields:

- Art and everyday life
- Production of culture: networks, art worlds, cultural industries
- Artistic professions, practices and careers
- Distribution of high and popular art forms
- Public, non-profit and for-profit futures of the arts
- (New) technology, (new) media and the arts
- Change and continuity in the arts and cultural industries
- Cultural globalisation and the arts
- Cultural policy and national cultures
- The arts and the city
- Arts audiences, tastes and lifestyles
- Consumer society, culture and the arts
- The body and/in the arts
- Social uses of the arts
- Gender, race, ethnicity and the arts
- Art, cultural heritage and collective memory
- Mediating the arts: arts education, criticism and arts journalism
- Role and performance of arts organizations and cultural institutions
- Cross-national studies of art worlds and cultural fields
- Comparative methodology
- Theoretical and methodological issues in the sociology of the arts and culture

Proposals should be submitted **by April 15, 2004**.

They can be sent by email to: [esa.art@fhk.eur.nl](mailto:esa.art@fhk.eur.nl)

A decision on acceptance will be provided by June 15, 2004.

For a proposed paper, please provide a 400/500-word abstract (in English), which gives a clear picture of the contents of the paper. Please include a title, the name(s) of the author(s), institutional affiliation (both university and department), mailing address, and email address.

Workshops can be centred on a particular research topic or approach, but can also involve an in-depth discussion of one or two recently published books (cf., for example, the format of the ASA "author meets critics" sessions).

For a proposed workshop, please provide a 700/800-word description (in English) of the topic or the book publication(s) in question, including an explanation of the relevance of the topic or book(s) for the social study of the arts and culture. Please include the full details of the organizer as above, and in addition the names of contributors, their institutional affiliations, mailing address, and email address, and the titles and abstracts of their proposed contributions. A workshop will be scheduled for 45 tot 90 minutes, depending on the number of participants

From February 15, information updates will be posted on the website of the ESA Research Network for the Sociology of the Arts: <http://www.esa-arts.net>

For more information about the conference, please contact the current chair of the Network: Susanne Janssen (Erasmus University Rotterdam): [esa.art@fhk.eur.nl](mailto:esa.art@fhk.eur.nl)