

Arbitrio Collective

Education in Arts: Action and Counterinformation.

Who we are.

The Arbitrio collective is an artistic and educational proposal created at the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, which aims to create sensitive, aesthetic and arts-based training experiences where collaborative exercises are developed with different populations: early childhood, formal and non-formal education, senior citizens, etc. From the axis of social transformation through the constant search for dialogue, reflection and reconfiguration of new social and cultural contexts, which go through research+creation scenarios that aim to promote an empathetic, autonomous training from the visual arts.

The language that has made possible the construction of relationships with different populations has been the engraving, an analogous technique of reproduction in the graphic arts, used since ancient times to reproduce images that have been thought to be carved and later printed in a handmade way, thus providing possibilities to spread an idea, a feeling or a nonconformity massively. For Arbitrio it is essential to maintain these crafts with the aim of promoting autonomy and constant reflection of reality, seeking the contribution of the arts in the recovery of a social fabric.

In the trajectory of the collective we have experimented and investigated from the interdisciplinary perspective of education and art, a combination that generates endless possibilities in community work with different cultural, social, community, political agents, etc. It works as a didactic and social management tool, achieving a diverse, horizontal and emotional look as a powerful method to construct and deconstruct thoughts, feelings, taboos, etc.

In addition, we are a collective of visual arts graduates who have in common to discuss autonomy and horizontality in the educational processes of political, ethical and graphic formation. Such activities of the collective for more than five years have allowed us to learn and share experiences on education and co-creation processes with the communities that have given us the opportunity to work with them.

One of our experiences during the 2018-S1 and 2018-S2 semesters was developed through the Elective Subject of the National Pedagogical University called "Creation Laboratory, City and Printmaking". This educational space was created entirely from the research+creation work of the Arbitrio collective. There, we were able to make visible the interest and need of colleagues from different degrees towards the technique of engraving and with this to disseminate their expressions in different educational and personal contexts, in this way co-creation laboratories open to different ways of thinking, doing and seeing the world with the different disciplinary fields that the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional has were carried out.

We also had the opportunity to participate in a series of itinerant workshops developed jointly with the local mayor's office of Engativá, the IDR and the TAG TABU cultural center to invite the community to inhabit the neighborhood parks. The literary vegetable garden was developed, a co-creation laboratory whose objective was the elaboration of ecological inks and the reuse of materials to develop engraving and in this way generate community recycling awareness.

Another of the pedagogical/artistic experiences were the co-creation laboratories that were part of the peace professorship. In the laboratory GRABAR EN LA MEMORIA, together with the

Mothers of the False Positives (MAFAPO), Unesco and the National Pedagogical University, we focused on the artistic and political training of these social leaders through the creation of a large format engraving, in which their living memory, their feelings and experiences were captured. As a result of this work, the mothers were recognized and graduated by the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional and the UN, from the academic space, as trainers for peace chairs and an exhibition of their works was developed in the year 2021 in the Odeon space and IDARTES.

Thanks to the closeness developed with the MAFAPO collective at the National Pedagogical University, new training scenarios were possible with them, such as "Stories of resistance" collective workshop in which an artistic work was generated in the technique of engraving (woodcut) that makes visible more than 10 years of struggle against impunity for these atrocious crimes. This process was developed in the center of memory, peace and reconciliation, sponsored by the UNDP (United Nations Development Program).

The Arbitrio Collective together with the Nueva Xisqua urban vegetable garden, from Rafael Uribe Uribe, Bogota, Colombia, developed a co-creation laboratory, winner of the call Conecta tu Territorio of the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI) and the Secretary of Habitat, called Huerta Ecológica (Ecological Vegetable Garden). Where research+creation was developed around the reuse and creation of raw materials for environmentally responsible graphic arts that could be produced in community gardens, resulting in recipe books for the creation of these environmentally responsible materials.

And finally the participation in the Festival de Artes Valientes de IDARTES and habitat secretary, where we developed an itinerant school of engraving open to the entire community of Samore Park in the town of Rafael Uribe Uribe, Bogota, Colombia. The research+creation proposal on art and public space, gave rise to the first public gallery of engraving and the physical intervention of the park, through a new public furniture that gives an organic response to the conflict of gardens and dogs, by becoming a vertical gardening structure where wooden and stainless steel plates are integrated for the exhibition of works of art, which in this case were engraving matrices.

As evidence of the experience in research, creation and education developed by the Arbitrio collective, the following bibliography is configured as follows:

Academic production.

Thesis: From students for students. An educational reflection from the systematization of experiences of the Elective: laboratory of creation, engraving and the city, 2020, Huertas García, Angie Lorena

Link. <http://repositorio.pedagogica.edu.co/handle/20.500.12209/13318>

Thesis: EDUCA TU REBELDÍA. Una propuesta de formación autónoma desarrollada en el taller de grabado, con base en la experiencia pedagógica con el semillero Arbitrio, 2021, Espitia Martínez, Diego Nicolás.

Link. <http://repositorio.pedagogica.edu.co/handle/20.500.12209/17272>

Degree thesis: Pedagogical reflection of teaching practice, 2021, Paez Sanchez, Fredy Leonardo.

Link. <http://repositorio.pedagogica.edu.co/handle/20.500.12209/17289>

Thesis: Carved memories. Stories of Mrs. Zoraida in the creation laboratory "Grabar en la Memoria", 2022, Rojas Quiroga, Cristian Andrés.

Link. <http://repositorio.pedagogica.edu.co/handle/20.500.12209/18110>

Magazine Article: Art as a tool to immortalize memory, Tribuna Cultural Magazine, Issue 9, 2019, pages 6-7.

Link. https://issuu.com/revistatribunacultural/docs/9_tribuna_cultural_b

Videography.

"Carving in wood has been a way to heal": Mothers of Soacha, Colombia+20 el Espectador, report, duration 5:47, 2019.

Link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxmVMPETHLc&t=48s>

Arbitrio, Ejercicio propio de recolección de memoria, micro documentary, duration 2:58, 2020.

Link. <https://youtu.be/nwtKG7fnfUM>

Renacer, Exercise of muralism, micro documentary, duration 2:51, 2021.

Link. <https://youtu.be/UOSQJ-hTlwY>

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