

hindsight

is
twenty

20/07

twenty

a symposium

In Hindsight WE would not have done anything differently.

But YOU may have . . .

Hindsight...

Some acts - like marriage, quitting your job, or starting a for profit arts business - come with hard lessons which should have been obvious all along, but whose consequences we cannot always see fully while acting in the heat of the moment.



Hindsight is a creative 'case study' about the founding, functioning, and closing of our for-profit arts business in Istanbul, Turkey. We have developed this symposium to offer an original and innovative opportunity for participants to analyze the successes and mistakes inherent in starting any cultural venture.

Symposium

Exhibition

Workshops

Symposium



Storytelling
Boasting/Bragging
Circus Performances
Debates

Cocktails
Performance Art
Song

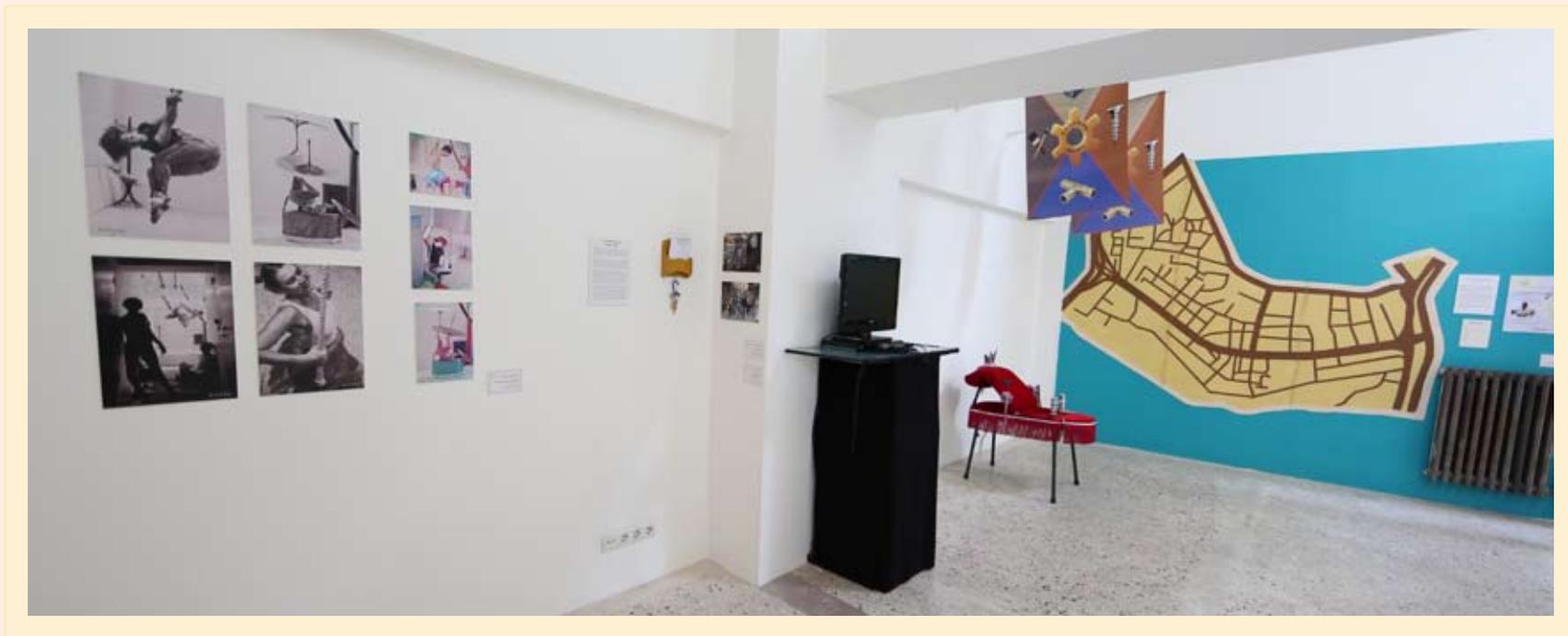
Contests
Historical Re-enactment
Informal Discussion

Taking the form of a symposium
(in the most classical sense of the word),
we present the trajectory and history of our for-profit cultural initiative
through Symposium Entertainments, Exhibition and Workshops.

The symposium is intended to invite debate and consideration
among its attendees in a lively and convivial atmosphere.

Exhibition

The first thing to greet participants to the symposium will be an exhibition of works which will be treated as the segue into the discussions and creative problem-solving sessions.



Arranged in a traditional exhibition style, original works and documentation by the Caravansarai Collective will be presented.

Exhibition

The various artworks illustrate the ups and downs of our particular situation. Using these original works as a way in which to examine possibilities for the workshops, we hope to instigate imaginative problem-solving, inspired discourse, and spirited solutions to the reoccurring problems of sustaining cultural projects.



Workshops

By using the exhibited works as the starting point, we will organize, instigate, and mediate various workshops which touch on the important pivotal decision-making points of starting a profitable culture project.

Within the workshops, participants will be encouraged and expected to synthesize the presented scenarios and to analyze them within their own personal/professional contexts.



Those wishing to deepen their inquiry into any specific topic will have the option to create something (anything) to present at the next symposium.

Workshops

Examples of issues covered in the workshops:

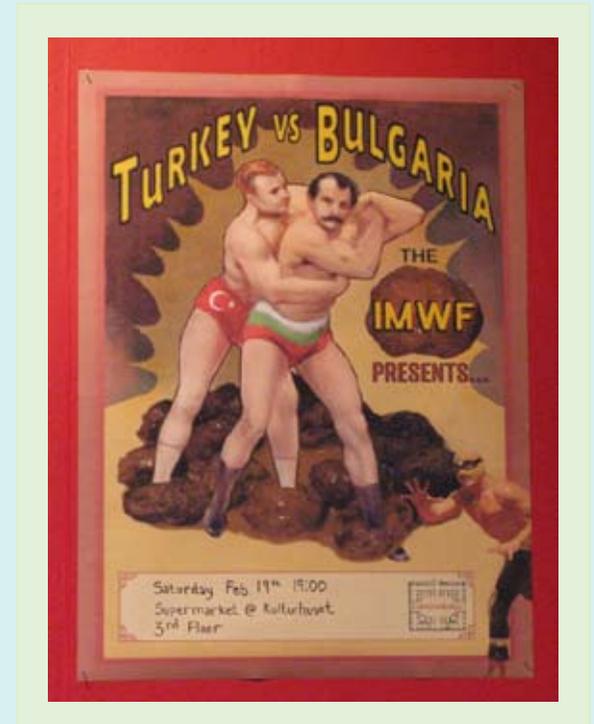
Taking Advice (or not)

Uncovering your Real Networks / Resource Sharing

they might not be who you think they are

Tokenism Obstacle Course

repelling tokenistic attitudes toward culture



Workshops

More examples of issues covered in the workshops:

Speedy Decision-making
vs.
Forced Decision-making

Evaluating, Keeping Up

What to Do when you Aren't Making Any Money?

Parenting 101

working with artists

Sticking to your Beliefs
vs.
Making Money

getting real about your strengths and weaknesses as business people, as administrators, and as artist

Beauty is Only Skin Deep

Or, Does your outward appearance match up with who you really are?





We do not have any answers or cookie-cutter solutions for starting a profitable arts business. We aim to bring people together who are interested in examining the challenges and advantages involved in taking strides to do things differently than we have been doing them.



About the Symposium

WHEN: Three days intensive (All day and socializing in the evening)

WHO: Cultural operators, Funders, Artists, Cultural Administrators, Business Entrepreneurs
Minimum 12 participants, Maximum 40 (subject to change depending upon the growth of the organization)

WHERE: At your place!

Space Considerations: There must be a large room, hall, entryway, or gallery which can be used for exhibition and performance with 4 meter ceilings.

Also, need two (2) furnished meeting rooms in addition to the exhibition room.

We also require technical support (data projector, PA, lighting, etc.).

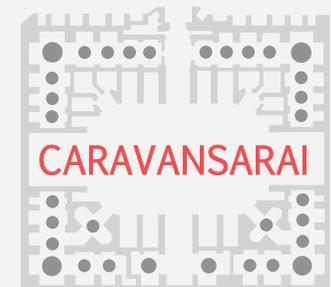
Participant registration fee (TBD in conjunction with host), covers entry to the symposium, participation in the workshops, attendance at social gatherings, and the food and drink when not specified otherwise.

About Caravansarai

Julie Upmeyer and Anne (Anika) Weshinskey are American artists who began collaborating artistically after meeting in 2008 in Istanbul, Turkey. In 2010, we converted an old office building in the Karaköy neighborhood of Istanbul into an art space, meeting point, and artist residency for local and international collaborations.

Employing a for-profit business model to sustain our artistic activities, we attempted to prove that not all cultural projects have to rely on the support of funding organizations in order to operate. In the four years that we were open, we hosted 42 foreign residents, curated and mounted 3 large-scale international group exhibitions in our space, and produced 100s of personal and group artworks for exhibition locally and internationally. We sold our building in 2014 (the profit part!) but continue to work together on a myriad of projects under the name Caravansarai Collective.

www.caravansarai.info



Anne Weshinskey

lover of projects

anika@caravansarai.info

+46 721 41 2544 (Sweden)

+1 540 822 0250 (USA)

Julie Upmeyer

artist, initiator

julie@caravansarai.info

+90 538 3798556 (Turkey)