

The background features a white silhouette of a cityscape against a blue sky. On the left, there is a tall, dark industrial chimney. In the center, a classical building with a dome and columns is visible. On the right, there is a large, circular industrial structure supported by several vertical pillars. The text is overlaid on the white silhouette.

Art of Participatory Leadership Athens

**31st of January –
3rd of February 2014**

Calling Questions:

.....
How do we 'dance' and work with the paradoxes of being collaborative leaders on the edge of system/personal/collective transformation?

How do we support ourselves and others in building healthy, constructive partnerships that can enable moving forward when the ground trembles?

WHY THIS TRAINING? WHY NOW?

In Greece, and in many other places in the world right now, institutions, democracies and mainstream systems are failing to address the increasing chaos that many communities are experiencing. Many citizens and networks are innovating new ways of living and working that are quite new and surprising. Sometimes these are widely celebrated but often, they challenge the status quo and can be misunderstood, ignored or worse, attacked and destroyed before they have had the chance to really show us what is possible for our collective futures.

From our experience of working in Greece and in other parts of the world, we have seen that working on transformative projects around-challenging and edgy affects people as individuals and also as collectives. Focusing on how we create, as well as learning how we work in partnerships, can produce the protection needed in order to navigate the chaos that systemic change initiatives involve.

Therefore we as SiZ Hellas invite you to our 3rd Art of Participatory Leadership in Greece. We will be based in central Athens in order to explore together how we can work on our passionate and edgy work through hosting ourselves and collectives.

This AoPL is a container for several things....

How to think out of the box when the boxes as we knew them aren't there anymore.
Developing the right kind of protection to doworkabout which we are deeply passionate.
Understanding and working with the risks and dangers tosocial cohesion asour Institutions lose their ground and authority
Continuing even when tensionsare dangerously high

How to work with the many paradoxes and complexities.

On this 4-day training we will learn participatory leadership techniques and mental models as a way to host ourselves and collectively sense how we protect the higher purpose of our initiatives.In addition.we will focus on strengthening ourselves as leaders and practitioners of new forms of living. This training is held by Stewards and Practitioners of the Art of Hosting Network, www.artofhosting.org and is offered by SiZ Hellas (www.the-siz.org) who together are working on social change initiatives in Greece, Europe and the World. Come and join us from 31st January to 3rd of March (arrival on 30th of January).

WHAT IS THE ART OF Participatory Leadership?

In a world that is becoming increasingly complex and fragmented, true solutions and innovations lie not in one leader or one viewpoint, but in the bigger picture of our collective intelligence. The Art of Participatory Leadership is a response to this global complexity, at a time when institutions and democracies themselves are failing to address the increasing chaos in our world. It is a testing ground for those seeking to find new effective and healthy patterns for organizing, innovating and interacting to create new forms that serve us all better. The training is part of a global family of trainings through the Art of Hosting network that are considered practice grounds for those who aspire to bring out the best in others. www.artofhosting.org

The Art of Participatory Leadership is essentially an expression of authentic ways of being with others and situations as they emerge - and

a practice of creating the conditions for our collective intelligence to become visible to ourselves so that it can get to work. The principles of self-organization, participation,



ownership and nonlinear solutions are essential to both individual and collective discoveries.

We are particularly inspired by what happens in the creative tension be-

tween chaos and order - the chaotic field - where learning, innovation and harvesting take place and where wise and sustainable change can be discovered and grounded into acting wisely.

This is an experiential training that is being applied in many contexts - community, private sector, academic, healthcare, and educational settings as well as social change efforts around the World. The training is also designed as a Personal Leadership practice to deepen your own capacity to effect transformation within yourself and in a complex world. Come join a global community of practitioners using integrated participative change processes, methods, maps, and planning tools to engage groups and teams in meaningful conversation, deliberate collaboration, and group-supported action for the common good.

DURING THE WORKSHOP WE WILL PRACTICE AND EXPLORE:

The design and methodology of engaging yourself and others in hosting and harvesting transformative conversations
Building partnerships, and containers for transformative work
Working with our vulnerabilities in generative ways
Exploring authentic collaborative leadership
Noticing and shifting personal, team and systemic behaviours and norms
Models and practices for working with complexity and emergence
Connecting with others who are practicing participation, leading change, innovation and system transformation in the Greece, Europe and worldwide
Translating your ideas and seeds of innovation into experiments and initiatives

This training is for people who are:

ready to step into their passionate and edgy work
holding the seed of a new idea,
who are ready to bring new life to a project, initiative or
visions to create new forms of living and are ready to
collaborate and explore with others;
new and emerging leaders are asking HOW to move
their visions forward
taking their ideas into action based on who they are and
what they believe possible;
already hosting emerging movements, networks or sys-
temic change initiatives and asking how to deepen them
or scale them up.



— PRACTICALITIES —



WHEN

Friday 31st of January, through 1, 2, 3 of February, 2014

Arrival on Thursday, 30th on January.

We start at 9.00 am, 31th January and end 3rd February at 5.00 pm.

WHERE

This training takes place in Central Athens in the dynamic neighborhood of Psiri at the Impact Hub” a multi-space place for social innovation.

Accommodation will be self-organized. Details and options of accommodation can be provided if needed. Directions on how to get to our venue will be provided at on registration.

REGISTRATION

how do they register?

Participation Fee

In Greece, there is a growing network of complementary currencies and alternative economies flourishing. This is due to the massive disruption to the “mainstream” economic system. We want to honor that there are many people in Greece and elsewhere who are working and living with these multiple forms of currency, and that in fact, cash and money is not always available, but other forms of currency are.

We offer a sliding scale participation fee for 250 to 900 Euros which includes the training and a light lunch each day. This fee does not include accommodation. We wish to make this training available to as many people as possible and do not want economy to be a barrier. Therefore we work on the value “offer what you can and little more.”

Should you have ideas about offering other forms of currency to this AoPL, please contact us with your ideas! Also if you wish to join us and can't afford to pay the lower price please contact Odysseas: email- Odysseas.Velentzas@the-siz.org.

Hosting Team

Maria Bakari

Maria is passionate about listening actively and purposefully, articulating questions of resonance and mid-weaving the interconnected ways forward. She has participated & witnessed the birth of the Art of Hosting in the beginning of the 2000s while being involved in designing, co-ordinating and evaluating educational leadership & innovation programs in the U.K. at that time. She practices coaching, counseling, social research and hosting in various organizational settings: family, community, citizenship, entrepreneurship, personal & organizational growth & change: always through a systemic perspective and strategy. She loves music, theatre, photography, the arts & sports as gifts for/of the human civilization and tools for transformation. She also holds a deep connection with the wisdom of her Hellenic Roots, Heritage & Culture that she currently tends through a mysterious practice she calls “sea-whispering”...For the last 3 years, she also weaves stories of social change and innovation and “dances” their patterns with old and new friends in a weekly radio show, “Stories of the New Earth” that is broadcasted every Sunday morning at 11am from the studio-womb of Lihnari Radio in Rhodes.

Maria is the initiator of Synergy (www.synergy-rhodes.weebly.com) & co-founder of the SIZ-Hellas (www.the-siz.org).

Maria Scordialos

Maria invites people to have conversations that matter. Conversations where people can generatively engage with their changing contexts so that they may see new possibilities and choose appropriate actions that create systemic shifts. Through process design and hosting, Maria, in partnership with clients and colleagues, crafts gatherings, trainings, and longer term journeys of systemic change. Maria's practice of designing and hosting has emerged from her diverse experience. This includes working as a project manager implementing national level pilot projects and working at a strategic management level as a Corporate Director in Local Government in the UK, co-initiating a participatory leadership practice called the Art of Participatory Leadership, hosting both grass-roots and systemic level projects in different organizations and communities throughout the world. Maria has an enterprising spirit with a social consciousness that has moved her to co-found initiatives that are researching by prototyping new forms of living and working. These include the Living Wholeness Institute, the Systemic Innovation Zone (SIZ) in Greece, and Axal dit Sa Avatakia a systemic learning centre in Pelion, Greece.

Odysseas Velentzas

Odysseas does transformative work on the edge of the systemic change. He is working with social enterprises and social movements by offering participatory methodologies to support meaningful conversations and strategic planning. Specifically his work includes incubating new ideas based on social challenges so they become realities, supporting emerging leaders and innovators and creating spaces of learning through Art of Hosting Trainings, Participatory Workshops, Learning Journeys and Café Conversations etc. He is co-founder of the Systemic Innovation Zone, an expression of a small group of Greeks and Internationals who believe that participating in leading our own lives by digging to our roots, discovering our hidden treasures and finding our own new ways is the way systemic change occurs (www.the-siz.org).

Dr. Yitzhak Mendelsohn

Yitzhak has lived in Jerusalem in the past of 43 years and is part of the professional psycho-therapist landscape of the city. Since 2008 he is pioneering a new field of practice of “protection” which has emerged during his clinical practice, via dialogue groups between Palestinians and Israelis, as a co-founder of Art of Protection, and most recently as a psychologist and member of intercultural community created in Jerusalem after the National Protest in Israel in 2011. With his Jewish and Mexican identity, he has developed mastery in intercultural relationships. In the last three years he has developed theoretical and practical tools for a better understanding of the essence of relationships, in particular those between victims and perpetrators, people and groups, as well as conflictual relationships. Yitzhak is an Elder of Living Wholeness Institute, a founding Steward of Axladitsa-Avatakia and a proud grandpa of Danielle, Jonathan, Itamar, Shira, Nadav and Ruth.

Kieron Concanon

Kieron is a multi-talented musician and martial artist. He is also a story-teller who draws upon the ancient archetypes that lay at the heart of the Celtic tradition. As well as being a Practitioner of Warrior of the Heart training he also practices the following martial arts.

- Laido (the Way of the Sword)
- Jodo (the Way of the Stick)
- Tai Chi

As a music producer and co-founder of FDM Records he has achieved international success in the music industry

Vanessa Reid (host, but not there in person)

Vanessa is a pioneer who brings her unique leadership and artistry to the field of social innovation. She cut her teeth in Canada as executive director of Santropol Roulant, a vibrant non-profit founded by young people that uses food as a catalyst for social change. Ever since, she has been immersed in creating cultures - personal, organizational, societal - that are alive and deeply aligned with all of life. Most recently, Vanessa has been living in Jerusalem, working in the Middle East and Europe, partnering on radically new systemic change initiatives like the Finance Innovation Lab-UK, hosting depth learning, co-founding both the Living Wholeness Institute and SiZ Hellas- and witnessing massive change all around. As an architect, she brings the essence of design to create spaces of inner and outer transformation; as a writer and former publisher of ascent magazine, she brings a depth of reflective, body and awareness practices. And as a global soul, she knows there is a great journey ahead of us.

For registrations and info please contact
to Odysseas Velentzas
mob: +30 6977971517
mail: odysseas.velentzas@the-siz.org
www.the-siz.org

