

Research Title: Designing the Installation Art Exhibition for Social Inclusion of Children with Special Needs

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ABSTRACT

In designing the study, the researcher asked how the role of art and a creative environment can promote social participation between children with special needs, their families and their communities. This led to the ideas in *Designing the Installation Art Exhibition for Social Inclusion of Children with Special Needs*, which employs a local creative process based on symbolic interactionism. The art objects are formed within a framework of sensory exploration, derived from the interactive use of the form, material and texture of traditional toys. These art objects may be categorized as those that promote muscular development and those that contribute to the development of fine muscle control. The installation art exhibition reflects the breaking down of barriers between art and real life. In the end, art becomes a part of real life, and the lives of viewers can become part of the art objects in an interactive exchange that benefits from these objects and for which the center is neither the creators nor their spirit or soul. Instead, the art objects are catalysts for change and movement within the objects themselves. The role of the creators is to build a social environment within a public space, where viewers take part in creating their own cultural meaning through their involvement with and actual experience of the art objects.

Keywords : Installation art, Sensory integration, Children with special needs