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Topics: Contemporary artistic and art educational approaches to diversity and cultural changes

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Oresteia brings scholars from suburbs to theater and students to school. Fear at the beginning. First in-school experience of art education students.

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Most scholars from outer areas of the city have never visited a theater yet. This paper reflects on the project „Oresteia”, which aimed to empathize scholars with the piece by individual approaches and let them exhibit, perform and present their outcomes at the National Theater. The piece itself is the most important and complete preserved Greek tragedy and was written by Aeschylus, who tells about the citizens of Athens, living on revenge and murder, the later trusting in rules of law instead of oracle. This project is a cooperation of Art University, secondary school and the National Theater and aims to democratize elitist theater, create diversity. Actors visit schools in suburbs and engage in workshops with children. Students visit schools in the country and engage in interpreting the piece from individual viewpoints with diverse strategies and methods. They experience their first teaching lessons on the topic, picking the scholars up by “catching moods” with self-made tempera, enjoying the senses and vibes of colors, kites and objects. How do they approach such a difficult but human topic with children aged between 10 and 15 years? What do they experience, fear and reflect? How do they investigate in the content by techniques? The self-reflection of the students, description of their chosen methods describes first experiences of teaching. The analysis investigates in the question of “what kind of impact can be expected in teaching by such an experience” and “will children from suburbs visit theater pieces in future times because of the project?”