

## Editor's Note

'Changing World, Challenging Boundaries – New Frontiers of Creative Arts and Humanities' is a broad theme that includes many perspectives of contemporary arts-based research in diverse fields of humanities and social sciences. The 1<sup>st</sup> International Research Symposium of the University of the Visual and Performing Arts, Colombo, that was held in December 2018, took a view on the society and its understanding of a changing world and the position of researches crossing a number of disciplinary borders. The symposium focused on further specialization in their fields of Music, Dance & Drama, Visual Arts, Education, Archaeology, Literature, Sociology, Communication & Media Studies, History, Languages, Cultural Studies, Information Technology, Ethnic Cohesion, and Management. The conference could help develop a discussion culture between artistes, researchers and other academics who are currently working in diverse fields of social sciences and the humanities, mainly trained in their local academia or in cooperating institutions abroad.

The current publication, which attempts to be the post-symposium proceedings of this unique and all-embracing event in the field of the arts, received nearly 250 abstracts. Out of these abstracts were 135 were short listed through a double-blind peer review process. Among the presenters at the symposium who submitted final papers, there were 28 foreign researchers who were actively involved in presentations and constructive arguments and discussions.

During the 2018 International Research Symposium three keynote speakers were invited. They generously offered their invaluable contribution to the UVPA symposium with their presence, academic content, and interaction with the participants. Rustom Bharucha has been one of the keynote speakers who recently retired as Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. His talk on "Rethinking the Intercultural Paradigm in Troubled Times: A Search for New Practices within, across and beyond Borders" has been published in this book. It is providing further reference to the topic that may help the readers understand the background of their undertakings, their efforts, their duties, and their difficulties. He encourages the readers to take parallel studies as examples. On the second day of the symposium, Dr Rob Conkie, a senior lecturer in Theatre Studies at La Trobe University, Australia delivered his keynote on the topic "eTwistermology: Embodied and Collaborative Writing". This inspiring speech was also supplied to be published in this book. Prof Raj Somadeva, a professor at the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology, University of Kelaniya, one of the well-known archaeologists in present Sri Lanka, gave his keynote speech on the third day of the symposium. His passionate talk on the topic "A Quest for the Basics of Creativity" has been very insightful to those doing interdisciplinary studies that may involve archaeological and musicological investigations and discoveries. His contribution to the symposium has been widely appreciated though his keynote speech has not been completed in writing and could, therefore, not be included in this publication.

The collection of full papers for this publication were selected through a double-blind peer review process which was carried out with the support of a number of qualified academics in respective fields. Many thanks go to the many reviewers involved.

This edition gives the authors a maximum of freedom to decide whether they prefer in-text citation or footnote citation systems. All articles come, nevertheless, with a reference list at the end of each article. Also, spelling details regarding British, Australian, or American English and italicization are left to the authors' decision. Please, contact the editor in case of any specific problems of understanding regarding the format of this publication. The editor has coordinated the reviewing process between authors and reviewers and has restrained from a deep involvement in the academic content of the papers since these are post-symposium proceedings that should keep to what was said, discussed and confirmed during the respective symposium

rather than a book or journal publication, in which an editor can have a much more intense influence regarding matters of contents. Hence the main responsibility of the contents is with the authors, so does the clearance of copyright issues for any type of material used, though the editor tried in most cases to confirm their legality. Nevertheless, the editor is thankful for any feedback in this matter.

I would like to thank the keynote speakers, paper presenters, performers, once more the nameless reviewers, editors, and other colleagues who were intensely involved in bringing this publication to this point of standard. I as well as many authors in this publication, are especially grateful to the conference chair Professor Saumya Liyanage, and the former Vice Chancellor Professor Sarath Chandrajeewa, who provided their unlimited leadership and generosity. Both have been the driving forces in making the symposium successful and this publication becoming a reality.

May the proceedings guide future symposia and serve as comparative material for researchers in coming years. The world will surely not stop changing. Therefore, the call for challenging inherited or professionally built up boundaries is a continuous task among all scholars and creative people. The proceedings provided with this publication are only one small effort towards taking up this challenge.

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# Message of the Symposium Chair of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Research Symposium of the University of the Visual and Performing Arts, 2018

My humble congratulations to all the authors whose papers were published in the proceedings of the UVPA International Symposium 2018. I particularly thank the keynote speakers who accepted my invitation to present their research findings and thoughts in the symposium. They provided the full papers for publication making this volume a rich source of information. I must thank all the reviewers who played an immense role in reviewing the papers in order to make this publication more standard. I am very much thankful to Chinthaka Prageeth Meddegoda for handling the reviewing process and the necessary editing of the papers for publication.

This work could not have been done without the support of the staff responsible for design and logistics.

The proceedings reflect in a clear way about our recent understanding of a changing world and the need of challenging boundaries. Collaboration is key in further developments and this volume is to start a wide discussion on cross-disciplinary achievements. The academic demand of the papers presented as well as the printed full papers is high, yet we should not stop here.

It is the discussion and the beginning of exchange that makes the value of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Research Symposium of the University of the Visual and Performing Arts, 2018.

The persons listed in the programme committee are those who were most active in preparation of the symposium and in processing the outcomes. However, all others were also contributing their part to the entire success.

Driving research in the field of social sciences and the humanities towards new horizons was an ultimate goal of the symposium in 2018. The following symposia will have to show that this goal is continuing to attract the coming generations of researchers. I wish all participants and speakers all the best.

## **Dr. Saumya Liyanage**

Chair, UVPA International Research Symposium 2018

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## Message of Sarath Chandrajeewa, VC of UVPA in 2018

Universities become more significant in their relationships with the world if they get involved in the work they are meant to do as per the meaning of the word ‘university’. According to this clarification, a university is an institution that takes worldwide knowledge in and opens itself to the outside world. It’s a place where individuals are trained to think out of the frame, a place to connect with people as well as to meet one another as it is very important for artists and researchers to share their knowledge, ideas, experiences and emotional thoughts. This helps us to broaden the work we do in our respective fields and to develop human relationships to a higher level. In this contemporary world, there is vast knowledge, but the value given to humanities is decreasing. The world needs more compassionate attitudes. In this regard a great responsibility lies with researchers and artists around the world.

The International Research Symposium was inaugurated in 2018 with these broad objectives. I take this opportunity of writing a few words to the conference proceeding that is being printed comprising of abstracts and extended papers that was presented at the 2018 symposium, to appreciate that endeavour and to wish success at the second symposium which is being held in 2019. I am happy that the international symposium is continuing to go forward with the visual concept which was introduced in late 2017 as painter Raphael’s ‘School of Athens’.

විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයක් වචනයේ පරිසමාප්ත අර්ථයෙන් එයට හිමි කාර්ය භාරය ඉටු කරන්නේ නම් ලෝකය සමග එයට තිබෙන සබඳතාවය වඩා වැදගත් වනවා. ලොව පුරා තිබෙන දැණුම විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය තුළට ගැනීම හා විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය ලෝකයට විවෘත කිරීම මෙයින් අදහස් කෙරෙනවා. අපගේ සීමාවෙන් පිටතට සිතීම (Thinking out of the box), පුද්ගලයන් හා සම්බන්ධ වීම මෙන්ම අප එකිනෙකා සජීවීව මුනගැසීම කලාකරුවන්ට හා පර්යේෂකයන්ට ඉතා වැදගත් වන්නේ දැණුම, අදහස්, අත්දැකීම් හා භාවමය ආකල්ප හුවමාරු කරගැනීම පිණිසයි. එය අප නියැලී සිටින කලා ක්ෂේත්‍ර හා පර්යේෂණවල කාර්යය පුළුල් කිරීමක් වගේම මානව සබඳතා අතර අවබෝධය ගොඩනැගීමක්ද වනවා. අද ලෝකයේ දැණුම සුලභව පැවතුනත් මානව සාරධර්ම දුලබයි. ඒ නිසා ලොවට වැඩි වැඩියෙන් මානව දයාව අවශ්‍යවී තිබෙනවා. ඒ සඳහා පර්යේෂකයන්ට, කලාකරුවන්ට හා විශ්වවිද්‍යාල වලට ලෝක මට්ටමේ කාර්ය භාරයක් පැවරී තිබෙනවා යයි සිතනවා.

කොළඹ සෞන්දර්ය කලා විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ ජාත්‍යන්තර පරිසංවාදය 2018 ආරම්භ වූයේ මෙවැනි පුළුල් අරමුණු සහිතවයි. එම පර්යේෂණ සැසියේ ප්‍රතිඵලයක් ලෙස පර්යේෂණ සංක්ෂිප්ත හා දීර්ඝ ලිපි එකතුවක සංග්‍රහය සඳහා වචන කිහිපයක් පෙළගස්වන්න ලැබුණු අවස්ථාව එම කාර්යය අගය කිරීමටත් 2019 වර්ෂයේ එහි දෙවන පියවරට සුභ පැතිමටත් අවස්ථාවක් කරගන්නවා. 2017 වසරේ අවසානයේදී විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයට හඳුන්වා දුන් වික්‍ර ශිල්පී රඟයල්ගේ ‘ඇතන්ස් පාසල’ දායක සංකේතය සමග අප විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ දායක සහ ප්‍රසාංගික කලා ජාත්‍යන්තර පරිසංවාදය ඉදිරියට ගමන් කිරීම සතුටට කරුණක්.

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