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Paper Title:
Culture and Economy – who is managing whom?

Two established social, political and economic forces within society: Culture and economy. A long history of often tiring friction, sometimes successful cooperation, but always clear differentiation attempts from each other has shaped the reciprocal relationship.

Which of the two areas has the power to impose its values, content and rules upon the other? Has there been, or is there any kind of dominance that enabled one side to manage, lead, or guide the other?

This contribution will try to point at self-conceptions and mutual understanding of the two entities and the current status of cooperation willingness and ability. It will also propose a view of the inner core, the driving forces that create those products which are the very reason of the two areas' existence: On one hand artistic products, which are generated and processed within the cultural sector, and, on the other, products (and services) manufactured by the economic area.

Beyond standard cooperation patterns (such as, for instance, sponsor- or patronship for the arts), there might be bonds that link those two players to each other in a much stronger fashion than the current reality is suggesting.

Selected quotations and references

DIE ZEIT, July 24th, 2008; pages 39-41

Peter Bendixen, Einführung in die Kultur- und Kunstökonomie, 1998

Gerard Mortier (FAZ-Magazin, August 2nd, 1991)