

Cultural participation among Finnish pensioners: *Art as a right or as a duty?*

Dr. Tuulikki Laes

Center of Educational Research and
Academic Development in the Arts (CERADA)
University of the Arts Helsinki

The Finnish Institute in Japan
October 6, 2022

The Transformative Politics
of Music Education
in an Aging Society



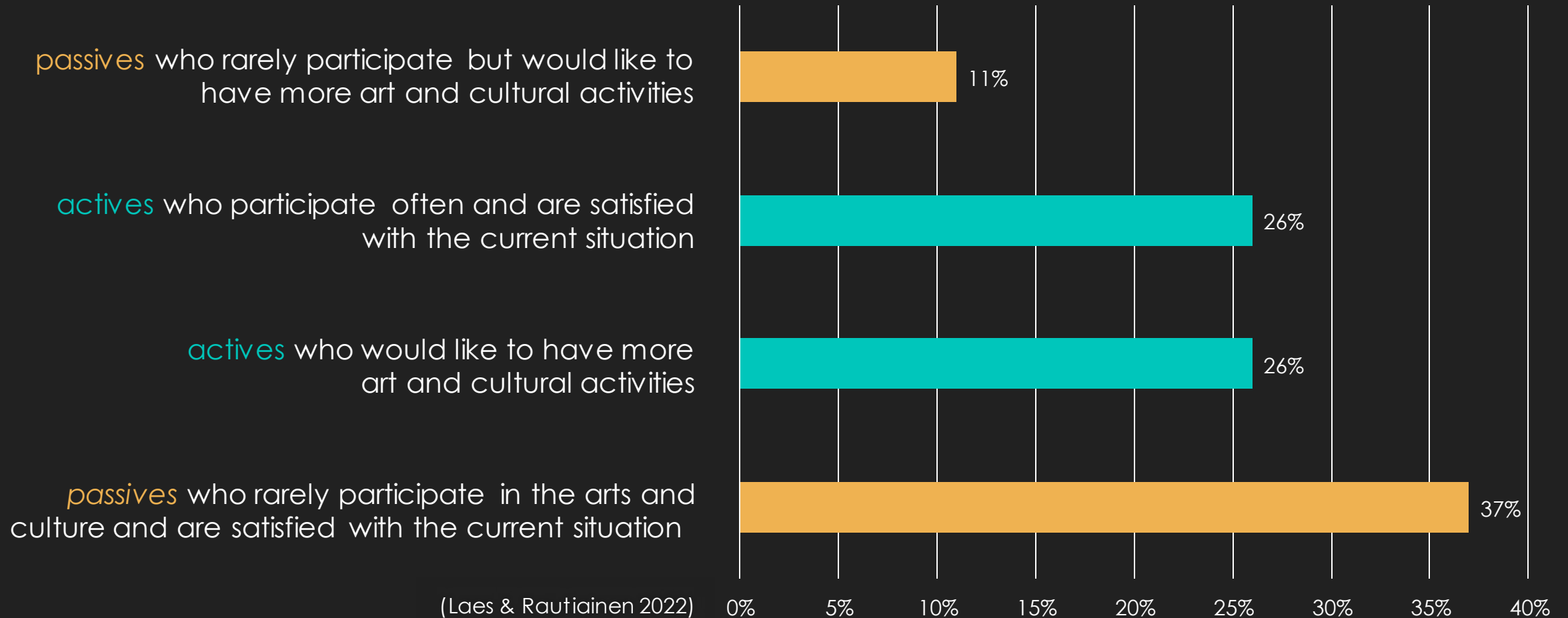
UNIVERSITY
OF THE ARTS
HELSINKI

✕ CERADA

Lifelong learning and participation – a right or a duty?



Agency and participation in the arts among Finnish pensioners (N=510)



Sustainable aging:

**Intergenerational solidarity
Re-authoring the lifecourse**



Conclusion

- *Cultural rights are lifelong and lifewide*
- *Practices that perpetuate stereotypical mental models of aging need to be dismantled*
- *Intergenerational solidarity cannot be increased by offering only age-categorized activities for older adults*
- *By investing in cultural education of younger generations, we are investing in the agency and wellbeing of future older people*



Thank you!

Contact: tuulikki.laes@uniarts.fi

Publications: www.tuulikkilaes.com

RockHubs: www.rockhubs.com



Koivisto, T. & Laes, T. (2022) Music professionalism promoting gerotranscendence: An instrumental case study of healthcare musicians in an eldercare hospital. *International Journal of Music Education*.

Laes, T. & Rautiainen, P. (2022) Eläkkeelle siirtyneiden taidetoimijuus. [Artistic agency of the retired population] *Gerontologia*. <https://doi.org/10.23989/gerontologia.111894>

Laes, T. & Schmidt, P. (2021) Promoting a musical lifecourse towards sustainable ageing: A call for policy congruence. *International Journal of Community Music*, 14(1), pp. 103–119

Laes, T. & Rautiainen, P. (2018) Osallistuminen taiteeseen ja kulttuuriin – elinikäinen oikeus vai velvollisuus? [Participation in the arts and culture – a lifelong right or duty?] *Aikuiskasvatus* 38(2), 130–139.

Laes, T. (2017) Beyond participation: A reflexive narrative of the inclusive potentials of activist scholarship in music education. *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*, 210-211, 137–151

Laes, T. (2015) Empowering later adulthood music education: A case study of a rock band for third age learners. *International Journal of Music Education Research*, 33(1), 51–65 2018