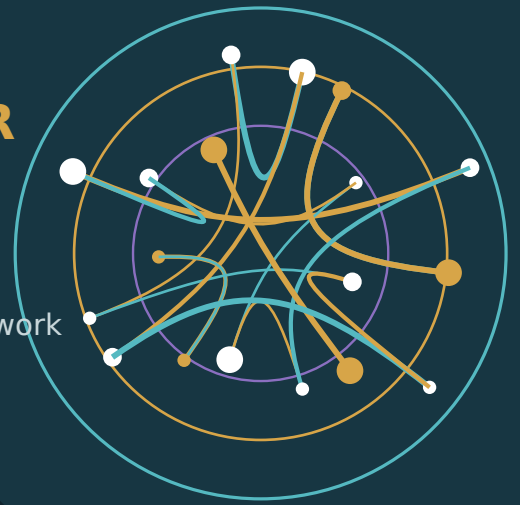


AKS x ADPS

ART KNOWLEDGE, ART POWER & THE ARTWORLD DNA

An introduction to the research and assessment framework



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Why measure art knowledge and art power separately?

The contemporary art world often treats knowledge, visibility, prestige and influence as if they were the same thing. They are not.

A curator may have decades of research, deep historical understanding and highly developed critical judgment while having limited access to major institutions. A collector may possess significant decision-making power while having relatively little formal or demonstrated art knowledge. An academic may be extensively cited but have little influence over acquisitions, exhibitions or market visibility. Conversely, a museum director, advisor or patron may strongly shape which artists become visible to future generations.

The AKS x ADPS project begins with a simple proposition: art knowledge and art decision power should be observed as two different dimensions. Separating them allows us to ask more useful questions about careers, institutions and the structures that shape contemporary art.

AKS - Art Knowledge Score

The Art Knowledge Score (AKS) is an evidence-based indicator designed to describe the breadth and depth of a person's demonstrated knowledge of art. It considers several dimensions of knowledge rather than reducing expertise to academic credentials alone. Depending on the professional profile, evidence can include education, research, publications, curatorial work, teaching, critical writing, sustained engagement with artworks and artists, and other verifiable forms of expertise.

ADPS - Art Decision Power Score

The Art Decision Power Score (ADPS) looks at a different question: how much capacity does a person have to influence decisions, visibility, resources and recognition within the art ecosystem? It considers evidence connected with institutional authority, networks, financial or market effects, public reach, selection power, professional access and longer-term influence.

Neither score is intended to define a person's human or artistic value. They are analytical indicators: tools for observing patterns that are often discussed in the art world but rarely measured separately.

AKS asks	ADPS asks
What art knowledge can be demonstrated through evidence?	What capacity does this person have to affect art-world decisions and outcomes?
Knowledge, research, interpretation, experience and expertise.	Authority, networks, resources, visibility, reach and decision-making influence.

Reading the two scores together

The most useful information may not be either score in isolation, but the relationship between AKS and ADPS. A high level of knowledge does not automatically create institutional influence, and a high level of influence does not automatically demonstrate deep knowledge. Mapping both dimensions can reveal different professional positions and possible career gaps.

	LOWER ADPS	HIGHER ADPS
HIGHER AKS	UNDER-RECOGNIZED EXPERT Strong knowledge / limited power	ART AUTHORITY Strong knowledge / strong power
LOWER AKS	DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL Knowledge and influence still developing	POWER > KNOWLEDGE Influence exceeds demonstrated knowledge

The ArtWorld DNA

The ArtWorld DNA translates the participant's AKS and ADPS dimensions into a unique visual composition. Instead of showing professional information only as numbers, the DNA turns the relationship between knowledge and power into an individual visual identity.

Its forms, density, connections, proportions and visual rhythm are generated from the underlying assessment variables. The objective is not to decorate the score, but to create an intuitive and memorable representation of a professional position in the art ecosystem. As the methodology develops, the visual system can also make differences between profiles easier to perceive and discuss.

Every participant in the introductory service receives a digital ArtWorld DNA together with their basic AKS and ADPS information. A signed physical version can also be produced as a limited personalized edition.

ARTWORLD DNA - PERSONALIZED PHYSICAL EDITION
20 x 20 cm · Edition of 2 · signed by DHAdmann
EUR 50 each + applicable taxes, shipping and handling

What the scores are - and what they are not

AKS and ADPS are being developed as a research-based, evidence-oriented assessment framework. They are not absolute measurements of intelligence, quality, cultural worth or personal merit. Nor are they intended to replace peer judgment, contextual interpretation or the complexity of an individual career.

The framework uses defined variables and benchmark populations to make comparison more systematic. Evidence quality matters, and the methodology is expected to evolve as the dataset expands, new professional profiles are assessed and the assumptions behind individual variables are tested. For this reason, results should be read as indicators within a developing model rather than as permanent or universal truths.

Why create it?

The project has two connected ambitions. The first is practical: to give curators, academics, art historians, collectors, advisors and other non-artist art professionals a new way to understand their professional position. The second is structural: to investigate how knowledge and decision-making power are distributed across the contemporary art world.

This distinction can help reveal overlooked expertise, concentrated influence and situations in which professional recognition does not correspond closely with demonstrated knowledge. In the longer term, AKS x ADPS can support benchmarking, career diagnostics, expert discovery and research into inequality and access within art-world systems.

Phase 1: participate and discover your ArtWorld DNA

During the introductory phase, participants can request a basic AKS and ADPS assessment and digital ArtWorld DNA free of charge. This phase also helps expand and test the benchmark population. More advanced services - including career benchmarking, professional diagnostics and career-development intelligence - are planned for January 2027.

**KNOW YOUR KNOWLEDGE.
UNDERSTAND YOUR POWER.
DISCOVER YOUR ARTWORLD DNA.**

Project direction

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AKS x ADPS / ArtWorld DNA is an evolving research and professional-intelligence project. Methodology, variables, benchmarks and services may be refined as the project develops.