



**UN**  
**2023 WATER**  
**CONFERENCE**

**NEW YORK**  
**22-24**  
**MARCH**  
**2023**

## UN 2023 Water Conference Side Event



**Waters, Education, History and Arts**

Monday - 20-3-2023 at 7:30 P.M. – Brasilia time - 5:30 P.M. (NYC Time)

**Organized by: Instituto Maria Helena Andrés**

In the first part, lasting 26 minutes, we group the contributions focused on the relationship between Water and Life. We take as examples the paintings of Maria Helena Andrés and Bax; the musical clip video *Água* by the group Voz & Poesia; the book *Water Speaks*, by Maurício and Aparecida Andrés, illustrated by MHA; photographs of clouds, or flying rivers, by Maurício Andrés; the songs about water and clouds by Artur Andrés; videos by Fabricio Fernandino (*Aqua*) and João Diniz (*Waterfeel*). We present actions carried out with children by Eliana and Maria Helena Andrés, who emphasize the importance of art as a tool to develop the creative potential of children, youngsters and adults.

In the second part, lasting 32 minutes, we present contributions related to the death and rebirth of rivers. It begins with Fabricio Fernandino's video about *The river of Deaths*. Hydro alienation is shown in attempts to kill urban rivers (hydrocide) through water pollution and urban interventions that bury them alive under the asphalt. The projects *This street has a river*

(coordinated by Thereza Portes- Instituto Undió), and the work of Isabela Prado (*Over/About the river: Between rivers and streets*) show that rivers remain alive in memory and reappear in artistic interventions. This part ends with two contributions focused on the rebirth of urban rivers through hydro-awareness, such as those presented in the educational project *Esse Rio é Meu* by Silvana Gontijo, and in the book *The Sanitation Epic*, by Márcio Santa Rosa and Aspasia Camargo.

For further information see [Minha vida de artista \(mariahelenaandres.blogspot.com\)](http://mariahelenaandres.blogspot.com)

Side event available on YouTube at [Live Water and Arts - Side Event of UN 2023 Water Conference - Água e Artes - evento paralelo - YouTube](#)

**Background on the event :** The Maria Helena Andrés Institute organized this side event in order to show the importance of artistic language as a tool to develop the creative potential and raise awareness about WATER. We present the work of visual artists, musicians, poets, historians, educators, architects, photographers, video-makers and ecologists.

**Water Action Agenda:** We commit to develop artistic language as a means to raise awareness about water – [www.imha.org.br](http://www.imha.org.br)

### **Key Issues discussed:**

Arts

Artistic language

Water and life

Water and death

Rebirth and water

### **Key recommendations for action**

Strengthen the use of arts for raising awareness about water.

Use sounds and images as universal languages to communicate about water

Raise emotions and feelings in establishing connections with water.

Show good examples and projects to protect waters.

Value beauty to connect emotionally with water.

### **Realization**

Institute Maria Helena Andrés



Support

Between rivers and streets



Undió Institute



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