

**Arts, Society and Participation: Constructing the Larger Narrative**  
**ArtWorks Scotland Conference 2012**  
**Friday 23rd November, The Lighthouse, Glasgow**

9.15am	Registration, coffee, badge making	
10.00am	Welcome and ArtWorks Scotland overview	Chrissie Ruckley, <i>ArtWorks Scotland Project Lead</i>
10.15am	Keynote: The Professionalisation of Artists who work in Participatory Settings	Charles Chip McNeal <i>Director of Education San Francisco Ballet</i>
11.00am	Workshops: see details below	Charles Chip McNeal & Arlene Goldbard <i>Writer, Speaker, Activist, Consultant</i>
1pm	Lunch Movie making: Decisive moments in your work	
2.15pm	ArtWorks: The UK Context	Mick Elliott <i>Chief Executive, RSNO</i>
2.30pm	Breakout sessions	Various - see below
4pm	Reflect & Review	Arlene Goldbard Charles Chip McNeal Breakout session leaders, Participants
4.45	Feedback and close	Chrissie Ruckley
5pm	End	

Throughout the day - Creative participatory activity designed by Icecream Architecture

## MORNING WORKSHOPS

**WORKSHOP TITLE TBC Charles McNeal:** Charles is still conjuring up the ingredients for his ArtWorks workshop recipe and will give us a taste soon.

### ***Ethics and Values of Community Arts Practice, Arlene Goldbard***

As more and more artists get involved in the exciting field of community cultural development, they encounter the unique ethical challenges of participatory arts practice. How is it possible to balance the commitment to a funder or sponsoring organisation with commitments to community participants? What is the role of the artist in participatory settings? Is it to channel others' creativity without intruding, or should the artist's own aesthetics, values, and priorities be part of the mix? How do you handle censorship, conflict, disruption? Through this workshop, participants discover their own values and ethical commitments, equipping themselves to anticipate and head off conflicts, and finding mutual, respectful solutions when they do arise.

## AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### ***Memento***

#### **Rob Laycock & Toby Lowe**

Robert and Toby will share some highlights (and some lowlights...) of their journey so far, providing insight into what they have learnt to always keep hold of, regardless of pervading social, political and economic circumstances. The session will involve small and full group discussions and activities focusing on:

- Defining practice: *What do we mean when we talk about participatory arts?*
- Sharing practice: *there's lots of good stuff, some tricky stuff too...*
- Identifying and exploring learning outcomes: *key concepts, tools, methodologies, 'do's' and 'don'ts'; what do you think? To what extent is this relevant to you/your organisation?*
- Applying learning outcomes to real life: *What's happening in Scotland, in your practice, in your organisation? To what extent does our experience and learning apply to your current situation, ambition and aspiration?*

### ***Music Works: connecting with young people in healthcare***

#### **Dr Jane Bentley & Caroline Thompson**

Jane, Caroline and a.n.other will explore the vision and development of the RSNO's national programme of work with young people in healthcare settings, and how this complements their work as musicians and performers. The session will involve opportunities for discussion on:

- Beyond the comfort zone: why we choose to work in participatory settings, and the challenges and opportunities this presents
- The discomfort zone: developing the specialist skills needed for music in healthcare environments
- Bringing it home: what this offers our wider work and practice
- Holding it together: our underlying philosophical values/principles

### ***Knock Knock Who's There?***

**Jess Abrams, Hazel Darwin Edwards, Louise Ritchie, Jess Thorpe**

Peer to Peer Network members offer an interactive and thought provoking session reflecting on the importance of learning from, and being supported by, our peers. You are cordially invited to come play and interact with us in a refreshing (or perhaps long-forgotten) way, exploring the creative challenge in a new or different medium. Be a participant and be reminded of the importance of artistic playtimes and the unfamiliar joy of letting someone else take the lead.

### ***Learning Together Better***

**Lucy Mason & Dawn Hartley**

An informal presentation by Lucy Mason, arts producer and consultant, and Dawn Hartley, Learning Manager, Scottish Dance Theatre, exploring shared learning and artists' peer support within recent dance projects. The discussion will consider how valuable it is for us to articulate our learning goals and to discuss and share these with others doing similar work – and yet how difficult we sometimes find it to make time to do this. Are we missing an opportunity to become stronger together? Includes a screening of the film 'Shall We Dance?' that accompanies Lucy Mason's evaluation of 3 dance projects with older people.

### **ABOUT THE PRESENTERS:**

**[Charles Chip McNeal](#)** currently works as a lecturer, choreographer, adjudicator, and teacher and is the Director of Education for the San Francisco Ballet. He conducts artist/teacher training, evaluating and developing educational programs throughout the U.S. and abroad. Since 1980, McNeal has been teaching, developing, and implementing community outreach and education programs for San Francisco Ballet. He has consulted for the National Endowment for the Arts, the Kennedy Center, the California Arts Council, and the California State Department of Education, among many other organizations.

**[Arlene Goldbard](#)** is a writer, speaker, consultant and cultural activist whose focus is the intersection of culture, politics and spirituality. Her blog and other writings may be downloaded from her Web site: [www.arlenegoldbard.com](http://www.arlenegoldbard.com). She was born in New York and grew up near San Francisco. Her most recent book, *New Creative Community: The Art of Cultural Development* was published by New Village Press in November 2006. She is also co-author of *Community, Culture and Globalization*, an international anthology published by the Rockefeller Foundation, *Crossroads: Reflections on the Politics of Culture*, and author of *Clarity*, a novel. Her essays have been published in *In Motion Magazine*, *Art in America*, *Theatre*, *Tikkun*, and many other journals. She has addressed many academic and community audiences in the U.S. and Europe, on topics ranging from the ethics of community arts practice to the development of integral organizations. She has provided advice and counsel to hundreds of community-based organizations, independent media groups, and public and private funders and policymakers including the Rockefeller Foundation, the Independent Television Service, Appalshop and dozens of others. She is currently writing a new book on art's public purpose. She serves as President of the Board of Directors of The Shalom Center.

**Mick Elliott** is Chief Executive of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, and is a member of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation ArtWorks UK steering group. Previous to taking up his role at RSNO in 2011, Michael was the Director of Culture at the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. As Director of Culture, he advised ministers of the current and the last UK governments on cultural policy and developed the Department's relations with the arts, heritage and cultural sectors.

### **Rob Laycock & Toby Lowe**

**Robert** has an [arts practice background](#). **Toby** has a [public policy background](#). Since meeting in 2005 on a [leadership development programme](#) they have worked together to try and make sense of (a) what participatory arts *is*, and (b) what constitutes the best possible conditions in which artists work with people for mutual personal, social and artistic benefit.

**Caroline Thompson** has 20 years' experience as a project manager in the arts, working to create and deliver effective project management and communication initiatives, alongside innovative approaches to business and personal development. Currently managing the RSNO's professional development programme, Inspiring Performance, her work involves the planning and delivery of training opportunities throughout the organisation to support the objectives of its strategic plan and enhance the skills of musicians working creatively in a wide range of participative settings.

**Jane Bentley** works in music in health care encompasses both practical and academic pathways. Her PhD focused on the enabling and effects of accessible group music making on human wellbeing. This has been complemented by 10 years experience as a musician working in the field of health, and participation in two 8-month long European projects focused on training musicians to work in these environments. Much of her current work involves developing the role of music in health services, working across a range of hospital and community settings, from adults with dementia, to maximum-security forensic psychiatry. She also works throughout the UK and internationally using music to explore community, communication, and creativity in health, educational and social care settings. She is regularly invited to present at conferences, and specialises in the role of music making in social and communicative development.

**Lucy Mason** has worked as an arts and cultural manager and facilitator for over 20 years. Currently working as a freelance producer, project manager and consultant she has previously held positions as Administrative Producer at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh and Chief Executive of Dance Base, Scotland's National Centre for Dance. She was seconded to the Scottish Government for two years to help establish its new funding relationship with Scotland's five National Performing Companies.

**Dawn Hartley** is Education Manager for Scottish Dance Theatre, part of Dundee Rep. On completing her training at London Contemporary Dance School, she joined Michael Clark and Company and toured worldwide. She was Scottish Arts Council's trainee Dance Artist in Residence and subsequently danced, choreographed and taught throughout Scotland and abroad, including working with Bosnian children in exile in Slovenia. Dawn was Movement Lecturer for the Drama Department at Edinburgh's Telford College and for the Vocal Studies Department at RSAMD. She also worked as Dance Artist to East Lothian Council from 1999 to 2007 when she left to join Scottish Dance Theatre.

**Jess Thorpe** is co-Artistic Director of the creative partnership Glas(s) Performance as well as co-founder and facilitator of Junction 25. Alongside this work, Jess also Lecturers in Applied Performance at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, working with students across BA and MA courses as well as with the DramaWorks programme. Currently Jess specialises in Theatre in Criminal Justice settings and was recently involved in founding SPAN (Scottish Prison Arts Network); an organization dedicated to developing work in Scottish Prisons and post release.

Jess is also a trustee and staff member for the International Schools Theatre Association where she's led projects in Thailand, Malaysia, Spain, Holland, Italy and Turkey. As an artist, Jess is passionate about working with people to create original theatre about the questions we have about the world in which we live.

**Hazel Darwin-Edwards** works with groups of all ages, using playfulness as an access point to get creative. She will share some games and fun exercises designed to help reflect on our practice, and perhaps you can even add a theatrical string to your bow. When she isn't creating workshops, Hazel makes shows or workshop experiences that blend performance and puppetry with live music, often for an audience of babies and their grown ups. Projects include **Forgotten Forest** where she worked with musicians in an art space created for families at the Botanics in Edinburgh.

**Louise Ritchie** is a Visual Artist exhibiting widely throughout the UK and Europe. Louise is President of The Society of Scottish Artists, one of the oldest artist led organisations in the UK; established in 1891. Louise has been invited to exhibit at the Bridges Mosty 2011 & 2012, Slovakia as part of SSA's international exchange programme. Projects include performance in the installation 'Killing Time' created by artist Graham Fagen. Suspect Culture's Graham Eatough and 'Speaking the Land' by Dalziel & Scullion. As a creative facilitator, Louise has devised and delivered creative engagement and co-design public art projects for schools working with Angus and Dundee City Councils and Ginkgo Projects – an independent art and design consultancy specialising in improving the built and natural environment. Louise is currently Artist in Residence with Angus Council, developing the Angus Artists In Schools Creative Learning Network programme led by Pauline Meikleham, Arts & Cultural Support Officer EDS, and lecturer on the UWS/City of Glasgow Colleges Contemporary Art Practice Degree Programme, Glasgow. Louise is also co-founder of TRIGGER Network, funded by ArtWorks Scotland / Creative Scotland / Paul Hamlyn Foundation .

**Jess Abrams** is a vocalist and community practitioner and has worked with groups in both the USA and Scotland for over 20 years. Jess is the Development Manager for the Edinburgh Youth Music Forum, working with music practitioners to explore, develop and share good practice. She also lectures at Edinburgh College as well as working in the community facilitating projects in music making and recording. Working in both the formal and informal sectors and having sat on both 'sides of the table' as a commissioner of work and an artist commissioned to do work, Jess is striving to ensure that there is transparency and good practice across the board. Jess plays concerts in the UK and Europe whenever she can. Jess hates writing biographies but loves good coffee.