

ENGAGING PUBLICS: OCTOBER SEMINAR SERIES

A SERIES OF SEMINARS EXPLORING COMMUNICATING ENGAGEMENT, PRACTICE BASED RESEARCH AND PARTICIPATORY DESIGN



Communicating Partnerships: Visual methods and participatory design for communicating public engagement

Friday 5 October 12-2pm, The Classroom, Merchiston Campus

Join us for a discussion about public engagement and collaboration through participatory design. When done well Public Engagement empowers through collaborative partnerships. However, forming these partnerships and developing effective ways of collaborating can be difficult, particularly when the researchers and public groups are from different settings (e.g. academic and community settings). In this seminar, Dr Trevor Collins, (Senior Research Fellow, Knowledge Media Institute, The Open University) will discuss a case study from a Schools University Partnership Initiative project that drew on visual methods to elicit perspectives of public engagement from pupils and researchers.



Re-thinking Inclusivity in the Museum

Friday 12 October 12-2pm, Dovecot Gallery

This will be a discussion about public engagement, re-curation and museum communities. PurpleSTARS is a landmark research project that aims to re-think the sensory potential of museum design and curation. Through her research Dr Karen Allen (University of Reading) develops opportunities for people with learning difficulties to work as artists and technologists. Revising the traditional culture of museum curation Karen explores the potential of technology to widen access through new approaches to collections and sensory experience. Karen is joined by Sensory Objects PurpleSTARS employee Judith Appiah.



City Witness: Linking Communities and the Past

Friday 19 October, 12-2pm, The Classroom, Merchiston Campus

Join us for the third of four public engagement seminars that develops the discussion about public engagement and its various communities. This week we will hear from Dr Harriet Webster (University of Wales Trinity Saint David). Harriet will share her experiences of working on medieval history projects with large outreach and public engagement dimensions: 'City Witness: Place and Perspective in Medieval Swansea' at the University of Southampton, 'The Cabot School's Project' at the University of Bristol, and 'Lampeter Medieval Day' at UWTSU. Harriet will reflect on the successes and challenges of working with different interest groups, and the various public engagement activities including running museum exhibitions, public workshops, city tours, working with schools, and app development.



Public Engagement as Social Structure

Friday 26 September, 12-2pm, The Classroom, Merchiston Campus

Join us for our final seminar in the October lunchtime series. The final theme of the seminar series explores Public Engagement in relation to the transformative power of participatory art and performances. Dr Sarah Pagoda (University of Bangor) reassesses the Avant-Garde and its impact on contemporary art, politics and society, with a particular focus upon the German filmmaker and performance artist Christoph Schlingensiefel. Sarah presents public engagement as an opportunity for interdisciplinary and experimental collaboration: She asks, how can Arts & Humanities, Artists and Art Institutions work together to examine the transformative power of 'we'. Extending the idea of 'social sculpture' (Christoph Schlingensiefel and Joseph Beuys) Sarah renegotiates research as art, and in this respect public engagement as an interface of all the vectors mentioned above.

Refreshments will be provided at each seminar
Please email k.jamieson@napier.ac.uk to book a place

With thanks to the School of Arts and Creative Industries for coordinating these events

