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SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

MARTIN LEITH

www.martinleith.com

Martin Leith is UK-based consultant specialising in co-creation.

Co-creation is the act of working with others as equal partners to bring into being something new that delivers the greatest amount of value to the greatest number of stakeholders.

The new creation could be something tangible such as a new product, a new service or a new venture, or it might be something intangible such as a new experience for the customer or a new vision and strategy for the business.

My approach is collaborative, methodology neutral, multi-disciplinary, holistic, minimalist and results focused.

Much of my work involves designing, planning, facilitating and managing large scale (20 to 1000 or more people) co-creation meetings based on Open Space Technology and a wide range of other methods.

STEPHEN BEDDOE

Stephen Beddoe received a BA (hons.) and a Post Graduate degree in Fine Art from Glasgow School of Art in 1987. Stephen has exhibited his own work in the UK, Europe and Australia and has curated a number of projects in galleries and public spaces. In 1994 Stephen was awarded a Harkness Fellowship (THE UK's reciprocal Rhodes Scholarship). Based in San Francisco, his research investigated the influence of contemporary visual arts on US urban regeneration and economies. During this period Stephen was also seconded to the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. From 1995 to 1997 Stephen was Visual Arts and Crafts Officer for London Arts Board (now ACE London) and from 1997 to 2001 was Commissions Manager for Public Art Commissions Agency and (subsequently) Modus Operandi Art Consultants, initiating and managing large-scale public art projects both nationally and internationally. Stephen joined University of the Arts London in 2001 to develop, launch and lead Artquest, the advice and information service for London's visual artists and craftspeople. Stephen is also currently a steering group member of the APD (Artists' professional Development network) and NAN (Networking Artists' Networks).



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ARTQUEST

Artquest Staff

Russell Martin: Programme Coordinator

Russell is also an artist, curator and freelance arts consultant and web designer

Sonya Dyer: Programme Coordinator- Sonya is also an artist and freelance arts consultant

Deirdre Kelly: Programme Coordinator – responsible for the Q&A legal advice pilot project

Deirdre is also a freelance curator and a researcher/ programme coordinator for arts agency General Public

Artquest (<http://www.artquest.org.uk>) provides advice and information to London's visual arts sector. The programme responds to the professional needs of artists in the region throughout their careers via a website (averaging 25,000 unique visits per month), a telephone/email helpline, advisory sessions and training, seminars and conferences. Support covers areas such as presenting and selling work, research and development of new work practices and techniques and ongoing professional development and training opportunities. Artquest also provides a comprehensive visual art related legal archive at www.artquest.org.uk/artlaw and a free online legal advice service for visual artists at www.artquest.org.uk/Q&A.

Q&A is a one year pilot project funded by Arts Council England. Artquest is funded by Arts Council England (London) and University of the Arts London.

A full description of past Artquest projects is available to view on the Artquest website at www.artquest.org.uk/archive/index.html.

Artquest is developing a national one-day conference entitled Intersectio (www.artquest.org.uk/intersection), investigating collaborative practice in crafts & design in February 2006 and is a partner with a-n on Future Forecasts 2006, to be held in London in March 2006.

Other Artquest initiatives include the Electric Greenhouse residency, the annual Artquest Jumble Sale, Further (artist filmmakers 3-month residency, with no.w.here & Film London), Digital Shift (new media training for BME artists), Daytrippers (series of away day networking trips for artists).

An example of Artquest's international aspirations is artroute (<http://www.artquest.org.uk/artroute>). Artroute is a pilot project funded by the British Council (France). It is a website for UK artists interested in developing their practice in France by accessing information and advice as well as developing new networks and contacts. It is hoped that this model can be rolled out to encompass other countries in the future. In addition to this, Artquest is currently developing the feasibility of an international studio/apartment swap website, entitled artelier.

Artquest is also an active member and contributor to a number of regional/national networking for a, such as APD and NAN.



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EMILIA TELESE- NATIONAL ARTISTS NETWORK

www.emiliatelese.com

Emilia Telese is a cross disciplinary artist who combines her arts practice with her role as Artists' Networks Coordinator for a-n The Artists' Information Company and work with other arts organizations.

Trained at the Fine Arts Academy in Florence, her practice often engages with electronic media, in the form of interactive and body-responsive technology, film, audio and net-based art, but also makes use of low-tech media such as live art, drawing and printmaking.

She has exhibited in the UK and worldwide since 1994.

Her work focuses on the way the mind and body are affected and transformed by external elements and impulses, and the inter-relation between intimate consciousness and public perception. She is interested in creating situations in social environments where the public is compelled to react in often dramatic ways.

Her latest pieces Sleepwalking and Life of a Star were present at the 2005 Venice Biennale, the 2005 Rio de Janeiro Multimedia Art Festival and previously featured on art-related reality TV show The Big Art Challenge on Five. She is currently working on UK touring show Paranoia curated by Jugoslavian curator Predrag Pajdic.

She is an independent trainer specialized in professional development advice, fundraising and proposal writing for artists and has worked for Artquest, Fabrica, Persistence Works, SPACE and Suffolk County Council among others.

NAN

For more information about NAN, see NAN pages on a-n magazine or visit www.a-n.co.uk>Networking

NAN (Networking Artist's Networks) is an initiative of a-n The Artists' Information Company, facilitating exchange, dialogue and collaboration amongst visual artists, whatever their practice and location. It offers a focus for critical exchange and feedback, and through research and mapping, seeks to develop greater awareness of the value of artists' initiatives and their changing professional needs.

NAN activities include bursaries for artists' groups, networking events and research.

NAN offers a 'place' for artists that creates and supports their networks and interest groups, makes them feel part of a profession, enhances professional exchange and development, and contributes to advocacy to raise awareness of the value of artists in society.



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JO JOELSON CO-FOUNDER: LONDON FIELDWORKS

www.londonfieldworks.com

Art partnership London Fieldworks was co-founded by Jo Joelson and Bruce Gilchrist in 2000 as an organisation to develop multidisciplinary collaboration. Since 1995 their collaboration at the art-science-technology interface has reflected their ongoing enquiry into how the data of natural phenomena and human experience are interpreted and manifested in both science and art.

Their search for subjectivity within the information society has led to investigations around data and narrative: they have described their work as objects that exist between narrative and the poetic retrieval of records.

Their multifaceted collaborations have often brought new audiences into art spaces, created new models for collaboration with unique and often surprising partnerships.

Their projects and installations have been exhibited internationally and most recently at The Wapping Project, London, the Fort William Mountain Film Festival, Scotland and the Cheltenham Festival of Science (2005). Joelson was ACE/AHRC Fellow at the University of Leicester (2003-2004) collaborating with the Radio and Space Plasma Physics Group. Joelson and Gilchrist were awarded Millennium Fellowships for their *Syzygy* project by the Royal Society and British Association for the Advancement of Science and in 2003 they were nominated for Becks Futures. London Fieldworks current projects include a commission for the London Science Museum's Art Project, Big Ideas.

NIKI RUSSELL

Currently based in Nottingham, UK, coming from a background of visual and performing arts, his individual work *Redrawn* is informed by 6 years of investigation into the redefinition of limits / measurements through repetition, and has been exhibited in numerous events nation-wide. Niki is a member of REACTOR who has recently created the egalitarian Utopia – *Total GHAOS* in October 2005. REACTOR specialises in extraordinary site-specific events. Please visit <http://www.reactorweb.com/> and <http://www.ghaos.org/> for details. He also works with the YAH Festival in Nottingham [acting as the Festival Co-coordinator for the 2004 Festival encompassing numerous events across the city], Nottingham Studios Consortium Group in developing the capital project and the Sideshow project in developing this event for 2006 <http://www.sideshowonline.org/> to coincide with the British Art Show visiting Nottingham. These projects exist amongst the many collaborative endeavors undertaken ranging from 'Playing Life' a hybrid self-help / interactive performance event to the instigation of a regional arts journal.

BECKY SHAW

Becky uses live works, photography and text to explore the relationship between individual and society, or individual and group, and especially the relationship between subjects and objects. Since competing a PhD in 1998, that involved collaboration with palliative care patients at Liverpool Marie Curie Centre, Becky has worked for a variety of UK and international organisations including for Kunstprijns Amstelveen, Sculpture Space in Utica, USA, Grizedale Arts Cumbria, ICIA at University of Bath, and New Art Gallery Walsall. A recent project includes 'Transfer, which involved moving the entire art collection of the Manchester Royal Infirmary to Castlefield Gallery, Manchester. She is currently artist-in-residence at Yorkshire Artspace as part of the Spectator T festival. Becky is also co-director of Static Gallery, Liverpool, with architect Paul Sullivan.

