

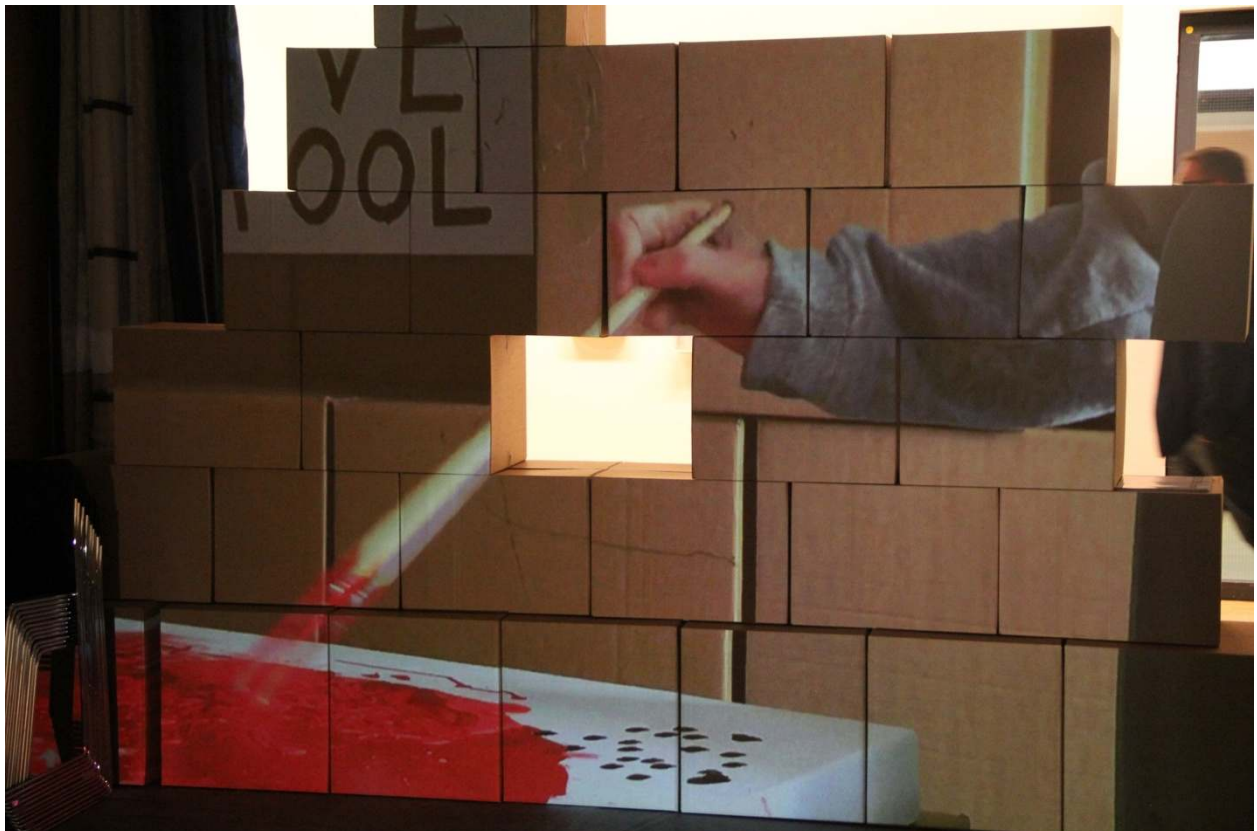
EXPLORERSproject

Tate Exchange 10-13 September 2018

Together with an invited team of artists, academics, social care specialists and people with learning disabilities in Liverpool, Project Art Works are exploring a series of 5 Collaborative Actions.

Using discussion, film screenings, shared practice, presentation and research, Tate Exchange will be a place of conversation for a range of approaches to collaboration with people who have complex support needs, including:

- Terminology and language in relation to disability and neurology
- Rights-based approaches to art and culture
- The social and political climate for people with complex needs and their circles of support
- The nature of being in a 'neuro-diverse' world
- Neurodiverse experiences at Tate and gallery tours presented by people with complex needs
- The importance of mark-making as a means of identity and representation – pre-history to the present
- How being creative can help improve mental and physical wellbeing for people with complex needs
- The radical model of disability and how it aims to change environments, not people
- Collaboration through non-verbal communication
- Connecting through sensory and physical presence



Project Art Works in Tate Exchange Liverpool September 2017

Action 1: Awareness as Exhibition

Project Art Works are running learning disability awareness raising with Tate Liverpool as part of a programme for cultural organisations across the UK.

In what is a first for the arts sector, this act of personal and professional exploration for Tate Liverpool staff will take place in the public space occupied by Tate Exchange Liverpool and be open to, and invite public interaction. This awareness raising process will also involve contributions from high profile representatives from both the arts and social care sectors.

Schedule:

Monday 10 th September	
1.30	Welcome and Introduction - Kate Adams MBE – Director of Project Art Works
1.50	Art, social care and commissioning - Diane Hesketh - Chief Executive Natural Breaks
2.10	Why art galleries should be inclusive - Victoria Mayes - Head of Learning, Milton Keynes Gallery
2.45	The radical model of disability in practice - Tim Corrigan – Lead Artist, Project Art Works
3.00	Film Screenings and open discussion
3.30	End – invitation to contribute to reflection
Tuesday 11 th September	
10.30	The Importance of mark-making - Kate Adams MBE – Director of Project Art Works
10.50	Case Study - Blue Room at the Bluecoat - Becky Waite
11.00	Tour of the Tate collection - Blue Room Members
11.45	Connection and collaboration - Tim Corrigan – Lead Artist, Project Art Works
12.00	Film Screenings and open discussion
12.30	End – invitation to contribute to reflection
1.30	The nature of being in a neurodiverse world - Kate Adams MBE – Director of Project Art Works
1.50	Art, wellbeing and loneliness - Richard Williams - Chief Executive, Options for Supported Living
2.10	Art and Us – MK Gallery’s approach – Bethany Mitchell – Curator of Inclusion, Milton Keynes Gallery
2.45	Assent and dissent - Tim Corrigan – Lead Artist, Project Art Works
3.00	Film Screenings and open discussion
3.30	End – invitation to contribute to reflection
Wednesday 12 th September	
10.30	The social care system and circles of support - Kate Adams MBE – Director of Project Art Works
10.50	Case Study – Thingwall - Lorraine Littler - Lead Support Worker, Brothers of Charity Day Services
11.00	Inclusive curating and its political potential – Dr Jade French - Visiting Research Fellow - School of Fine Art, History of Art & Cultural Studies, University of Leeds
11.45	Non-verbal collaboration - Tim Corrigan – Lead Artist, Project Art Works
12.00	Film Screenings and open discussion
12.30	End – invitation to contribute to reflection
1.30	The political climate of care Kate Adams MBE – Director of Project Art Works
1.50	Rights-based approaches to culture - Ali Eisa - Public Programme Coordinator, Autograph ABP
2.10	Holistic approaches to care - Tim Cooper - Chief Executive United Response
2.45	Calm Bafflement - Tim Corrigan – Lead Artist, Project Art Works
3.00	Film Screenings and open discussion
3.30	invitation to contribute to reflection

Times and presentation subjects are subject to change.

Action 2: Collaboration in Action

Whilst the Awareness as Exhibition events take place in the Exchange space, 5 workshops facilitated by Project Art Works and Milton Keynes Gallery Associate Artists will take place in the Clore Learning Studio.

Each workshop will be with a small group of people with complex needs from social care organisations based in Liverpool. A live video link, where appropriate and when agreed with all the people participating, will bring a taste of the workshop experience to the Exchange space.



Acorn Farm in the Clore Studio workshop space, Project Art Works at Tate Liverpool September 2107

Action 3: A Neurodiverse View of Tate – Blue Room Members

Blue Room is Bluecoat's inclusive arts programme for learning disabled adults. Since 2008, three groups of Blue Room artists have met weekly at the Blue Coat to explore the exhibitions and create their own art work. Members are supported to develop creativity and skills, building confidence and greater independence.

On Tuesday 11th September, Blue Room members at the Blue Coat will bring their personal views about Tate's current collection exhibition and give a brief tour of the works they feel most strongly about.

Action 4: Radical Visibility

On Thursday 13 September, the Tate Exchange space will be open for informal and inclusive conversation, film screenings and mark-making with Project Art Works from 10am until 4pm.

Individuals and groups with complex needs are positively encouraged to attend the space and visit the gallery as a whole in a gentle challenge towards the idea that gallery visitors - and the general public as a whole - are able-bodied and neurotypical. This visible presence in the gallery serves to underline the rights that people with complex needs have to culture and art.

Action 5: Tate Awareness Raising

As a precursor and preparation for the Project Art Works commission 'Illuminating the Wilderness', to be exhibited in Gallery 4 at Tate Liverpool in April 2019, Tate Liverpool are working with Project Art Works to build a programme for its staff teams from September 2018, through to the exhibition opening.

Tate will develop a group of staff 'neurodiversity champions', based on their roles across each departmental team within Tate Liverpool. Each neurodiversity champion will participate in at least two Actions to help better understand and support people with complex needs.

The aim is to build meaningful conversation and interaction between Tate and the social care sector that explores inclusion at a deeper level and places individuals who are neurodiverse and have complex needs at the heart of cultural life. This long-term plan helps Tate to develop its core objectives, including *welcoming broad and diverse audiences, developing people and culture and creating rewarding experiences.*

Context: Explorers Project

In 2016 Project Art Works were awarded an Ambition for Excellence grant by Arts Council England to deliver Explorers, a three-year programme of art and conversation in partnership with cultural organisations across the UK and in Australia. Taking place against a backdrop of increased hardship and intolerance toward disabled people, the aim is to develop positive relationships between cultural organisations and the social care sector in collaboration with people who have complex needs and those who support them. Across **EXPLORERS 2019**, a year of workshops, happenings, productions, commissions, exhibitions and seminars will seek to reposition people who have complex needs at the forefront of mainstream culture.

explorersproject.org

Context: Project Art Works

Based in Hastings, Project Art Works is the UK's leading artist led organisation working with people with profound intellectual impairment and complex needs. Project Art Works is a National Portfolio organisation for the Arts Council and delivers intensive programmes in house through PROPEL and with national organisation across the country with EXPLORERS. Started in 1997, Project Art Works has worked with thousands of people with complex needs and continues to offer support and friendship to them and their families.

projectartworks.org

Social media: [@projectartworks](https://twitter.com/projectartworks) [#explorersproject](https://twitter.com/explorersproject) [#explorers2019](https://twitter.com/explorers2019)