

PROGRAM GUIDE



ACW



The Art of Changing The World 2017

November 3-5, 2017
Carleton University, Ottawa

/ICASC
ASC!



ACW / |||

The Art of Changing The World 2017

We invite you to join us to explore the present and future of art for social change(ASC)/community-engaged art in Canada and abroad!

After nearly five years of research about ASC in Canada, our team has designed this gathering in response to what we heard from artists, participants, scholars, organizations, funders and others involved with this fast-growing and vibrant sector. This gathering is not your usual conference; most of our time will be devoted to facilitated dialogue, knowledge-sharing and networking, as well as providing opportunities for cross-sector conversations and action-oriented planning.

Whether you are deeply involved or newly interested in arts-infused change work, we hope that ACW 2017 will provide you with useful knowledge, skills and perspectives in a wide range of topics – from emerging practices, including facilitation and new forms of partnerships, to current arts-infused research and funding opportunities/policies. Video showings, display of your materials and space for informal conversations round out the program.

Email: ARTofChangingTheWorld@icasc.ca

#ArtofChangingTheWorld

#ACW

www.icasc.ca/2017-acw-gathering



FRIDAY
November 3
7 - 9 p.m.
OPENING
PLENARY



SATURDAY
November 4
8:30 - 10 a.m.
PLENARY

10 - 11:30 a.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION A

10 - 11:30 a.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION B

Welcome

A welcome to everyone with introduction to the five-year ASC! Research Project and short Pecha Kucha-style presentations showcasing Art for Social Change (ASC)/community-engaged work from across Canada and abroad. Plus a few artful surprises!

Our Social Space will be open...for refreshments, a video installation and additional space to show other videos, exhibition space to display your materials and lots of room for informal conversations.

Imagining Victory: A Journey to the Future and Back

In this workshop, we'll cross the time portal into 2041, 25 years from now, and experience the reality that culture shift has happened: our values and practices have become embedded in every social sector, public and private. What are things like? Savoring victory, we'll share our experience of the past 25 years: how did we contribute to culture shift? Who was engaged? What visions, strategies, and tactics worked and why? One of the biggest obstacles changemakers face is the heavy weight of getting from here to there. It's easy to get discouraged by all the obstacles and challenges. Starting with the future and looking back is an inspiring exercise in possibility, breaking open stuck thinking and infusing us with the knowledge that history is/was on our side.

Partnerships - Stories from the Field

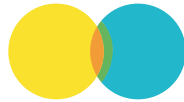
A short presentation about one of the ASC! Project's key research areas, including findings from 50 one-hour-long interviews about diverse forms of partnerships in Canada. What challenges exist? How best to initiate and sustain partnership relationships? What advice did we hear? What new forms of partnership are evolving? These topics will serve as a foundation for the session, which will focus on story exchange and dialogue.

Reconciliation and Hope

What does the word "reconciliation" mean for both Indigenous and Settler communities today?

First Nations artists and their colleagues who all work in community settings explore the landscape of movement towards reconciliation and justice in its many forms, contexts and possibilities. The conversation will be opened up for dialogue with everyone in the room. We anticipate a lively and deeply relevant exchange!

11:30 - 11:45 a.m.
COFFEE/TEA BREAK



11:45 - 1:15 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION A

Evaluation of ASC/Community-Engaged Projects

How can we evaluate ASC/community-engaged work? Why do we evaluate and for whom? What approaches and methods can be used to measure impact? What ethical issues emerge in these processes? What can we learn about impact assessment from changemakers in other sectors?

This session will begin with a demonstration of the new, online interactive evaluation tool developed by Dr. Annalee Yassi and her team at UBC as part of the ASC! Project. This toolkit is for anyone interested in evaluating an art for social change project, whether an artist, a member of a community organization, a funder, or a researcher. This resource aims to clearly explain the concepts, theories and practical challenges involved in evaluation, while assuming minimal previous knowledge of the topics presented. Although project development and evaluation are intrinsically linked, this toolkit focuses specifically on the evaluation aspect. Users of the tool can follow a step-by-step approach to evaluation; access examples from across the globe and different art forms; obtain templates of questionnaires interview guides and other instruments; obtain creative ideas; and interact with sample scenarios introducing a range of complex issues. This will be followed by a dialogue about emerging issues (especially with new frameworks increasingly requested by funders) and will advocate for alternative multi-method sensible approaches to evaluation, consistent with the overall aims of the project.

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION B

ART/Advocacy/Dis/ability: Upstart-Unlimited-Solidance Mixed Ability Dance Theatre Field Study (report and dialogue)

A report on fieldwork carried out over four years in Southern Alberta, with community partners engaged in advocacy for people with developmental disabilities and the University of Lethbridge, introduces 'Making Change, Making Unlimited' a 20-minute documentary of one of the projects. After the screening, panellists from across Canada discuss ways in which disability arts connect with disability advocacy.

1:15 - 2:15 p.m.
LUNCH PROVIDED
ON SITE



2:15 - 3:45 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION A

Ineffable Knowledge: Creating and Disseminating Arts-based Health Research

Art-based health research (ABHR) refers to the use of the arts in any part of the research process – whether for knowledge creation or dissemination. Such inquiry encourages the expression of multiple perspectives, and brings them together to uncover new meanings and raise further questions at the individual and societal level. Knowledge conceptualized in this way is more accessible to diverse stakeholders such as health practitioners, policy makers, research participants and the public at large. Arts-based research draws upon the emotional and embodied to enhance our understandings of the human condition, to bring together the intuitive with the logical, to evoke and provoke and to cultivate empathy. This session considers the methodological and epistemological expectations of the art-based health research community regarding dissemination of research findings and the impact in so doing. We will engage the audience in a conversation about the tensions experienced in creative teams engaged in art-based health research projects.

We will use Poll Everywhere to document audience response to a series of questions and visualise responses in real time. For example: What do we mean when we think about ‘impact’ in the context of art-based research?

2:15 - 3:45 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION B

Conflict Resolution

In many world contexts, arts-infused practices enrich conflict transformation processes. In this workshop, participants will learn about a spectrum of arts approaches to conflict analysis and engagement, and will explore ethical and evaluation-related issues. This session will be of interest to leaders, facilitators and artists who want to broaden their repertoires of creative ways to design processes for engaging conflict, especially across cultures and worldviews.

3:45 - 4 p.m.
COFFEE/TEA BREAK



4 - 5:30 p.m.

PLENARY

Where's the Money?

Part One: Mapping the Landscape

Canada's fast-changing public and private sector funding landscape for community-engaged arts/ASC is challenging both senior and newer artist/practitioners to "reposition" their work in ways that may or may not be appropriate or useful. What funding programs currently exist across the country and where else might we find strategic opportunities, including through partnerships? What are the relative levels of funding across the country?

What strategies can we develop and implement to support our work? What role can/should crowd funding play? How do we educate funders to better understand the often-unique and diverse goals and approaches of our practice, especially in light of major recent policy changes and the rise of "experiential consumerism" in the arts? Is there a role for building coalitions? The first of two conversations; Sunday's session complements this session by providing a broader view of communicating about ASC work to funders and other audiences.

Stories from the Field: Listening.

Artists Speak.

This presentation will draw on a series of video interviews with artists whose practices have long been associated with this field of Art for Social Change as well as with artists who are seeking new forms of expression within it. As the unique practices associated with this field of endeavour becomes institutionalized our multi-media arts-based inquiry seeks to unpack what matters and what needs to be preserved from the past as it is re-imagined in the future. In this multi-media presentation and through dialogue, we explore some of the key concepts that have emerged in our inquiry, such as: the need for nuanced facilitation; attention to how the work is framed; the intention of engagement; aesthetics; community; of what this work invites.



SUNDAY

November 5

8:30 - 10 a.m.

**CONCURRENT
SESSION A**

Rencontres/Encounters (R/E)

"What Are We Not Talking About?"

Can performance in the stories of others, another, an Other, help build relationships and transform understandings across different life experiences, values systems, racialization, immigration statuses, faiths, sexual and gender identities, etc.?

8:30 - 10 a.m.

**CONCURRENT
SESSION B**

Rencontres/Encounters (R/E) is an engaged, intercultural research-creation project, whose aim is to R/E-evaluate, R/E-envision and R/E-imagine performance as a means to build relationship across different values and life experiences. R/E also aims to offer possibilities for transformation in understanding of others and otherness in a range of community contexts. R/E believes that another person's perspective can be better understood (though never even close to fully understood) through storytelling, dialogue, and through performance of oneself, and of another. R/E asks "What Are the Differences That Matter?"

10 - 11:30 a.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION A

Teaching ASC/Community-Engaged Arts: What Matters?

The ability to sustain and deepen the arts-based community development/social change field depends on consistent opportunity for learning, and for teaching practices that will support and inspire the next generations of practitioners, artists and scholars. ASC work is complex, context dependent and potentially powerfully transformative, and teaching must account for complexities, specificities and vulnerabilities.

ASC! researchers summarize their findings about existing pedagogical theory and practice drawn from interviews with expert practitioners working and teaching in both post-secondary and community settings, from curricula and course outlines and instructional designs, from an environment scan of national activity and from reading about past practice. This leads into an open discussion towards recommendations for approaching the pedagogy of community-engaged arts in the twenty-first century.

10 - 11:30 a.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION B

Social Circus Research Projects in Quebec and Ecuador

Two major studies on the impact of these social circus programs contain implications for our whole sector. A presentation and discussion. This round table introduces the structures, questions, methods and key members from both the university research team and the social circus community in their role as research partners in order to frame a conversation on what the broader ASC community can learn from this in-depth case study as well as from social circus generally as an ASC form recently gaining popularity. As part of this orientation, participants will be guided through some introductory exercises popular in social circus and encouraged to dialogue about how these relate to their own practice.

10 - 11:30 a.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION C

Working with Seniors

Working in the arts with seniors often encompasses many approaches... including recreational, storytelling and reflective social change approaches and health-related initiatives, including a major field study on dance and Parkinson's. Many projects bring youth and elders together. In this exchange, we explore the many ways in which this fast-growing area of ASC is being practiced across the country.

11:30 - 11:45 a.m.
COFFEE/TEA BREAK



11:45 - 1:15 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION A

Ethical Challenges: A Dialogue

What ethical challenges do we face or struggle with in our work in community-engaged practices, in teaching about the work, and in our research? We explore issues of equity, diversity, inclusion, co-optation, positioning and funding. Where do our concerns overlap? For both artist practitioners and scholars.

This session aims to raise ethical awareness, offer ethical guidance, encourage discussion about ethical issues, and improve ethical practices. It will begin with an interactive presentation that: 1) outlines some democratically based ethical principles for those who are involved in community-based practices and research, 2) considers some of the ethical issues that should be addressed in such work (such as informed consent, agreed protocols for communication and safety, issues of authorship and credit, etc.), and 3) offers some practical guidelines for approaching and resolving ethical dilemmas (issues related, for example, to conflicts of interest, participants' rights, uneven monetary compensation, etc.), accompanied by some sample scenarios. This will be followed by a dialogue in which participants are encouraged to provide case studies where ethical dilemmas have arisen, in order to share potential solutions and work towards more just and caring practices that are suitable for a variety of contexts.

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION B

Influential Writers and Thinkers: Theory and Practice

How do influential writers and thinkers inform our practices? Which writers and thinkers have most influenced your practice, and what discipline(s) do they represent? What are the connections to be made between community-based and university-based researchers and artist practitioners? Between theory and praxis? University-based research is increasingly acknowledging what those who strive for social change have known for years: Complex problems must often be approached from a variety of perspectives and ways of knowing to achieve understanding and find effective approaches to socio-cultural transformation. This session will begin with a short presentation on some of the theoretical perspectives and frameworks that have influenced the ASC! Project. This will be followed by an opportunity to share your thoughts on the principles underscoring your work as well the thinkers that have influenced you and what their impact has been. Our goal is to both increase awareness of the range of theories and frameworks that can be relevant to ASC, how our approaches interrelate. We hope to have each participant leave with the names of at least one or two writers whose work they now want to dash out and read!

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION C

Working with Youth in Change Agendas

What can we learn from each other about working with young people? A story exchange about the challenges and successes of engaging, supporting and mobilizing youth in a range of change agendas – from social and environmental justice issues, health and wellbeing, to political mobilization and job creation. This discussion focuses on the many ways, through engaged arts practices, that youth voices are being heard about what matters to them and their visions for change.

1:15 - 2:15 p.m.
LUNCH PROVIDED
ON SITE



2:15 - 3:45 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION A

Mapping and Sharing ASC/Community-Engaged Arts Practices across Canada

A report on the landscape of community-engaged art in Canada. Who is doing what? Where and with whom? What recent developments do we see in the field? How can we best share our knowledge across the country? How can we better learn about others' work, including the different languages and approaches (in both rural and urban contexts) in Quebec and in the North, as well as in Indigenous contexts?

2:15 - 3:45 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION B

Facilitation: Sharing Our Methods A Dialogue and Workshop

As artists integrate more cross-disciplinary approaches, including facilitation and dialogic methods, into artmaking processes with community members, what useful approaches and methods can we share about facilitation? How can we address the challenges of equalizing power, encouraging inclusion and participation? What arts-based methods have we found to be useful in collective creation processes?

2:15 - 3:45 p.m.
CONCURRENT
SESSION C

Emerging and New Artist/Practitioners A Dialogue

Emerging practitioners bring a new perspective and unique insight to ASC practice and educational opportunities in Canada. How can we situate ourselves to best contribute to the growing field of ASC? What do we see in emerging practices? What can we learn from/exchange with diverse sectors? What do we need from established practitioners? What do we bring that's new? Where do we see this field going and what do we need to get us there? This session, designed for emerging artists, will be an arts-based workshop to uncover, support and problematize emerging ASC practitioners' and researchers' visions, needs, and issues.

3:45 - 4 p.m.
COFFEE/TEA BREAK



4 - 4:45 p.m.
PLENARY

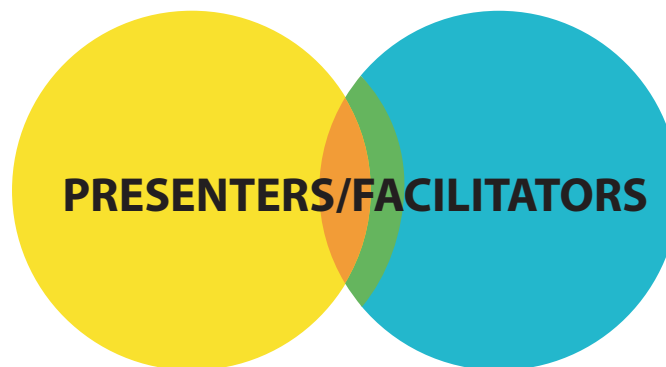
Where's the Money? **Part Two: Communication and Advocacy** **Issues**

How do we develop better public and funders' understanding of the work we do? How do we emerge from "under the radar"? How can we better describe, position and communicate that work? What communications strategies do we develop and promote? What evidences do we need to provide? Speaking truth to power: is there a role for building coalitions? We address these questions through an arts-based process.

4:45 - 5:30 p.m.
CLOSING
PLENARY

What Just Happened and Where Next?

A recap of the conference events including key moments: surprises, conflicts, insights, reflections on the future and gaps.



Nicole Armos
Dr. Katherine Boydell
Callista Chasse
Seanna Connell
David Diamond
Dr. Lisa Doolittle
Dr. Lynn Fels
Dr. Patti Fraser

Arlene Goldbard
Patricia Gray
Flick Harrison
Dr. Naomi Jackson
Lauren Jerke
Dr. Michelle LeBaron
Corey Makoloski
Dr. Judith Marcuse

Renae Morriseau
Lisa Ndejuru
Benjamin Ortiz
Dr. Jennifer Spiegel
Shira Taylor
Rachael Van Fossen
Dr. Annalee Yassi

... and others to be announced!