



UEL Research & Knowledge Exchange Conference 2013

Call for Abstracts

Name & Title of Presenter:	Robert Pyecroft-Rainbow
School:	ADI
Co investigators:	
Title of Abstract:	Digital media, dialogue and change
Key Theme/ Key words:	Lens based media, digital media, participation, engagement, social change

Abstract (No more than 400 words):

The interplay of research and practice is at the heart of my work. Participation and engagement have been consistent to this process working creatively with numerous communities, both inside and outside of formal settings. This approach initially extends from working in the mid 1990 on the worlds largest participatory public arts project, Peter Codling's 1000 000 pebbles project. Running in parallel to this working for a disability arts organization and also initiating other collaborative grass roots activities.

Over the last 18 years drawing from these formative points I have applied, refined and tailored creative ways to reach or connect with people. This approach has informed consultancy work for councils, documentary filmmaking, workshops, exhibitions and installation work.

The application of this work has become increasing connected to lens based media and digital media and facilitated connection and links with a variety of participants. Process based work (where the journey is the intention of the work itself, rather than a specific outcome or end product) offers a fluid and adaptable approach to allow people to gain confidence develop skills and abilities and to give voice.

I would like to present work that has extended on from a millennium award from Anti Apathy and UnLTD. Specifically, a creative approach that seeks to affect a dual and reciprocal approach to transferring wisdom. Importantly, of local people at sights of

change, to planners and policy makers - senses of place and local history, through too the work of experts within the fields of sustainability, energy, social and cultural fields, the built environment.

Lens based media, digital media, allow for numerous points of participation and the ability to foster a sense of belonging/ownership through that participation. To understand experientially a variety of transferable skills.

Research and application in this area helped inform:

The constitution the arts and horticulture group Avant Gardening.

Consultancy work for Camden Youth Council to determine the most appropriate site for a youth shelter with audiovisual playback. The initiative was put forward to tackle territorialism and specifically gun and knife crime.

The instigation of the Dalston Roof Park, working with Bootstaps and Zector Architects at the formative stages of the project.

Presenting the Roof park and representing UEL at The International Well-being Conference, Birmingham 2012. Poster, Presentation, Installation.

Presenting sympathetic work at the Landscape Art Network in Jan 2013.

Presenting work with reference to participation and biodiversity and The Newham Visual Arts Network Meeting at UEL March 2013 and representing UEL to the outside.