Mad Hearts: The Arts and Mental Health

A two day conference organised by the Arts and Culture Strategy and the MSc Creative Arts and Mental Health at Queen Mary

This two-day conference explores productive, radical, contemporary encounters between the arts and mental health, bringing together clinical, artistic and research perspectives that offer a re-interpretation of contemporary mental health science and practice.

17-18 May 2019
QMUL Mile End Campus, ArtsTwo
£50 - 2 days / £30 - 1 day
£30 - 2 days concessions / £20 - 1 day concessions

Thematic sessions will range from the importance of narrative and meaning making in mental health, to the pedagogical use of the arts as progressive intervention, and arguments for a radical shift in mental health practice. The programme is enriched by theatre performances on the theme of mental health and an art exhibition. Delegates will have the opportunity to contribute their responses through a 'long table' discussion; this will provide the stimulus for the panel discussion with stakeholders and international experts that will round off the conference.

We welcome mental health professionals, researchers and any members of the general public interested in the way the arts can contribute to mental health.

Friday 17 May 2019

09.00 – 09.45  Registration and coffee
09.45 – 10.00  Introductions
10.00 – 11.00  In search of meaning: narratives in mental health
   Dr David Harper, Reader in Clinical Psychology
   Jeremy Weller, Artistic Director of Grassmarket Project theatre company
11.00 – 11.30  Refreshments, art exhibition and poster display
11.30 – 12.45  Lucy Hutson, Performance Artist
   Panel discussion
12.45 – 13.45  Break for lunch, art exhibition and poster display
13.45 – 14.45  People’s Palace Projects: Building the Barricades
   Paul Heritage, Marcelo Cruz, Eliana Sousa Silva, Maira Gabriel Anhorn
14.45 – 15.45  London Chamber Orchestra and Music Junction
   With mini-concert by staff and children at Music Junction
15.45 – 16.15  Refreshments, art exhibition and poster display
16.15 – 17.30  Parallel sessions:
   Theatre performances by BA and MSc students
   Long table discussions with audience participation

Book online: bit.ly/madheartsqmul
Saturday 18 May 2019

09.30 – 10.00  **Registration and coffee**

10.00 - 11.30  **Art as pedagogy for mental health and wellbeing**  
*Prof Bridget Escolme*, Professor of Theatre and Performance  
*Dr Louise Younie*, Clinical Senior Lecturer  
With panel discussion

11.30 – 12.00  **Refreshments, art exhibition and poster display**

12.30- 13.00  *Ridiculusmus Theatre Company* and a mini-performance from *The eradication of schizophrenia in Western Lapland*

13.00 – 14.00  **Break for lunch, art exhibition and poster display**

14.00 – 15.00  **Keynote: Try a Little Tenderness: Artistic Thinking, Clinical Practice**  
*Dr Anna Harpin*, Associate Professor of Theatre

15.00 - 15.30  **Refreshments, art exhibition and poster display**

15.30 – 17.00  **General Panel**

17.00 – 17.30  **Prize ceremony**

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