



The Role of Ecological Arts and Creative Geographies in Valuing Urban Green Infrastructure

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"GHIA: Green Infrastructure and the Health and Wellbeing Influences on an Ageing Population"



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WP2:

- ◆ To identify and articulate the importance of feelings and emotional, sensory connections and values of GI
- ◆ To explore GI spaces for continued creative and imaginative learning
- ◆ To identify a number of social, cultural and physical barriers to access, and development of strategies for addressing these
- ◆ To explore methods for inclusion of socially marginalised groups
- ◆ To explore how older people can be creative-curators and archivists of GI spaces



Practice-based arts research

- ◆ Arts practice as research (aka, practice-based research) - NOT marketing and dissemination
- ◆ Arts offer alternative forms of data for identifying and evidencing key value indicators for GI via its outputs and methods
- ◆ Ecological/environmental arts practices are explicitly collaborative and participatory – “co-research” is not a new thing for the arts
- ◆ Artists and their practices should be more embedded within place-based solutions for GI, ageing, social isolation and wellbeing: treated as professionals, working in partnership and being included in the cross-service developments for engagement, health and social care
- ◆ Development of embedded, on-going programming



Human/Nature: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet

http://archive.bampfa.berkeley.edu/exhibition/human_nature



Idle Women

<https://www.idlewomen.org/>



Mildred's Lane

<http://www.mildredslane.com/>



Derek Jarman's Garden

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2008/feb/17/gardens>



Learning

- ◆ Arts as a methodology for learning about how people value spaces
- ◆ Allow time for grassroots partnerships and project to “grow” and become embedded within communities – the timescales we put on projects as researchers and funders are not always helpful
- ◆ Ownership over spaces; let people try things
- ◆ Take creative risks
- ◆ Artists offer us new ways of seeing and critiquing the world, which is particularly relevant for social connections and values of nature: so the intimate, the sensory, the aesthetic; storytelling is a big part of this; the living heritage of place – importantly, things you cannot put pounds and pence on.



