

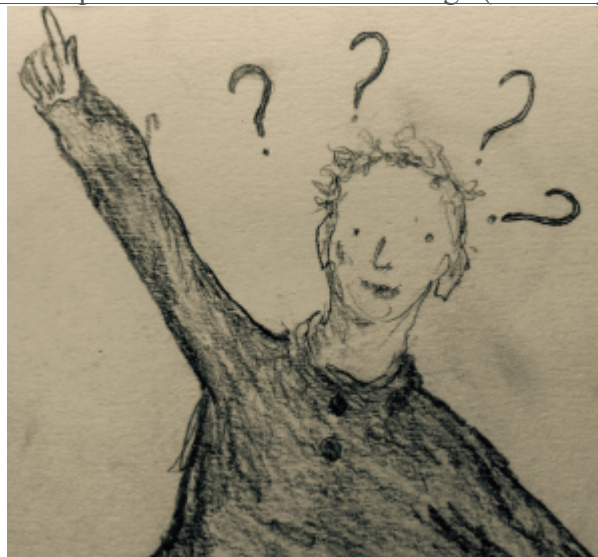
Table Notes from What Next, Sheffield Theatres, 15/06/2015



What are the answers we need? (summary)

- What is the impact of art on:
  - Mental health
  - Mutual trust
  - Community (connections/safer)
  - Local business
  - Economic value
- What is the impact for artists?
  - How do they feel valued?
  - Ability/confidence to create opportunities?

What questions should we be asking? (summary)



- Surface questions will only ever get surface answers

- Need to get to values to gain real insights
- Are you interested in experiencing difference (cultural exchange)?
- 'Friending people'
- What does art do that something else can't do? What evidence is there?
- How is Art Relevant?
- How can we over APATHY?



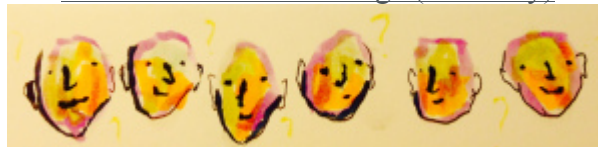
- How can we communicate?
- How can others relate to us - our organisations identity and communication:
- How do you represent yourself - do you think of doing that in alternative ways?



- How are you relevant?
- Do you know how to be relevant?
- What is the risk of not being relevant?

- Asking what are you interested in?
- What does the local economy need?
- How can we help your culture to grow?
- How can we reach out to you?
- What did your experience do that couldn't be done by anything else?
- - what impact and change?
- - do you have a way of measuring that impact - before and after?
- - what is a valuable impact? relate to NEF 5 ways to wellbeing: (They are connect, be active, take notice, keep learning, give - <http://www.neweconomics.org/projects/entry/five-ways-to-well-being>)

Who should we be asking? (summary)



- We need to get out of the centre- reach people locally, who engage locally.



- Reaching participants who engage in art in any way- local, amateur, professional, in schools.
- Reaching those who *don't* engage- the act of asking can be educational- a way of engaging.
- Important part of data collection can be educational
- We need to ask different questions to different groups. Asking the low engaged why they do not and those who do engage why they do.
- We are being too internal



- We can use the enthusiasm from those who are engaged as a driver and spirit.
- Also, asking experts from different fields may be really beneficial- eg. health professionals or academics. Insights from these fields can be very informative.

Further comments from the tables:

- Take art outside the city centre
- Professor Duncan Cameron: what do you have to offer? How can we merge? How can we connect?
- Teach young people to use their initiative and create opportunities for themselves
- identify my passion and interest (or help me to do so)
- Help me feel less fearful, less isolated
- Create a cultural legacy and identity through reaching out to communities and connecting artists with them
- I found joy in art.
- Help us connect different parts of Sheffield with each other.
- Make barriers a minor issue
- What makes this project inclusive?
- Sheffield is a place which offers open opportunities.
- We need more opportunities to help young people make art in the city.
- No more empty spaces.
- Breaking down barriers - what are the barriers?
- We communicate our value - how do we communicate what is different about this new advancement/project?
- Artists should feel valued regardless of their location
- We engage with people who now trust us (and we them!)
- There is no one answer.
- Local businesses say working with artists increased our productivity and efficiency and/or staff morale/retention.

- We found a different economic model that meant we weren't dependent on our creativity for our income, thereby avoiding the impact of finance on our art and expression.
- The arts can be seen to out perform many other more expensive interventions in improving mental health.
- Enabling Change - evaluating process. measuring impact - self-evaluating: this made me feel 'this': more confident; engage in groups/community - be more productive/motivated
- opportunities to showcase work