

Pathways to Making II

Understanding your value, creating opportunities

Friday 9 March 2018

A partnership between Craftspace, Rugby College/Space part of Warwickshire College Group and Rugby Art Gallery & Museum

#mitmpath @tweetcraftspace

Programme

- 10.00 – 10.30 Registration (College Foyer)
Opportunity to sign up for afternoon breakout sessions
Go to room 250 for refreshments and the event
- 10.30 – 10.45 Introduction by Deirdre Figueiredo (Director, Craftspace)
- 10.50 – 11.30 Oluwaseyi Sosanya - Back to the future: rethinking our relationship with manufacturing materials and craft
For the past five years designer and engineer, Oluwaseyi has worked at the intersection of craft, design, and technology. The research into materials and manufacturing is strengthened in practice by exploration into craft and craft practitioners' investigations into their respective mediums. He acknowledges that communicating his vision and subsequent work has been a learning experience. He believes the future of design and technology can be led by leveraging the rich skills and material knowledge of craftspeople. Oluwaseyi hopes his work will serve as a conversation piece and inspiration for a new generation of designers, engineers and craftspeople alike; "collaboration is our true way forward."
- 11.35 – 12.15 Shelley James – Making Connections across disciplines
Shelley will discuss how she has approached creating and building partnerships, opportunities and funding and how these have informed and inspired her practice as a contemporary glass artist.
- 12.20 – 1.00 Linda Brothwell – A practice in public: devising projects and partnerships
Artist Linda will focus on why her artist practice requires self-initiated projects, how she develops them and builds partnerships with venues and local authorities.
- 1.00 – 2.00 Lunch – final opportunity to sign up for breakout sessions
- 2.00 – 2.40 Ruth Singer - Making Things Happen - creating and funding artist-led partnership projects
Textile artist Ruth will outline some of the most important aspects of projects she has developed and run and, crucially, how she has gained funding for them. She will focus on her current project Criminal Quilts which combines heritage partnerships, research, community projects, exhibitions and is built around her own art textile studio practice.
- 2.40 – 3.00 Open forum and speaker panel Q&A
- 3.00 – 3.15 Coffee break
- 3.20 – 4.20 Breakout sessions:
Ruth Singer - Pain-free Project Planning
This session is aimed at anyone with an idea for a project but needs support to begin the planning process or makers who would like to begin generating projects themselves.
Ruth Singer specialises in creating arts projects alongside partners including heritage and community organisations, universities and galleries. Over the last dozen years, Ruth has developed a niche in devising and getting funding for the kind of projects she wants to run with creative practice at their core. She has an

established practice in textiles, exhibits widely and has won awards for her solo and collaborative work.

ruthsinger.com

Crafts Council – An introduction to the Talent Development Team

This session is for students and emerging makers. Anne-Laure Cano from the Crafts Council's Talent and Development team will provide an introduction to Crafts Council support and first steps in setting up a creative business.

The Crafts Council is the national development agency for the contemporary crafts in the UK. Their goal is to make the UK the best place to make, see, collect and learn about contemporary craft.

This session will be 30-40 minutes with some time for questions.

craftscouncil.org.uk

Design Nation – Programme and Membership Opportunities

Hayley Banks, Programme and Membership Manager, will present information on Design Nation's programme including opportunities for makers. Design Nation is a membership organisation; Hayley will also outline the benefits and provide application forms and the criteria that Design Nation's panel assesses against.

Design-Nation incorporating Design Factory is a membership network for designer-makers in the UK, with a national and international profile, activity programme and bespoke package of support and opportunities. Design-Nation's portfolio of members offers a one stop destination for retailers, galleries, manufacturers, the public and press, together with industry professionals who want to commission, invest and source high quality, innovative and beautiful contemporary craft and design.

designnation.co.uk

New Art West Midlands – An introduction

Craig Ashley, Director of New Art West Midlands will introduce CVAN the national contemporary visual arts network; its programme and opportunities, as well as focussing on the nuances of the West Midlands network. He will discuss New Art West Midlands' partnership with the region's art schools, and the opportunities around practice-led research as a context and resource for collaboration and developing work.

New Art West Midlands* is the Contemporary Visual Arts Network for the region. Their purpose is to strengthen and develop the contemporary visual arts sector in the West Midlands, working collectively to safeguard the future of artists and our sector as a whole.

Together with their partners, they create defining opportunities for artists and arts professionals to develop their practices through a distinctive, critically-engaged programme. Their programme strands include the annual New Art West Midlands exhibition for recent graduates, and Engine; region-wide professional development programme for artists and curators.

*New Art West Midlands was formerly known as Turning Point West Midlands (2010-16).

newartwestmidlands.co.uk

cvan.org.uk

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| 4.20 – 4.30 | Deirdre Figueiredo: closing remarks including Made in the Middle exhibition strategic review and transport to the gallery |
| 4.45 | Travel to Rugby Art Gallery & Museum for exhibition viewing |
| 5.00 – 7.00 | Viewing of Made in the Middle exhibition at Rugby Art Gallery & Museum
Refreshments provided |