

# Global Challenges Research Fund and Collaborative Research:

A Connected Communities International Symposium



6 June 2017

Image Credit :

Nathalie Dagmang

[www.curatingdevelopment.com](http://www.curatingdevelopment.com)

This AHRC-funded day symposium is focused specifically on collaborative research, including co-production, across GCRF, and brings together collaborative researchers and partners from the UK and internationally to discuss practice and potential in collaboration and development. It is a pre-Mobilising Global Voices (British Library) summit event which complements and adds to the Mobilising Community Voices break-out session there. The day includes activities such as screenings or readings to showcase and interrogate arts practice as research.

We have taken advantage of the fact that we have a set of panelists from overseas attending the British Library conference to invite them, and other relevant speakers, to a sister pre-event for another audience. This other audience—you—consists of scholars and partners from across the Connected Communities programme (including our ECRs), UEA and regional scholars and partners. We also had an open registration for other interested parties more focused on the collaborative elements and opportunities of GCRF.

The symposium also gives our international guests from several projects more time and further opportunity to discuss their activities and experiences of GCRF and collaboration. Further, it will address the great deal of interest from arts and humanities within and outside Connected Communities in collaborative research in both international and development contexts.

# Programme

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## **Global Challenges Research Fund and Collaborative Research: A Connected Communities International Symposium**

University of East Anglia

6 June 2017

**9.30 - 10.00**      **Registration, tea and coffee**

### **Introductions**

**10.00 - 10.10**      **Welcome**

*Lyndsey Stonebridge and George McKay*

**10.10 - 10.30**      **Introduction to GCRF Funding Opportunities**

*Audrey Heppleston, International and Postgraduate Research  
Funding Manager, Research and Enterprise Division, UEA*

### **International Perspectives from Individual Projects**

The following three presentations are focused on individual GCRF and related projects. Each features at least one UK-based researcher and one international community partner or artist. There will be opportunity for questions and discussions after each presentation.

**10.30-11.10**      **Creative Interruptions: Grassroots Culture, State Structures and Disconnection as a Space for 'Radical Openness'**

*Churnjeet Mahn (University of Strathclyde) and Gurmeet Rai  
(Cultural Resource Conservation Initiative, India)*

**11.10-11.50**      **Curating Development: Filipino Migrants' Investment in Philippine Futures**

*Nathalie Dagmang (Artist, Philippines) Mark Johnson  
(Goldsmiths) and Gabriela Nicolescu (Goldsmiths)*

**11.50-12.30**      **Resources of Hope: Giving Voice to Underprivileged Communities in India**  
*Graham Jeffery (University of the West of Scotland), Vinod Shetty (Acorn Foundation, India) and Tom Wakeford (Coventry University)*

**12.30-13.30**      **Lunch**

### **Panel and Plenary: Further Projects**

In this afternoon session we hear from a group of UK-based GCRF project researchers, as well as some UK community partners and international artists. We are pleased to include several projects featuring researchers from UEA. Following short presentations about each project the panellists will come together for a plenary discussion about their work and cross-project and wider GCRF issues from this afternoon's as well as this morning's discussions.

**13.30-15.30**      **Explosive Transformations: Cultural Resilience to Natural Hazard on St Vincent and Montserrat**  
*Jenni Barclay and Wendy McMahon (UEA)*

**Refugee Hosts**  
*Aydan Greatrick (UCL)*

**The Creative 'Unlocking' of Citizens in Rapidly Urbanising Communities**  
*Anna Metcalfe (UEA)*

**Patterns of Resilience Among Young People in a Community Affected by Drought**  
*Lisa Buttery (Boingboing), Angie Hart (University of Brighton) and Selogadi Mampane (artist and activist, South Africa)*

Plenary chaired by Lyndsey Stonebridge (UEA)

# Symposium Organisers

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## **Rachel Daniel**

Rachel provides administrative and event support for the Connected Communities programme from the University of East Anglia. Her background is in art and she is currently undertaking a practice-based PhD at Lancaster University exploring the use of art in healthcare environments.

## **Jessica Knights**

Jessica provides administrative support for the Connected Communities programme from the University of East Anglia. She is also the administrator on the Work, Learning and Wellbeing Evidence Programme for the ESRC funded What Works Wellbeing Centre. Her academic background is in Social Anthropology, and she has a Master's from University College London in Material and Visual Culture.

## **George McKay**

George McKay joined UEA as Professor of Media Studies in November 2014. Previously he was Professor of Cultural Studies at the University of Salford (2005-14) and UCLan (2000-05). He is currently engaged as an AHRC Leadership Fellow for its Connected Communities Programme (2012-18). Work within this at the moment includes the Reggae Research Network and a new project on DIY Culture and Participatory Arts. He is also co-investigator (2015-18) on the EU Heritage+ project, Cultural Heritage and Improvised Music in European Festivals (CHIME). Among his books are *Senseless Acts of Beauty: Cultures of Resistance since the Sixties* (Verso, 1996), *DiY Culture: Party & Protest in Nineties Britain* (ed., Verso, 1998), *Glastonbury: A Very English Fair* (Gollancz, 2000), *Community Music: A Handbook* (co-ed. with Pete Moser, Russell House, 2004), *Circular Breathing: The Cultural Politics of Jazz in Britain* (Duke UP, 2005), *Radical Gardening: Politics, Idealism and Rebellion*

*in the Garden* (Frances Lincoln, 2011), *Shakin' All Over: Popular Music and Disability* (University of Michigan Press, 2013), and *The Pop Festival: History, Music, Media, Culture* (ed., Bloomsbury, 2015).

### **Lyndsey Stonebridge**

Lyndsey Stonebridge is Professor of Modern Literature and History at the University of East Anglia. Her latest book is *The Judicial Imagination: Writing after Nuremberg* (2011/2014), Winner of the Rose Mary Crawshay Prize. *Placeless People: Rights, Writing and Refugees* is forthcoming with Oxford University Press. Her other books include: *The Destructive Element* (1998), *Reading Melanie Klein* (with John Phillips, 1998), *The Writing of Anxiety* (2007) and *British Fiction after Modernism* (with Marina MacKay, 2007). She is currently working on a large interdisciplinary project on refugee host communities in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey (<https://refugeehosts.org/>) and writing a short literary history of human rights. She is a co-editor of *Refugee History* (<http://refugeehistory.org>) and of OUP's Mid-Century series.

**Website:** [connected-communities.org](http://connected-communities.org)

**Twitter:** @ahrconnect

# Presentations

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## **Creative Interruptions: Grassroots Culture, State Structures and Disconnection as a Space for 'Radical Openness'**

*Churnjeet Mahn (University of Strathclyde) and Gurmeet Rai (Cultural Resource Conservation Initiative, India)*

Creative Interruptions is a three-year AHRC-funded project which focuses on how marginalised communities use the arts, media and creativity to challenge exclusion. Collaborators include migrant and long-term resident food factory and warehouse workers in the East of England; African, Caribbean and South Asian screen practitioners and activists in the UK; refugee, migrant and LGBT communities in Northern Ireland; Palestinian filmmakers and solidarity networks in the UK and internationally; and a cross-section of communities in Punjab and the Punjabi diaspora. The research team is based at Brunel University London, Sussex, Sheffield Hallam University, Queen's University Belfast, and Strathclyde.

Within these contexts, we explore the role of culture in representing diverse communities, especially those that have been found to be excluded from the creative industries and disenfranchised more widely through the enactment of law, public policy, and social practices that can create obstacles for all citizens to participate fully and have their voices heard. Creative Interruptions responds to recent academic and industry debates by asking what mainstream creative practice might learn from more marginalised creative practice. Gurmeet Rai (CRCI, Delhi) and Churnjeet Mahn (University of Strathclyde) are leading a strand of the project which examines grassroots approaches to understanding heritage in Amritsar, Punjab alongside how we can democratise access to heritage and its management through creative interventions.



**Churnjeet Mahn** is a Chancellor's Fellow and Senior Lecturer in English Literature at Strathclyde. Her research falls into the areas of heritage and memory in conflict, and travel studies, with a special interest in gender. Her first monograph, *British Women's Travel to Greece, 1840-1914* (Ashgate, 2012) analysed the interplay between discourses of Hellenism and Orientalism in nineteenth-century British women's writing. She was Principal Investigator on the AHRC Grant, 'A Punjabi Palimpsest: Cultural Memory and Amnesia at the Aam Khas Bagh' which was a collaborative project focussing on the impact of Partition on Mughal-era heritage in Punjab (India). She is currently working on a CI on the AHRC project, Creative Interruptions where she is investigating grassroots approaches to maintaining heritage in Amritsar, Punjab.

**Gurmeet S. Rai** is a conservation architect based in New Delhi, India. She graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture from the Chandigarh College of Architecture in 1988, followed by Master's in Architectural Conservation from the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi, in 1989-1990. In her initial years of professional practice she worked in the Architectural Heritage Department of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) in New Delhi. This gave her the opportunity to observe and understand the challenges of conservation practice in the country. In 1996 she set up the Cultural Resource Conservation Initiative (CRCI), a conservation consultancy firm. Gurmeet has been a proponent of a multidisciplinary approach to heritage conservation. Based on this understanding she conceptualized and implemented, Culture of Peace and Promotion of Understanding in Punjab, a UNESCO-UNDP- funded project. In this project she brought in a unique perspective—that of heritage conservation through community participation. This process empowered the community in tackling the development issues in village Kishankot in Punjab. The project won CRCI the Award of Distinction of UNESCO's Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards programme in 2001.

# **Curating Development: Filipino Migrants' Investment in Philippine Futures**

*Nathalie Dagmang (Artist, Philippines) Mark Johnson (Goldsmiths) and Gabriela Nicolescu (Goldsmiths)*

**[www.curatingdevelopment.com](http://www.curatingdevelopment.com)**

**[www.facebook.com/curatingdevelopmentphilippines/](https://www.facebook.com/curatingdevelopmentphilippines/)**

## **Researchers**

Mark Johnson & Gabriela Nicolescu (Goldsmiths, University of London)

Deirdre McKay (Keele University)

Maggy Lee (Hong Kong University)

## **Project Partners**

Susan Cueva and Rafael Joseph Maramag (Kanlungan Consortium, London)

Lenlen Mesina (Enrich HK)

Marla Asis (Scalabrini Center for Migration, Manila)

## **Participating Artists**

Nathalie Dagmang, London & Manila

Guhit Kulay, Hong Kong

## **Summary**

Curating Development employs community-based art events and public exhibitions in London, Hong Kong and Manila to raise and address questions about the welfare of Filipino migrants and their contributions to national development in their home country. Academics have debated the extent to which migration is a driver of development or of underdevelopment, but our approach transcends this debate. Our two, interlinked aims are: a) to define how, when and under what conditions migrants can contribute to development and b) to examine how art and curation can increase the benefits of those development contributions and enhance migrants' welfare.

We combine established ethnographic methods including participant observation, with curatorial research practice involving community-based arts events to investigate the nature of Filipino migrant workers' investments in their own country. Using photographic and collage techniques with objects and images from social media, camera phones, posted photographs and personal collections, we have asked migrants to illustrate both their experiences as migrant care workers living abroad and their contributions to development in home country. We have asked them also about challenges, risks and vulnerabilities, and what they would do differently, and what they would like those in power to change, were they able.

From those initial art events a range of images will be selected in conjunction with our project partners and printed for the exhibition. The printed images will form the basis of our planned exhibitions in London, Hong Kong and Manila. Additionally we have commissioned art work from Nathalie Dagmang, a Filipino artist undertaking a residency at Liverpool Hope University, and a group of artists, Guhit Kulay, in Hong Kong who will be responding to the images produced and shared in our workshops. These artists have also helped to facilitate workshops and will work with us to co-produce our exhibitions. Alongside of the planned exhibitions we will convene round-table workshops with for NGOs and policy audiences, as well as academics, around the exhibitions to discuss how these precarious, small-scale investments could be scaled-up to generate ongoing employment in-country and more secure income streams. We will reflect these discussions back to migrants and the wider diasporic community through our project website and social media.

**Gabriela Nicolescu** is an Associate Lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at Goldsmiths, University of London. Her general research and teaching interests include tourism and migration, the anthropology of art and museum studies, and medical, economic and political anthropology from material and visual perspectives. She is primarily concerned with the politics of representation and exhibition making in ethnographic museums. She has conducted fieldwork in Romania, UK, Hong Kong and south-eastern Italy and has curated exhibitions in Austria, Romania and the UK. She has published articles for the *Journal of Design History*, the *Journal of Material Culture* and *World Art*.

**Dr Mark Johnson** is Reader in Anthropology at Goldsmiths, University of London. He was a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Anthropology at Stockholm University, Autumn 2014, funded by the Forum for Asian Studies and was Visiting Professor in the Graduate School of Space and Gender, Universities of Gottingen-Kassel in April, 2011. He was CI and now chair of the international expert advisory board for the EU funded Horizon 2020 Marie Curie ITN GRACE (Gender and Cultures of Equality in Europe) project which is directed by Dr Suzanne Clisby at the University of Hull. He is PI of the AHRC funded project, Curating Development: Filipino Migrants' Investment in Philippine Futures which combines community arts based workshop and exhibitions to raise and address questions about the welfare of Filipino migrants and their contributions to national development in their home country. He is also PI of a British Academy funded project Big Data, Live Methods and Surveillance Subjectivities among Transnational Migrants in Hong Kong.

**Nathalie Dagmang** is an artist born and based in Manila, Philippines. In 2015, she received her Bachelor in Fine Arts Studio Arts Major in Sculpture from the University of the Philippines. Her works make use of ethnographic practices such as participative observation, interviews and background research. Her investigative projects involve two communities she had personal ties with: Barangay Tumana, a riverine community in the Philippines and groups of Filipino migrant workers / immigrants in the UK. Since 2012, she has been exhibiting her works in various galleries and community spaces in the Philippines, Singapore and the UK. In 2016, she was awarded the Ateneo Art Award and was granted studio residencies in Liverpool and Singapore. Today, she is working with groups of Curators and Anthropologists on two projects: the AHRC-funded Curating Development in the UK, and Case No. 5: Escolta, Manila under The Southeast Asia Neighborhoods Network (SEANNET) program in the Philippines.

## **Resources of Hope: Giving Voice to Underprivileged Communities in India**

*Graham Jeffery (University of the West of Scotland), Vinod Shetty (Acorn Foundation, India) and Tom Wakeford (Coventry University)*

The AHRC *Resources of Hope* collaboration supports a transformation in how people from these two communities of people experiencing oppression, one rural (Telangana) one urban (Dharavi) are viewed by others. Members of our core team, made up of artists, participatory workers and researchers such as N.Madhoo (Yakshi), Graham Jeffery (University of West Scotland), Ben Parry (Bath Spa University), P.Sainath (People's Archive of Rural India) see democratising access to knowledge and the valuing of expertise gained through experience as a vital means of implementing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

We are working *in situ* with members of the Dharavi Project and the Food Sovereignty Alliance to allow activists to articulate their hopes and strategies for their communities to obtain their rights to food autonomy, housing and democratic participation under the Indian constitution.

- People whose voices have been excluded are recording and archiving testimonies and histories that are not normally represented in the mainstream media.
- New forms of representation of urban and rural communities in India will help reshape perceptions through first-hand accounts and a collective documentation of people's lives. We will engage the local and international media to disseminate their visions of the future and demands for change.
- We will build new capacities for dialogue between researchers and NGOs in the UK and India in the field of participatory use of multi-media in the context of rising inequality.

Further information about our project partners can be found at:

**[foodsovereigntyalliance.wordpress.com](http://foodsovereigntyalliance.wordpress.com) and [dharaviproject.org](http://dharaviproject.org).**

**Vinod Shetty** is Honorary Director of Acorn Foundation, a registered non-profit public trust which has been working in the Dharavi area of Mumbai since 2008. The Dharavi Project is an initiative started by Acorn Foundation for the welfare of Rag pickers/waste collectors and their families in Mumbai. The project initially started by producing a documentary “WASTE” which was shown in colleges and schools of Mumbai. Acorn then started a community centre in Dharavi with its own resources. This acts as an office, recycling centre, library and school for the rag pickers.

Dharavi Rocks is a percussion band music collective consisting of thirty children and young people aged from 8 to 23 years old. An initiative of the music class of the Acorn Foundation, it has involved popular Indian musicians like Suneeta Rao, Shankar Mahadevan, Agnee as well as Blue Frog (a Mumbai jazz club) and the Young Creatives project at Roundhouse (Camden, London). The band plays their own compositions and other tunes in schools, colleges and public events on recycled Plastic drums. They act as ambassadors for Acorns recycling campaign.

**Dr Sagari Ramdas** is a member of the Kūdali Inter-generational Learning Centre in the recently-formed Indian State of Telangana and of the Food Sovereignty Alliance, India. She is also Honorary Research Associate at the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience, Coventry University, UK. Together they form a common platform supporting the bringing together of adivasi (indigenous people), dalit, pastoralist and small and marginal farmers social movements along with co-strugglers, to build solidarity with one another for a common vision in defence of our sovereign rights to food and the rights of mother earth.

Kūdali uses a range of creative, transformative and emancipatory methods, such as visualisation, art in transformation, media for action, and forum theatre based on Augusto Boal’s Theatre of the Oppressed. Activists use these approaches to deepen reflection for advancing actions.

**Dr Tom Wakeford** is Reader in Public Science and Lead Practitioner at PeoplesKnowledge.org, which is based at the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience, Coventry University, UK. His collaborations in India span 18 years, including Farmer Foresight (1999-2000) and Prajateerpu (2001-2). He is a policy adviser to the Commissioners to the Supreme Court of India (Right to Food Case). Along with others he has contributed to the establishing of the new EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities. His most recent book is *People's Knowledge and Participatory Action Research: Escaping the white-walled labyrinth* (2016). He has editorial positions at the journals *Action Research* and *Citizen Science*.

The speakers and **Graham Jeffery** (University of West Scotland) are all partners in the AHRC Resources of Hope project, supporting a transformation in how people from these two communities of oppressed people, one rural (Telangana) one urban (Dharavi) are viewed by others.

# **Explosive Transformations: Cultural Resilience to Natural Hazard on St Vincent and Montserrat**

*Jenni Barclay and Wendy McMahon (UEA)*

This project examines the ways in which response to and recovery from future volcanic events on the Eastern Caribbean islands of St Vincent and Montserrat is shaped by the cultural memory and narratives developed through past experiences. The project is interdisciplinary in its conception and design, bringing literary studies together with volcanology, international development, and project partners responsible for future emergency response on the islands, to allow for a thorough investigation of the ways in which resident populations have responded historically to severe natural threat, how crises have been dealt with, and recovery undertaken. In this way the project explores the extent to which knowledge of disaster translates between cultural and scientific experiences of volcanic risk and the extent to which cultural experience of past risk shapes future response by offering a comparative analysis of the literary record, oral traditions and histories, songs, and other artistic expressions, and working with local populations to gain an understanding of the place of the volcano in the cultural imaginary.

The PI, Co-Is, and Project Researcher will work closely with the Project Partners, combining our different sets of knowledge and expertise, research methodologies and practices in order to examine the ways that literary studies can be conducive to new models of scientific, social, and political development. The project will combine literary scholarship to explore the place of the volcano in Caribbean literature and oral culture, archival research to search out evidence of experiences of past eruptions that are hidden from the official colonial records, focus-groups and interviews with local communities on both St Vincent and Montserrat as well as the islands' diasporas in the UK, and a three day workshop in the Eastern Caribbean bringing together the Project Investigators and Researcher, the Project Partners, and other invited stakeholders from literary scholars, writers and performers, artistic figures, archivists and publishing houses, and civil and community groups where



we will discuss our findings and explore the ways in which they can be put to the most use for the communities affected by volcanic risk.

**Jenni Barclay** is Professor of Volcanology in the School of Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia. Jenni enjoys using interdisciplinary approaches to understand everything she can about volcanoes and the impact they have on the communities that live alongside them. Consequently, she has been involved in projects which range from understanding the ways in which magma is stored prior to eruption, to analysing the interaction of intense rainfall with volcanic eruptions and understanding how knowledge of volcanic hazards can be used to reduce volcanic risk.

**Wendy McMahon** is a Senior Lecturer in American Studies at the University of East Anglia.

## **Refugee Hosts**

### **Local Community Experiences of Displacement from Syria: Views from Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey**

*Aydan Greatrick (UCL)*

Refugee Hosts is an interdisciplinary AHRC-ESRC funded PaCCS project supported through the UK's GCRF. The four year project (2016-2020) aims to improve our understanding of the challenges and opportunities that arise in local responses to displacement, both for refugees from Syria and for the members of the communities that are hosting them in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. In particular, we will conduct ethnographic research with nine local communities in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey, as well as a series of creative writing and translation workshops, to investigate the explicit and implicit roles played by faith, history, memory, literature, nationality, gender and policy in framing local level hospitality and hostility toward refugees.

**Aydan Greatrick** is the project and communications coordinator for the Refugee Hosts project. His research focuses on the roles that gender and sexuality play in determining responses to and engagements with refugees, with particular reference to refugees from Syria in Turkey and Europe. He has a B.A. (hons) in history from the University of Cambridge and an M.Sc. in global migration from University College London. You can contact Aydan on @AydanEG or aydan.greatrick.15@ucl.ac.uk

## The Creative 'Unlocking' of Citizens in Rapidly Urbanising Communities

*Anna Metcalfe (UEA)*

Urban populations are particularly vulnerable to extreme weather events related to climate change, especially heat waves and floods. This vulnerability is caused by a combination of factors including existing inequalities, high population, unrepresentative governance and high exposure to particular environmental hazards. As cities emerge from smaller settlements the opportunity exists to tackle the ongoing reproduction of poverty, marginalization and vulnerability. Yet, urban development rarely seeks to actively 'unlock' citizens, particularly those who are most marginalized, from high states of vulnerability. All too often, the voices and needs of marginalized and vulnerable communities are not given the visibility and prominence to affect positive changes. Our project, funded by the GCRF network call, aims to shed light on the kinds of policies that could allow these communities to have a voice in their rapidly developing communities and urban surroundings. It brings together a diverse range of institutions and partners from across the social, natural and arts and humanities in addition to a practitioner organization. One of the project's aims is to use the creative writing process to help engage with participants and audiences in new and innovative ways beyond the traditional domains of natural and social science approaches. It's our creative approaches that will be the focus of this presentation.

**Anna Metcalfe** is a writer and academic, currently working at the University of East Anglia and soon to join the University of Birmingham. Her first book, *Blind Water Pass*, is a collection of short stories that seeks to explore the complications and pitfalls of cross cultural communication. She is currently working on a series of essays about the politics of hope, which draws on her interdisciplinary collaborations with the International Development department at the UEA.

## **Patterns of Resilience Among Young People in a Community Affected by Drought**

*Lisa Buttery (Boingboing), Angie Hart (University of Brighton) and Selogadi Mampane (artist and activist)*

Our project is focusing on young people in the South African municipality of Govan Mbeki. Ours is a multi- and cross-disciplinary research project. Our collaboration includes international partners including Khulisa Social Solutions, BoingBoing , leading academics in the UK, South Africa and Canada and postgraduate students.

Khulisa Social Solutions is a community organisation in South Africa supporting youth-led health and social care interventions. Young people with lived experience of adversity, from the UK-based social enterprise are also involved. Other academics joining in with the research include Dr Clare Kelso from the University of Johannesburg, Professor Liesel Ebersöhn, Dr Motlalepule Mampane and Professor Linda Theron from the University of Pretoria (UP). Professor Theron is leading the South African team with master's student Mosna Khalie working as the Project Manager and a dedicated team of master's students joining in as co-researchers.

The overarching aim of the research project is to find the best ways to help young people in South Africa to communicate their resilient responses to drought, and find ways that adults, governments and indeed young people themselves can 'change the odds' which put young people at risk.

The research team are:

- using a blend of approaches from the sciences, arts and social sciences, together with information from archived newspapers, colonial records and rainfall data, to produce a timeline of droughts from the mid-nineteenth century.
- working with a community partner and local masters students to encourage young people from Govan Mbeki to use arts-based activities to explore and communicate their personal, family, community, cultural, and environmental responses to times of drought.
- sharing the timelines of drought severity with each young person and supporting them in approaching one adult to gather historical narratives of drought-related changes to their community and explore how the community coped with these challenges.

The academic team, students, youth and community organisations are using the data generated from these activities to co-produce a strategy to support the resilience of young people to drought-related challenges. This strategy will use drama to share knowledge and develop collective approaches to environmental challenges and opportunities. The youth researchers are being supported in identifying a creative medium of their choice through which to communicate their emergent resilience strategy to relevant stakeholders.

**Lisa Buttery** is one of three UK youth co-researchers working with young South African co-researchers on this project. She works for the social enterprise Boingboing which supports young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to become involved in training and research around resilience ([www.boingboing.org.uk](http://www.boingboing.org.uk)). Lisa is a visual artist and an artist in residence at Boingboing. She has lived experience of growing up in severe adversity which she has drawn on to develop training and research on resilience. She has co-produced a guide to using arts-based practices to support young people to develop resilience as part of a previous Arts and Humanities Research Council Funded Project and has co-developed games to help young people develop resilience, again as part of AHRC and other funded projects. Her lived experience as a participant in research projects as well as that of co-facilitating arts workshops has been invaluable for our GCRF project.

Twenty eight year old South African collaborator **Selogadi Mampane** is a performer, grass-roots activist and qualified artist. She works as a peacebuilder alongside NGOs. Her academic focus is on performance as a tool for activism and research. In our project on Patterns of Resilience to Drought she is facilitating our young South African co-researchers with lived experience of adversity to collectively develop image theatre performances from their own experiences of drought.

**Professor Angie Hart** is a co-productive researcher working at the University of Brighton in the School of Health Sciences. She is also the Academic Director of the University's Community University Partnership Programme. Angie is an interdisciplinary social scientist working across the fields of sociology, psychology, social anthropology, education. She also has a strong interest in, and knowledge of, visual and performing arts research approaches, having worked on a number of research projects funded by, or co-funded by the AHRC. Resilience is her particular area of expertise and, in a voluntary capacity, she co-runs a not-for-profit focused on resilience-based practices – <http://www.boingboing.org.uk/>.

# Notes

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