



Inspiring Futures

*Understanding the Meaning & Impact of
the Arts in Criminal Justice*

Conference

Programme Booklet

Inspiring Futures Partnership

National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance: <https://artsincriminaljustice.org.uk/>

Clean Break: <https://www.cleanbreak.org.uk/>

Geese Theatre Company: <https://www.geese.co.uk/>

Good Vibrations: <https://www.good-vibrations.org.uk/>

Helix Arts: <https://www.helixarts.com/>

Irene Taylor Trust: <https://irenetaylortrust.com/>

Koestler Arts: <https://koestlerarts.org.uk/>

Only Connect: <https://onlyconnectuk.org/>

Open Clasp Theatre Company: <https://www.openclasp.org.uk/>

University of Cambridge Institute of Criminology:
<https://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/>

Inspiring Futures Research Webpage: <https://www.if.crim.cam.ac.uk/>

Overview

We are delighted to welcome you to the Institute of Criminology here at the University of Cambridge, for the Inspiring Futures end-of-project conference. We hope you enjoy the day.

9:30 – 10:00	Arrival & refreshments
10:00 – 10:10	Welcome
10:10 – 11:10	Session 1: The impact of arts projects for participants in prison and community justice settings
11:10 – 11:30	Break
11:30 – 12:30	Session 2: Beyond participants – the wider impact of arts projects in criminal justice settings
12:30 – 1:15	Lunch (provided)
1:15 – 2:10	Creative workshop
2:10-3:10	Session 3: Mechanisms and key aspects of arts projects in criminal justice settings
3:10 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 4:15	Session 4: Research Round Table
4:15 – 4:30	End matter

All are welcome to stay for a short time for informal drinks afterwards.

Session Outlines

Session 1: The impact of arts projects for participants in prison and community justice settings

This session presents our findings on how participants experienced and were impacted by the arts programmes. It describes the quantitative and qualitative data in relation to three particular areas: participants' creative development ('creative capital'), participants' inner worlds – that is, on their wellbeing, self-perception and personal development – and participants' social lives and opportunities.

Chair: Sarah Doxat-Pratt

Speakers: Caroline Lanskey

Respondents: Laura Caulfield (University of Wolverhampton)

Lee Cutter (artist, leecutter.com)

Session 2: Beyond participants – the wider impact of arts projects in criminal justice settings

This session will discuss the impact of arts projects on the wider network of people who engage with them. It will begin by presenting findings about how prison staff are impacted by their involvement in the projects. It will then discuss the impacting of the Inspiring Futures Exhibition on the public audience, particularly with regards to perceptions of the criminal justice system and people with convictions.

Chair: Caroline Lanskey

Speakers: Sarah Doxat-Pratt

Respondents: Kirstin Anderson (Edinburgh Napier University)

Pia Sinha (Prison Reform Trust)

Creative Workshop

An interactive insight into the work of Geese Theatre Company, engaging the whole audience in an exploration of their use of mask and theatre performance in prison contexts.

Session 3: Mechanisms and key aspects of arts projects in criminal justice settings

In this session we move beyond highlighting the value of the arts to focus on the major organisational, pedagogical and social mechanisms that were central to ensuring the successful running of the programmes and enabling impact.

Chair: Loraine Gelsthorpe

Speakers: Caroline Lanskey, Sarah Doxat-Pratt

Respondents: Zee Cassoneca (HMP Norwich)

Leonidas Cheliotis (London School of Economics)

Session 4: Roundtable on researching arts in criminal justice

A panel session focused on learning lessons from Inspiring Futures and discussing what next for research into the arts in criminal justice. The session will begin with starter questions from the Chair, and then the whole group are encouraged to ask or comment.

Chair: Caroline Lanskey

Contributors: Sarah Doxat-Pratt (Inspiring Futures research)

Anna Herrmann (Clean Break)

Sara Lee (Irene Taylor Trust)

Lorraine Maher (National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance)

Speaker Bios

Kirstin Anderson

Kirstin Anderson is a Lecturer in Criminology at Edinburgh Napier University. She has taught in community centres, schools, universities and prisons for twenty-one years. Kirstin's PhD was the first empirical study to look at music education and music making in Scottish prisons. One of her most recent projects, along with Dr Inês Lamela, explores music making between mothers and their babies that reside in custody with them in the UK and in Portugal. She's also working on a project that explores the visual culture of imprisonment as presented by incarcerated men in Scottish prisons through prisoner made magazines. Kirstin leads book groups in HMP Shotts, which has been running for six and a half years, and at the Liliac centre, a Community Custody Unit for women in Scotland. She is the current Trustee Chair of the non-profit organisation Justice and Arts Scotland (JAS).

Zee Cassoneca

Having been born in Angola, raised in Portugal and settled in Norwich, Zee has been engaged in UK adult government funded educational programmes for nearly 20 years. Starting as an IT and ESOL teacher, Zee has gone on to lead a successful digital apprenticeship programme in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk and then moved to managing the Education Provision at HMP Norwich and is now piloting the new nationwide role of Head of Education, Skills and Work for Ministry of Justice.

In his role as Education Manager, Zee has championed the Lullaby Project in collaboration with Irene Taylor Trust. He has seen firsthand the impact it made to enriching prisoners' lives, giving them a goal and purpose, helping them foster connection with their families and children -- fundamentally giving human beings in a prison essential tools, coping strategies and motivation to stay inspired, resilient and build a better and brighter future for themselves and their families.

Now Zee's focus lies in reducing the chance of reoffending and helping prisoners create new lives for themselves so that they can find a sense of purpose again and be fully integrated in their local communities.

Laura Caulfield

Professor Laura Caulfield PhD is Director of the Institute for Community Research and Development at the University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom. Laura is a psychologist and her research focuses on the impact of interventions in criminal justice. Laura is currently leading a five-year evaluation of the West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit, funded by the Home Office. Her latest book, 'Arts in Criminal Justice and Corrections: International perspectives on methods, journeys, and challenges', is due out with Routledge in 2024.

Leonidas Cheliotis

Leonidas Cheliotis is an Associate Professor and Deputy Head of the Department of Social Policy at LSE, where he also directs the Mannheim Centre for Criminology. A graduate of Cambridge's Institute of Criminology, he has published widely in the field of the sociology of punishment – including work on the relationship between the arts and imprisonment – and has won several international awards for his research. Amongst others, he has edited *The Arts of Imprisonment: Control, Resistance and Empowerment* (Routledge, 2012).

Lee Cutter

Lee Cutter (b. 1988, Sunderland) is an artist and independent curator with almost ten years experience collaborating with organisations in the criminal justice sector, most notably with Koestler Arts. He is a current fellow of the Jerwood Curatorial Accelerator; a leadership development programme for curators from underrepresented backgrounds, addressing the lack of inclusion and diversity of people from working class/low socio economic backgrounds in the UK's visual arts sector.

Lee first engaged in the arts during his late teens while serving time in a Young Offending Institution and often reflects on this experience when making artwork. His sculptures and drawings have been exhibited in the Royal Academy of Arts, Christie's and NGCA, and are held within the Royal Collection, Dumfries House collection and the National Art Library at the V&A Museum.

Sarah Doxat-Pratt

Sarah has been the Research Associate for Inspiring Futures. Having trained as a musician, she developed an interest in music in different community settings, and her PhD (completed February 2019) investigated the use of music projects in prisons. Her research interests include community arts practice, the experience and effects of imprisonment and community supervision, and rehabilitation and desistance. She has been involved in conducting evaluations of charities and policy initiatives in local contexts. She will shortly be moving to a new Research Fellow post at the University of Nottingham, where she will be working on a project investigating penal supervision across the UK and Ireland.

Lorraine Gelsthorpe

Professor Lorraine Gelsthorpe (PhD, FHEA, FRSA and FAcSS) is former Director of the Institute of Criminology. She has wide ranging interests in the links between criminal justice and social justice and first focused on the arts in relation to criminal justice in 2007 with an evaluation of Music in Prisons (*Beats and Bars*, 2008, with co-author Alexandra Cox). As well as an abiding interest in the value and meaning of the arts, she is currently doing research on vicarious trauma amongst third sector workers, and on women and sentencing; she has an extensive publications list. Lorraine was awarded the European Society of Criminology Lifetime Achievement Award in 2021, and the British Society of Criminology Outstanding Achievement Award for distinction in contributions to British Criminology 2023.

Caroline Lanskey

Caroline Lanskey is an Associate Professor in Criminology and Criminal Justice at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge and Director of its Justice and Society Research Centre. Her research draws on her interdisciplinary expertise in criminology, education (sociology and philosophy) and language, and explores the human and social dimensions of criminal justice involvement with a particular focus on processes of marginalisation and inclusion. She has led a number of research projects investigating the role of education and the arts in criminal justice systems and is currently co-Principal Investigator of the Inspiring Futures research programme.

Pia Sinha

Pia joined the Prison Service in 1999 as a Higher Psychologist at HMP & YOI Holloway. After joining HMP Wandsworth as a Senior Psychologist, she took up the post of Head of Safer Prisons, followed by Head of Reducing Re-offending at HMP Wormwood Scrubs. She then took up her first Deputy Governor role at HMP Send, and subsequently Downview and Liverpool. In 2013 Pia was appointed to her first Governing role at HMP & YOI Thorn Cross, going on to govern at both Risley and Liverpool. In 2020 she became Acting Deputy Director Probation Reform Programme, then the Workforce Programme, before becoming Director of Women in November 2021. Pia's vision for the Women's Directorate was to enable safe, compassionate and individualised care for women. In April 2023 Pia became the CEO of the Prison Reform Trust.

