Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
November 2014

CREATIVE PRACTICE FOR CHANGE: A MICRO-EXAMPLE OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

Three areas to discuss

- Leadership (not management; alongside)
- Creative practice (research; whose practice?)
- Change (community participants; artists)

Challenging concepts of 'liquid' place through performing practices in community contexts 2011-2014 (AHRC)

www.challengingplace.org



The aim of the project was to investigate the research questions:

- What can practical intervention tell us about how abstract concepts such as place, community, dislocation and belonging, as theorised by contemporary academics, map onto the 'real life' experiences of vulnerable social groups?
- Can one or more models of performance practices help ease feelings of 'dislocation' among community participants, where such feelings exist?'
- How might such models be evaluated, disseminated and made fully accessible to community theatre organisations?

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- That place mattered today
- That place could be shifted in one's perception through performing practices.
- That this could happen in a number of ways
- That we wouldn't have a clue about some of the outcomes.
- Some of the key tenets held included:
- Using performance that subverted or shifted the everyday, such that the quotidian everyday place was re-viewed.
- Repeatedly 'performing' a place added a number of layers of memory and 'enriched' the meaning of that place, therefore.
- That places of fear might be shifted through performing them
- That a person's identity might be reconceived by those living there through performing a place.
- That this is a participatory activity and is most interesting/effective when those who live there are the 'performers' of place.







• www.performingplaces.org

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Leadership

Enthusiasm

Integrity

Toughness

Fairness

Warmth

Humility

Personal care

Personal example

Clear vision, direction

Inspiring to achieve

Inspiring to aim high

Communicator

Change agent

Commercially astute

Motivated

Resilient

Conflict resolver

Diversity manager

Time, priority manager

Celebrator of success

Humorous

Authentic

Resources manager

Good follower

Cialdini

Buckingham

Porter

Goleman

Covey

Tracy

Posner

Kanter

Kotter

Drucker

Blanchard

Friedman

Katzenbatch

Maslow

Peters

Adair

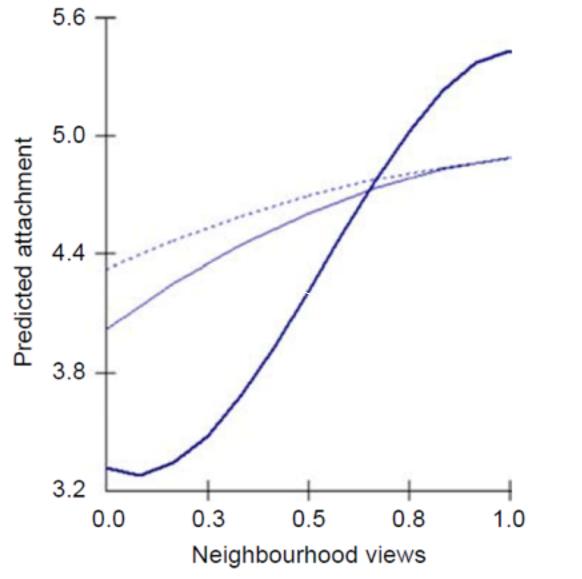
Gladwell

Welch

Collins

Kouzes

- http:// www.challengingplacehalfmoon.org/ concepts.html
- http:// www.challengingplacehalfmoon.org/ activities.html
- http:// www.challengingplacehalfmoon.org/ activities.html



Bailey, Kearns and Livingston (2012)

Challenging Place Video