



Dance & Museums Conversation 3

11 Jan 2017 at Museum of Bath at Work

Programme Summary

<u>Welcome</u>	Deryck Newland, Pavilion Dance South West
<u>Housekeeping</u>	Stuart Burroughs, Museum of Bath at Work
<u>Introduction</u>	Samuel Rowlands, Arts Council England
<u>Conversation</u>	Deryck Newland (Chair), Emily Malcolm, Julian Lewis, Stuart Burroughs: working with young people in dance & museums

Collection Exploration

Introduction Sally Lewis;

Collections/museum exploration with Stuart Burroughs Museum of Bath at Work, <http://www.bath-at-work.org.uk/> Roman Baths collections volunteer, <https://www.romanbaths.co.uk/> Stella Man & collections volunteer, Glenside Hospital Museum <http://www.glensidemuseum.org.uk/>).

Follow up discussion with Zannah Doan, Pavilion Dance South West; Stuart Burroughs, Stella Man & Sally Lewis. Sharing by Bath Spa dance students.

Presentation

Luke Antysz & Sara Mather, 3rd Stage Dance, on collaboration with Bristol Museums & Pavilion Dance South West based upon 'Death: The Human Experience' exhibition.

<http://3rdstagedance.com/museum-dances/>

Film showing Bath Spa University dance students' work with The Holburne Museum (March 2016) <https://vimeo.com/167240498>

Presentation & questions with Sarah Alexander, Chris Lewis-Smith and the students, Bath Spa University

Presentation June Gamble, Plymouth Dance & Judith Robertson, Plymouth Museum & Art Gallery: dance & museum Collaborations

Final discussion & next steps Zannah Doan & Sally Lewis

Evaluation

No of delegate feedback forms: 15 (/24)

No of speakers/organisers forms: 6

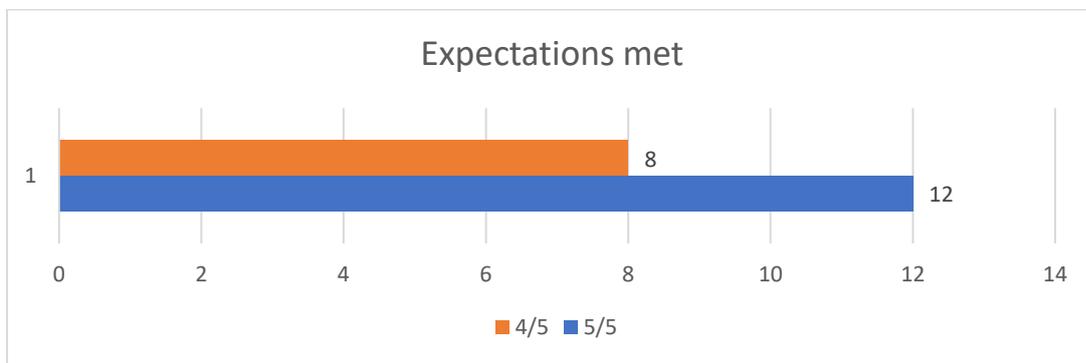
Total No of feedback forms: 21

Total attending: 40 (19 speakers/organisers)

Question 1: Where did you hear about the event?

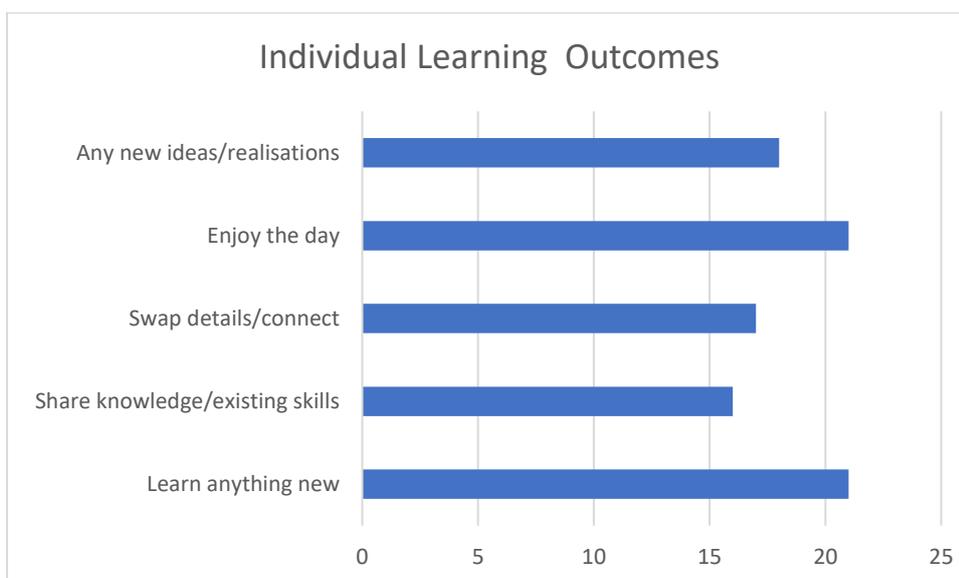
Bath Spa University (4), Bath Spa Uni dance facebook group, Mailing list?/Arts Council for Wales?, Zannah/PDSW mailing (4), a colleague (via Sally Lewis), Polly (3rd Stage Dance), Reading Museum Coordinator, museum colleague/email/online, colleague, MA website, Sally Lewis (3)

Question 2: Did the event generally meet your expectations? (rate 1-5 low-high)



Question 3: Individual Learning Outcomes (Did you have any new ideas/realisations, enjoy the day, swap details/connect with anyone new, share knowledge/existing skills, learn anything new?)

All those who gave feedback learnt something new and enjoyed the day.



New ideas/realisations (please expand)

- “New inspiration as a performer/choreographer for future potential work. The potential for museum and dance work is endless and there is a gap in the market for it.
- New inspirations for dance projects
- Want to contact more museums & make work in response
- Lots! logistics, scope of stimulus, use of space, funding opps. How to work sympathetically in museum spaces & exhibits.
- Possible project for BYDC and/or something to develop with my Bath hat on. How interested and open museums are to collaborating & that there’s already a lot happening in Bath- possible partners.
- Realisations of questions! Working in a theatre space, how to bring the sense of collections into a new space.
- Where to find out how to apply the art council funding
- Ideas on how to use @ my museum- unlocking stories
- Conversations with potential partners, possibly leading to the creation of the event
- Broadened my horizons on how dance & museums can collaborate – especially how both could collaborate out of their own context. Also discussed new ideas with new contacts.”

Question 4: Anything which could have been improved?

Several ideas for further events focussing on further information and networking.

- “Would have been interesting to hear more about inter-generational projects with museums.
- More networking facilitation. Smaller group discussions? Opportunity to introduce ourselves/our organisations/projects to whole group.
- Perhaps a more structured networking section to quickly identify connections in practice/interest.
- Possibility of breakout sessions/conversations in smaller groups
- More tangible outcomes at the summary was useful, more of this would have been positive
- More practical tips, showing of events/project sharing coming up.
- Catering issues in terms of dietary requirements.
- Laptop and sound made ready
- Shame the order of the day was changed due to technical difficulties, as case studies in the morning would have given stimulus for discussion
- Perhaps a tour of the museum?”

Question 5: Any other comments?

- “Really enjoyed the day. Great film example from bath spa. More visual demos/sharing would have been nice.
- Great to see what else is happening in the world of dance , and what other groups/projects are being explored.
- What a fab day! Lots of provoking questions and lots to soak in and digest. So enriching to hear from people from different sides of a big conversation...
- Sadly couldn’t chat too much due to lost voice! Learnt a lot- lots of notes! Thanks ☺
- Need to keep the conversation going throughout the year, social media probably the answer.
- Re online collections: not sure this is feasible/more important to get museums right utilise as inspiration

- Would be useful to have online all documentation of projects that are museum & dance collaborations
- The message clearly came across that to keep the network going and conversation flowing, people need to get actively involved – I hope that they do!
- Would like to do more collaborations”

Question 6: Have you taken part in any dance and museum collaborations? (not spoken about today)

12 people had taken part in dance and museum work not shared today. One quoted was Artis St Fagans museum of Welsh Life project-(Artiscommunity.org.uk). This demonstrates there is material for future sharings and further resources which could be made available. Also, that a common evaluation framework and coordination of these evaluations in one place to inform best practice has potential.

Question 7: Are you aware of our resources on the PDSW Dance & Museum page?

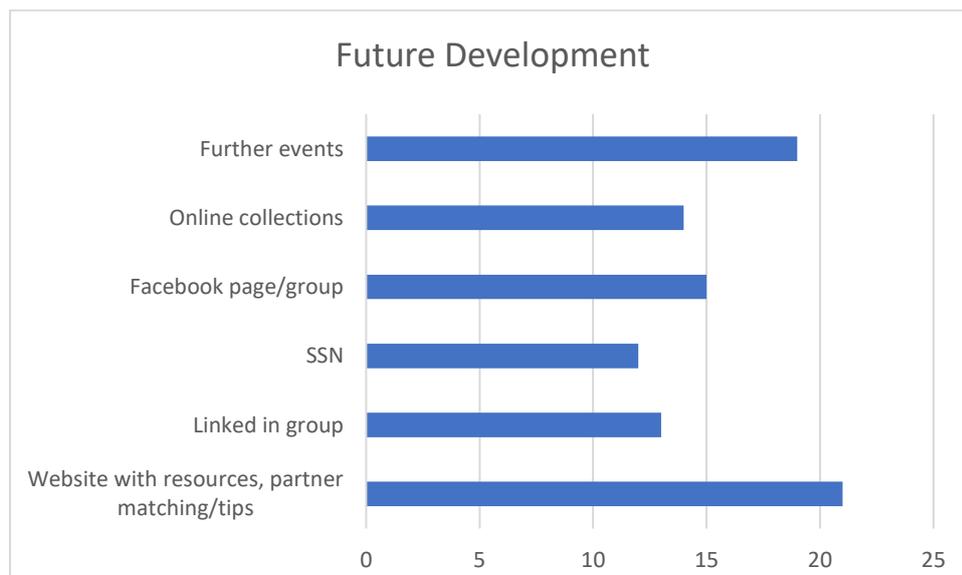
Question 8: Do you have any links which could be added?

Seven people were aware of the resources on the PDSW page. This indicates many were not aware of the page (or not until today). Three people (and one possibly) had links which could be added.

Question 9: If not already would you like to be part of a dance & museums network?

20 of those who replied said yes, they would like to be part of a network (the one who didn't left this question blank)

Question 10: Would the following be of interest to you? (Further events like this, Online Collections (see resources for examples), A dance & museums facebook page or group, A Subject Specialist Network for dance collections (working with Assoc. Perf. Arts Collections), A Linked-In group, Cross sector dance/museums website with resources, partner matching and practical tips?)



There was full support for a website with resources and a level of support for the other developments mentioned. All those replying wanted to keep in touch.

As the delegates were mainly from a dance background it is likely the concept of a Subject Specialist Network would need further explanation/discussion. How these groups operate and their definition is currently evolving, although many are keen to take part in cross-sector partnerships and they provide a good focus for expertise.

Further evidence that a Linked-In group and/or facebook group would be worthwhile might be needed to justify the effort involved to keep these sites active.

Some Twitter Comments

The 'Dance and Museums Conversation' today held at @BathAtWork has truly opened my eyes to so many more opportunities. Thank you @PDSW_org.

Wonderful & thought provoking conversation @PDSW_org #dancinginmuseams conversation.
@BathAtWork #interaction #crossing #disciplines

awesome #danceandmuseums conversation @BathAtWork today - lots of ideas generated and connections made, thanks! @PDSW_org @sallye_l

What a fantastic, thought-provoking day! #danceandmuseums

Thank you @sallye_l @zannahd @PDSW_org for organising such a good #danceandmuseums conversation & thank you @BathAtWork for your hospitality [https://twitter.com/sallye_l/status/819273239419621376 ...](https://twitter.com/sallye_l/status/819273239419621376)

Thanks @PDSW_org and @BathAtWork for a thought provoking #danceandmuseums conference today!

More at https://storify.com/sallye_l/dance-museums-conversation-3-jan-11-2017

Organisations represented:

Alive Activities
Artis Community
Arts Council England
Bath Dance
Bath Spa University
Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives
Cheltenham Trust
Creativity Works
Dance Reading
Glenside Hospital Museum
Experiential Dance

Museum of Bath at Work
Neon Dance
Pavilion Dance South West
Plymouth County Council
Plymouth Dance
Roald Dahl Museum
Roche Court Educational Trust
Roman Baths Museum
SE Museums Development Programme
Traceworks Dance
Wellcome Trust
3rd Stage Dance

& 3 independents from the dance/museum sector

Sally Lewis March 2017

Compiled for Pavilion Dance South West as part of Dance & Museums initiative (2015-17) which has included support of dance & museum collaborations, organisation of Conversation events and coordination of resources and network strategic aims on the PDSW website www.pdsw.org.uk at <http://www.pdsw.org.uk/resources/dance-and-museums/>