



Storyknowing

A Festival and Symposium of Storytelling and Theatre with Young People

The International Centre for Arts and Narrative

York St John University / York Theatre Royal

Friday 22 and Saturday 23 April 2016

www.artsandnarrative.co.uk/storyknowing

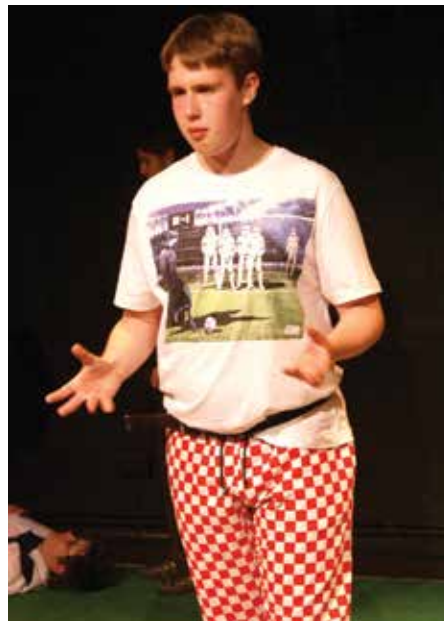


Welcome to 'Storyknowing'

Story is the way humans make sense of the world we live in. A story does not tell us what to think – it poses questions and leaves spaces for us to interpret them together. Therefore stories – whether modern, mythical, traditional or fantastical – may be particularly important to help young people to position their own lives and difficulties in a wider context, and to become critical, responsible, problem-solving adults. And yet many young people may rarely hear, or have the chance to work with, stories. The revival in performance storytelling has tended to favour adults and the very young, neglecting teenagers and older children. Tightly planned school curricula or professional anxieties may prevent teachers or mental health professionals from sharing 'whole stories', either fictional or personal, with the young people in their care.

ICAN has brought together researchers, practitioners and young people to grapple with this challenging territory. 'Storyknowing' will seek answers to some vital questions which cannot be lit up without insights from practice, theory and experience: what do young people find in stories, and how do

they use them to put across their own perspectives? How might stories help them negotiate with dominant narratives of individualism, economic and academic competition, or physical perfection? How should practitioners (in the arts, mental health, education or youth work) develop a participatory practice of storytelling? In what ways is this challenging to, or congruent with, current trends in education, mental health and youth work?



The International Centre for Arts and Narrative (ICAN)

ICAN is a socially engaged practice research partnership between York St John University and York Theatre Royal, researching the role of narrative across artforms and age groups. Since its inception in 2012 it has welcomed nearly 1000 diverse participants from community groups and schools, and hosted a vibrant series of seminars examining story's role in areas of life from prisons to democracy. 'Storyknowing' will put the focus firmly on young people.

The ICAN Team

Juliet Forster - Director of ICAN and Head of Creative Engagement, York Theatre Royal

Matthew Reason - Professor of Theatre & Performance at York St John University

Cath Heinemeyer - PhD student and storyteller

Hannah Prole - Graduate intern

Programme

Friday 22 April 2016 - morning (Faculty of Arts, York St John University)

10.00am – 10.30am **Arrival and registration**, tea/coffee – Arts Foyer

10.30am – 12.30pm **Academic and practitioner talks** on story and young people:

- Panel 1: **Storytelling in and out of education** – Arts Seminar Room
 - Patrick Ryan, George Ewart Evans Centre for Storytelling
 - Rona Barbour, storyteller
 - Hayley McCarthy, National Railway Museum
 - Karian Schuitema, Bath Spa University
 - Carlotta Allum, 'Stretch' charity, York

- Panel 2: **Storytelling for resistance and resilience** – Quad South Hall
 - Village Storytelling Centre, Glasgow
 - Naomi Shoba, Ovalhouse Theatre
 - Hannah Davies, performer/director/writer
 - Maggie Inchley and Sylvan Baker, Queen Mary's University London
 - Rachel King, University of Warwick

12.30pm -1.15pm **Lunch** – Arts Foyer

Featuring lunchtime storytelling performance by Tamar Williams, Young Storyteller in Residence, at 12.45pm – Quad South Hall

Friday 22 April - afternoon (York Theatre Royal / York St John University)

1.15pm –1.45pm **Registration** of those not already present for morning session - Ballroom

1.45pm – 2.30pm **Keynote speaker/performer:** Jo Blake Cave, storyteller and theatre maker - Ballroom

2.30pm – 5.00pm **Practice and enquiry panels:** practical and practice-research workshops on working with young people through story, followed by facilitated discussion. Including tea/ coffee at 4.00pm Ballroom

- **Storytelling and adolescent mental health** – Keregan Room
 - Dr Steve Killick (clinical psychologist and storyteller);
 - Rob Shaw/Cath Heinemeyer (storytelling in an adolescent mental health unit)
- **International youth theatre projects starting with story** – Cocktail Bar
 - Kim Hackleman (Belgrade Theatre, Coventry)
 - Natalie Quatermass, Freedom Theatre (Palestine)

- **Storytelling across diverse artforms** - Ballroom
 - Shrikant Subramaniam (dancer/ storyteller)
 - Caroline Horton (theatre-maker)
 - Matt Harper (theatre practitioner)
 - Amanda Philips (art gallery educator)

5.30pm – 6.30pm **Buffet dinner** for all participants including young people – Ballroom

7.00pm – 9.30pm **Performances** of storytelling by and for young people - Ballroom

This evening is all about performance by and for young people. We have set ourselves the challenge of asking: how is storytelling, as an artform, reshaped by adolescents, and those telling to them? Performances: 'Her' by Megan Hardcastle, 'The Holding Place' by YTR youth theatre, Jo Blake Cave, 'Miseke and Thunder' by Kala Sangam South Asian Arts.



Saturday 23 April – morning (York Theatre Royal)

9.00am – 9.45am **Registration** of delegates not present on Friday, tea/coffee - Ballroom

9.45am – 10.30am **Plenary: 'Storyknowing'**: Brief introduction (for young people and adult participants) to ICAN's research to date (Juliet Forster); story told by Cath Heinemeyer for young people to work on during rest of day - Ballroom

10.30am – 12.15pm **Workshops (1) for practitioners/teachers/researchers** and young people

- Roger Hill: Finding a Story – Cocktail Bar
- Sarah Rundle: Promise me you'll avenge my death – Upper Foyer
- Rachel King and MA Drama in Education students – Performing story in schools – Keregan Room
- YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORKSHOPS – York St John, Quad South Hall

12.15pm – 1.15pm **Lunch** - Ballroom

Young people will join adult delegates in the Theatre Ballroom for lunch. During lunch there will be a networking exhibition of storytelling practice.



Saturday 23 April - afternoon (York Theatre Royal)

1.15pm – 2.45pm **Workshops (2)**

- Michael Harvey: My Story, Your Story, Our Story – Keregan Room
- Openstorytellers: Storytelling with young people with learning disabilities – Cocktail Bar
- Niamh Malone, Sarah Donovan and Kelly Hickey: Utopian mapping: reimagining the city – Ballroom
- YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORKSHOPS – York St John, Quad South Hall

2.45pm - 3.00pm Tea/Coffee

3.00pm – 5.00pm

Plenary – this will be filmed and later edited to a 20-minute film for public dissemination - Ballroom

- Performance by young people of the day's story
- Keynote by Roger Hill (performer, storyteller, director, writer, youth theatre and education consultant)
- Discussion
- Plenary address by Matthew Reason
- Story of the festival by Young Storyteller in Residence, Tamar Williams



