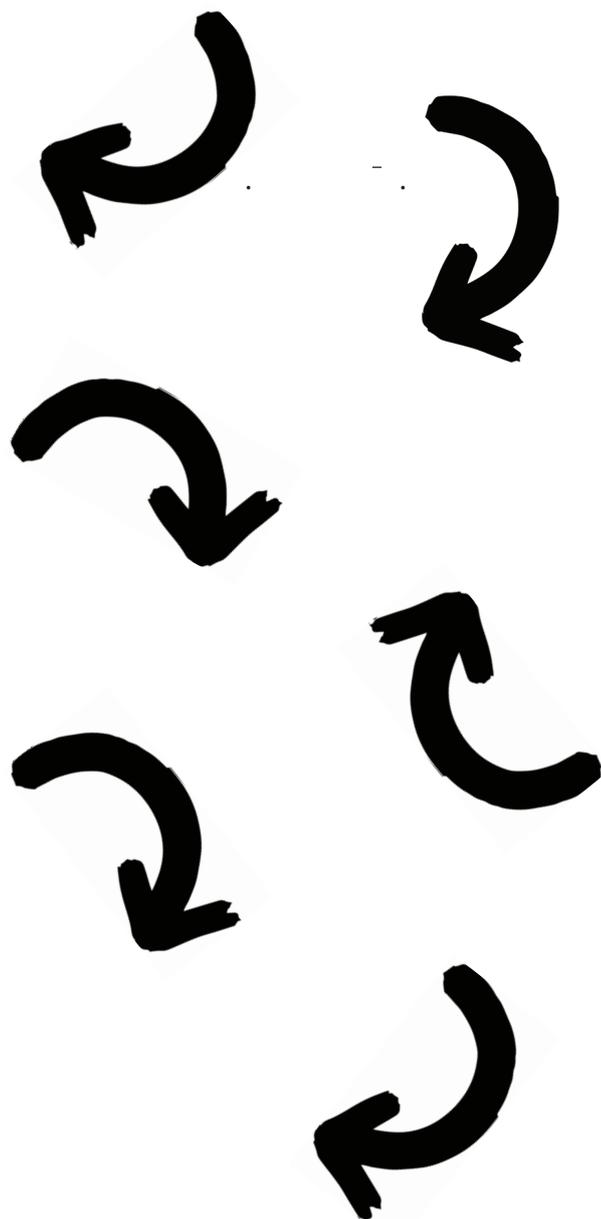


Constellations Programme
An Exchange of Method
Closed Sessions

Wednesday 18 November 2015
10am—6pm

An Exchange of Method is a collaborative research project based around an exchange between arts organisations and artists in the cities of Rio de Janeiro and Edinburgh. The project is an opportunity to share and progress contemporary art practice and to enhance knowledge and advocacy in 'caring' environments.



COLLECTIVE Artlink

Itinerary

10 am

Welcome by Alison Stirling and Kate Gray and a short introduction to debate from previous session.

10.10am

Introduction from each participant.

11am

The Brazilian delegation will give an informal introduction to working in the arts, in communities and/or care settings in Rio. They will also reflect on their responses to the discussions from the previous session.

11.30am

Introduction to the practice, belief systems and community work of Norte Comum by photographer Jefferson Vasconcellos.

12pm

Talk by Jessica Gogan, curator and writer based in Rio, discussing the project The Baldia Pharmacy of Boa Viagem, a collective art and health initiative focusing on medicinal plants, connecting the worlds of art, medicine, botany, community, health, and education.

1 pm

Lunch (provided).

2pm

Respondents; Wendy Jacob, Kate Gray and Alison Stirling.

3.30pm

Coffee break.

4—6pm

Group discussion, all encouraged to share practice

Jessica Gogan is a PhD candidate in Art History at the University of Pittsburgh and independent curator and educator working in the US and Brazil. Currently, she co-coordinates *The Experimental Nucleus of Education & Art* at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro and recently completed an evaluation of the pedagogic project of the 8th Mercosul Biennial, Porto Alegre, Brazil. In 2010 she curated an exhibition by Brazilian artist José Rufino at The Andy Warhol Museum and co-coordinated educational initiatives for the exhibition Hélio Oiticica: Museum is the World. Her article “Museum as Artist: Creative, Dialogic and Civic Practice” reflects on aspects of her former work as Director of Education at The Andy Warhol Museum.

Kate Gray is Director of Collective in Edinburgh, a contemporary art organisation that brings people together around the production and display of new work. She is trained as an artist and received an MFA from Glasgow School of Art after graduating from Oxford and Sheffield Universities. Kate moved from art practice to art organisations and has led on the relocation of Collective in the last few years and its re-imagining as a new kind of City Observatory based in the Old City Observatory on Calton Hill. *An Exchange of Method* draws on her previous work developing projects with artists and finding mutuality with different people and communities in Collective’s locality. The project will also develop a long term interest in how both artists and art organisations can develop mutual understanding and new knowledge while valuing both care and commoning. Kate is also Chair of Rhubaba, an artist-run organisation and studios in Edinburgh.

Wendy Jacob is an artist whose work bridges traditions of sculpture, invention and design, and explores relationships between architecture and perceptual experience. Recent projects have involved collaboration with architects, engineers, and working with autistic individuals. Jacob has exhibited internationally at the Centre Georges Pompidou, the Whitney Biennial, Galerie Emmanuel Perotin (Paris), MIT List Visual

Arts Center, Chicago Project Room, Galerie Schipper and Krome (Cologne), among others. She is the recipient of numerous awards and grants including a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Artist Fellowship, Creative Capital Artist Fellowship, New Forms Regional Initiative Grant, and an Illinois Arts Council Artist Fellowship.

Claudia Porto is an independent Museums and Museology consultant. She graduated in Museum Studies from UNIRIO; and has postgraduate degrees in Conservation of Works of Art from UIA, Italy and Management and Preservation of Scientific Collections from Fundação Oswaldo Cruz – Fiocruz. She has worked as: Director of the Fashion Museum in Rio de Janeiro, Museology consultant for COC/Fiocruz, Technical advisor at the Museu da República and Arts and Exchanges Coordinator for the British Council in Rio. Since 2013, Claudia is a member of COMCOL’s board (Committee for Collecting/ ICOM) and president of the Regional Council of Museology - Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo. Together with journalist and museums consultant Luis Marcelo Mendes, she has produced two international events in Brazil since 2013: the American initiative *#DrinkingaboutMuseums* (five editions in Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais and São Paulo) and the British initiative *Museums Showoff: Rio* (three editions in Rio). Claudia is visiting professor of Museums & Social Media at the MBA Museums Management (Universidade Cândido Mendes) and gives lectures and short-term courses about museums & Museology.

Izabela Pucu is an art critic and curator. Izabela also acts as a researcher, book editor and cultural manager. She holds a PhD in History and Criticism of Arts, and Master of Visual Languages from the School of Fine Arts at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Izabela has been Director and Curator of the Hélio Oiticica Municipal Art Center since 2014, where she was curator of the Osmar Dillon exhibition *Poetic Non-objects* (2015) and *Flags in Tiradentes Square* (2014), among others. She was involved in organization of the books *Critical works of Roberto Pontual*

(2013), and *Surroundings: the Criticism of Wilson Coutinho* (2008), among others. Recently she conducted research for the book *Mario Pedrosa: An Anthology*, in collaboration with Gloria Ferreira and Paulo Herkenhoff, to be published by the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 2016. Izabela was researcher and coordinator of the publication *Brazilian Contemporary Art: Documents and Critical Texts* (2009), an important reference on Brazilian art published in English and Spanish, organized by Glória Ferreira, among others. In addition, Izabela was Professor of the Institute of Arts of Rio de Janeiro State University (2008-2012) and Project Coordinator of the School of Visual Arts of Parque Lage (2008 to 2011).

Alison Stirling, born in Glasgow, received her BA from the Glasgow School of Art and her MA from the Royal College of Art. Alison is the Projects Director of Artlink Edinburgh, where she has worked to create innovating projects in the public sector for over 20 years. Through her work with Artlink, she has developed a series of publications by well known Scottish writers including Alan Grant, Anne Donovan and Nicola White, creating fiction out of real life situations to draw attention to social injustice. In 2004 she established The Ideas Team, a laboratory to develop new ways of working across contemporary art and social services through bringing together contemporary artists, care workers, health professionals, curators and academics to develop innovative artworks that also act as creative solutions to the needs of individuals with high support needs. Recently, to mark the 200th anniversary of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, she co-curated *Ever/Present/Past* with Trevor Cromie, a year long programme which combined an exhibition of new commissions with Mark Dion, Claire Barclay, Laura Aldridge and Laura Spring with an in-depth event series and patient led tours of the hospital. Her current focus is explore artist practice within The Ideas Team, culminating in a large scale exhibition in 2018. This ongoing work will inform contemporary art works which explore/draw attention to and change our preconceptions (and ways of caring

for) of the most marginalised people in our community.

Jefferson Vasconcellos is an active contributor to the collective Norte Comum (North Common). Founded in 2011, Norte Comum operates in the North Zone of Rio de Janeiro, with the primary aim to develop the circulation within and use of public spaces and create possibilities for exchange that are not ruled by capital and power relations. They use public space to hold meetings and provide different types of cultural events and artistic interventions. In 2014 they became involved with Hotel da Loucura (Hotel Madness), which involves the occupation of two floors off of the Municipal Institute Nise da Silveira, widely known as the Engenho de Dentro Hospice (a psychiatric hospital). The Madness Hotel aims to create a space within the Institute to receive all interested people to discuss the ideas of Nise da Silveira and think about art and care as the ways that may change the world. Jefferson is a photographer and filmmaker who grew up in the North Zone of Rio in the favela da Maré. He understood that the vast majority of residents did not have their full rights because of their perceived association with crime. He was introduced to photography through the agency People's Images a project founded by João Roberto Ripper, a photojournalist, which aims to transform the understanding of favelas through images which underline the exchange between photographer and photographed. Jefferson worked as a producer in the NGO Audiovisual Observatory of Favelas, an organisation which focuses on research, consulting and public action dedicated to the production of knowledge and policy proposals for slums and urban phenomenon.

An Exchange of Method is part of Constellations Programme, a series of off-site artist commissions that aim to bring people together to develop ideas and partnerships during the redevelopment of the City Observatory complex. Two are led by artists Petra Bauer and James Hutchinson and the third is *An Exchange of Method*, a collaborative project with Artlink that will foster exchange and knowledge sharing between Scotland and Brazil. This programme of commissions will include discussions, screenings and walks, providing opportunity for artists and audiences to engage with our locality and consider new ways for people to work together.

Collective is a contemporary visual art organisation that delivers an exciting and ambitious programme of new exhibitions, commissions and off-site projects. Collective produces major new work by Scotland based and international artists who are at a pivotal stage in their development.

Artlink is an arts and disability organisation established in 1984. Artlink believes participation in the arts has an important role to play in realising personal and social change. Artlink's aim is to increase opportunities to take part in the arts for those who experience disadvantage or disability in the East of Scotland.