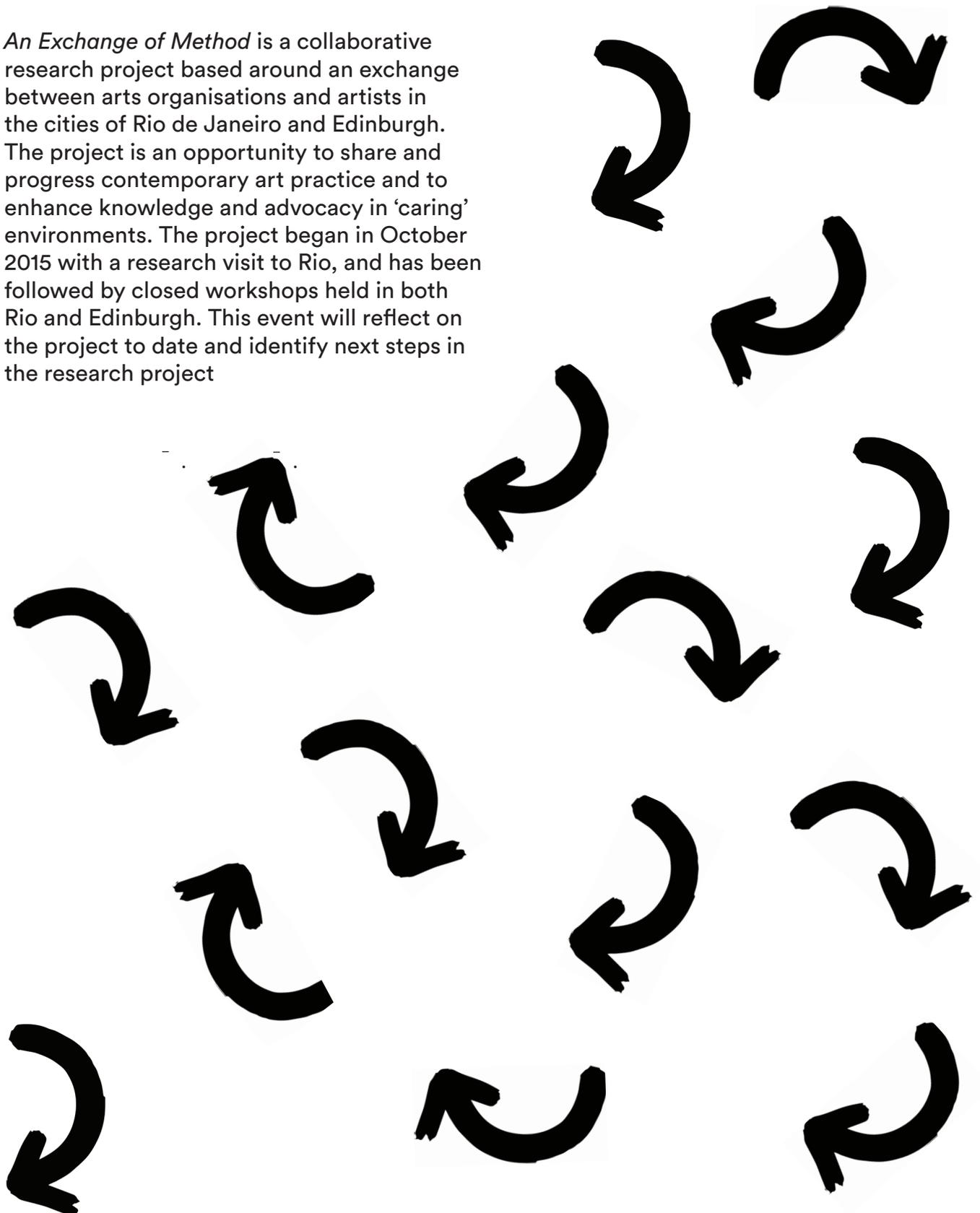


Constellations Programme  
*An Exchange of Method*  
Discussion Event

Thursday 19 November 2015  
7pm

*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. The project began in October 2015 with a research visit to Rio, and has been followed by closed workshops held in both Rio and Edinburgh. This event will reflect on the project to date and identify next steps in the research project

# COLLECTIVE Artlink



**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. Our aim is to increase opportunities to take part in the arts for those who experience disadvantage or disability in the East of Scotland. We offer practical support so people can get involved and work with venues to increase opportunities to enjoy the arts. Artlink establishes partnerships with artists, venues and organisations to help encourage positive change.

**Centro Municipal de Arte Hélio Oiticica** is a centre displaying permanent works by the artist, theoretician and poet Hélio Oiticica, as well as contemporary art exhibitions, lectures, seminars and research projects. Founded in 1996, the center is housed in a 19th century building in the former National Conservatory of Music in the oldest cultural hub of Rio de Janeiro.

**Collective** was established in 1984 to support new and emergent artists to exhibit their work in Edinburgh and has been fundamental to the cultural vitality of Scotland. Now Collective commissions new work by artists who are at a pivotal stage in their development. Collective's programme presents contemporary art in all its diversity. We create a space for dialogue with current developments and debates contextualising them to make them relevant to our site, artists and audiences.

**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.

**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 through the Postgraduate degree in Visual Arts 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* (City of Rio / Quicksilver, 2013), and *Surroundings: the Criticism of Wilson Coutinho* (Funarte / Petrobras, 2008), among others. Recently she conducted research for the book *Mario Pedrosa: An Anthology* (Primary Documents), 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* (Madrid : MinC / Dart, 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). 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.

**Norte Comum** was founded in 2011 and 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.

*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.

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