TEST RISK CHANGE

Exploring democratic practice between young people, youth organisations and galleries

Circuit Programme
National Conference
Friday 10 March 2017
Nottingham Contemporary

circuit.tate.org.uk

#SparkChange
Welcome to a day of debate exploring how the youth and gallery sectors can work effectively together in turbulent social and political times to challenge inequalities and champion young people’s cultural participation.

Framed around four years of learning from Circuit, discussions between youth practitioners, arts professionals and young people aim to interrogate the authenticity of partnership, examine the agency of young people, and address the dynamics of organisational change.

This is the first of a series of platforms for conversation hosted through Circuit in 2017 between the arts and youth sectors and young people. Through it, we hope to identify ways to make our programmes more socially inclusive, politically relevant and creatively diverse. And we plan to think about how to collaborate meaningfully while cuts and policy changes are altering the landscape of national youth provision.

Throughout the day, we invite you to pose questions and engage in open conversations. Through each of the table debates, we hope to draw upon our collective experience to share expertise and ideas, and propose actions to advance our work. We want to explore ways in which we can truly begin to develop sustainable and critical understanding across the cultural and youth sectors.

We look forward to engaging in these conversations with you, and finding ways together to inform and influence practice and policy going forward.
ABOUT CIRCUIT

Circuit was a four year national programme from 2013–2017, connecting 15–25 year olds to the arts in galleries and museums working in partnership with the youth and cultural sector. Led by Tate and funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, it provided opportunities for young people to steer their own learning and create cultural activity across art disciplines.

Circuit involved Tate Modern and Tate Britain; Tate Liverpool; Tate St Ives and partners from the Plus Tate network: Firstsite, Colchester; MOSTYN, Llandudno; Nottingham Contemporary; The Whitworth, Manchester; and Wysing Arts Centre and Kettle’s Yard, Cambridgeshire.

LOOK OUT FOR MORE!

There will be more opportunities for discussion, and new materials released throughout 2017.

Head to the Circuit website to sign up to the mailing list or follow us @CircuitPHF

circuit.tate.org.uk

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Friday 10 March 2017

Registration
10:00–10:45am

Conference
10:45am–5:30pm

Reception
5:30–6:30pm

Venue list and addresses

All main sessions and several breakout sessions will be held at:
Nottingham Contemporary
Weekday Cross
Nottingham
NG1 2GB

Some breakout sessions will be held at:
(2:00–3:00pm only)
Syson Gallery
17–19 Weekday Cross
Nottingham
NG1 2GB

Join the debate: #SparkChange @CircuitPHF circuit.tate.org.uk
PROGRAMME

10:00–
10:45am
Registration

10:45–
11:15am
Introduction
The Space
Welcome
Kay Hardiman
Head of Learning, Nottingham Contemporary
Anna Cutler
Director of Learning, Tate

Circuit: An Introduction
Rachel Moilliet
Circuit Programme National Manager
Maria Balshaw, Director, The Whitworth, University of Manchester and Manchester City Galleries
Régis Cochefert
Director, Grants and Programmes,
Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Ernest Wereko
Tate Collective member, London
Julie McCarthy
Creative Producer, 42nd Street
Abigail Christenson
Curator, Young People, Tate Liverpool

11:15am–
12:15pm
Cross-sector partnership:
Is democratic practice possible?
How is agency and power distributed in partnership activity, and can youth and gallery organisations work together equitably? Speakers unpick the challenges of cross-sector partnership and propose ideas for trialling different ways of working.

Jeff Mills
Director, Business and Communities, tasc Manchester (Chair)
Isabella Martin
Artist, Wysing Arts Centre & Kettle’s Yard
Nicola Sim
Doctoral researcher, Tate/The University of Nottingham
Alice Thickett
Youth Programmer, Nottingham Contemporary
Calum Watts
Residential Social Care Worker, Crocus Fields
Charlotte Winters
Young Art Kommunity (Y.A.K) member, and Trustee, Firstsite

12:15–
12:30pm
Break

Provocation: Youth, change and honesty
Raluc Moraru, Circuit Assistant,
Nottingham Contemporary
12:30–1:00pm  Table debates

Table facilitators

Janet Batsleer
Principal Lecturer, Youth and Community Work, Manchester Metropolitan University

Piotr Bienkowski
Project Director, Our Museum: Communities and Museums as Active Partners

Gillian Brent
Associate Artist, Nottingham Contemporary

Marina Castledine
Head of Learning, Towner Art Gallery

Jo Dacombe
Associate Artist, Nottingham Contemporary

Peter Hamilton
*Circuit* Board member and youth practitioner

Kay Hardiman
Head of Learning, Nottingham Contemporary

Sue Hogan
Education and Learning Officer, Firstsite

Jan Miller
Artist, MOSTYN

Jane Sillis
Director, *engage*, the National Association for Gallery Education

Louise Thirlwall
Operations Director, Wysing Arts Centre

1:00–2:00pm  Lunch

1:30pm  Optional exhibition tour
2:00–3:00pm Parallel breakout sessions
(You can check your session at the Registration Desk)

Option 1: What does authentic peer-led working look like?
Syson Gallery (outside and across the road)

A series of reflections on the realities of co-production between diverse groups of young people, organisations and staff members. Participants highlight different models of peer-led practice and question how much autonomy can be afforded to young people who are not familiar with galleries. Drawing upon examples of practice in the youth and cultural sector, this session asks: does ‘peer-led’ work in hierarchical organisations? How do young people learn through these semi-professional models? And could they be more inclusive?

Will Dean
Former GLITCH Collective member, MOSTYN

Sufea Mohamad Noor
Tate Collective Liverpool member

Tracy Ramsey
Professional Tutor in Youth and Community Work, Liverpool Hope University

Deborah Riding
Programme Manager, Children & Young People, Tate Liverpool

Rebecca Scott
Former Circuit Cambridge member

April Taylor
GLITCH Collective member, MOSTYN

Option 2: Just a gig in a gallery?
Cultural democracy in the museum

Meeting Room

How serious are galleries about connecting with popular/sub youth cultures beyond the visual arts? And can engaging with different art forms help to make galleries more relevant social spaces? A discussion on investing in young creatives and developing emerging talent through social practice.

Mike Baines
Musician/MC and The Whitworth Young Artist in Residence

Angela Diakopoulou
Circuit Evaluator

Araba Mercer Banson
Tate Collective London member

Adrian Newman
Station Manager, Reprezent Radio

Adrian Shaw
Late at Tate Britain Programmer, Tate

Andrew Vaughan
Learning Manager, The Whitworth
Option 3:
Spatial democracy

Studio

Programmers, artists, young people and youth workers from Circuit sites share learning from a range of experiments in deforming and democratising space to build relevance through everyday social encounters. In former cafes, shops and bus stations, many Circuit projects have created new relationships with communities and youth workers, and tested innovative ways of working beyond the site of the gallery or youth centre. Can galleries and youth organisations learn from these methods, as well as use art practice to navigate tensions over young people’s presence in the public realm?

J. Davidson
Y.A.K member, Firstsite

Judith Merritt
Head of Talks and Exhibitions, National Theatre

Ben Randall
Youth and Community Based Commissioner, Essex Youth Service, Essex County Council

Emma Saffy Wilson
Artist, St Ives

Marijke Steedman
Curator

Rachael Woodhead
Learning Curator, Tate St Ives

Option 4:
Red tape and glass ceilings: Who speaks for young people?

Café

How much say and responsibility do young people really have in youth programmes? What are the factors that limit and amplify their voices? From LGBTQ cultures to campaigns for racial equality, how can organisations embody underrepresented issues and communities that young people relate to? Circuit’s young evaluators ask who is speaking, who is listening, and whose voices may be missing.

Rachael Coward
Tate Collective St Ives member

Lou Greenwell
Circuit Cambridge member

Roz Hall
Circuit Critical Friend

Jackie McManus
Circuit board member and education consultant

Bradley Stephens
Y.A.K member, Firstsite

Decarla Phillip-Riley
Tate Collective London member

Dominique Phizacklea
Former Collabor-8 member, Nottingham Contemporary

Gaby Sahhar
Tate Collective London member
Option 5:
Organisational change?
Directors’ Question Time

Syson Gallery
(outside and across the road)

How are institutions committing to future work with young people? How can we learn from, and extend the influence of these types of programmes? And how can galleries expand their civic role and share resources with communities? Young participants and partners of Circuit put questions to directors about the capacity for risk-taking and strategic change in their institutions.

India Cawley Gelling
Tate Collective Liverpool member

Michael Irwin
Curatorial Assistant, Firstsite

Francesco Manacorda
Artistic Director, Tate Liverpool

Julie McCarthy
Creative Producer, 42nd Street

Emily Pringle
Head of Learning Practice and Research, Tate

Roxanna Sultan
Intern, The Whitworth

Sam Thorne
Director, Nottingham Contemporary

3:00–
3:30pm

3:30–
4:30pm

Break

Where were we, where are we and what next?

The Space

The riots of 2011 shone a light on young people’s frustrations with racial, generational, class and social inequalities, and were seen by many as a consequence of cuts to youth provision. This panel revisits the original motivations for Circuit and confronts the social urgencies that have shaped the creative energy of the programme. Can the art and youth sectors work effectively as allies to bring about future change, and what should this change look like?

Janna Graham
Lecturer and Programme Leader, BA in Curating, Department of Visual Cultures, Goldsmiths (Chair)

Edward Boott
Artistic Director, Nonsuch and National Programme Lead, Undivided

Pat Farrell (aka Cave Man)
Former Whitworth Emerging Artist

Ruth Ibegbuna
Founder and CEO, RECLAIM

Hannah Kemp-Welch
Mental health programme manager, Raw Material & Circuit Programme: Digital Producer

Mark Miller
Circuit National Lead, Convenor: Young People’s Programmes, Tate Britain and Tate Modern

Angela Wereko-Anderson
Tate Collective London member
4:30–5:15pm
Table debates:
Test, risk, change?
The Space
Drawing on themes from the final panel discussion and reflecting on key issues raised across the day, we will bring together ideas for what steps to take next.

5:15–5:30pm
Closing comments
The Space
Peter Hamilton
Circuit Board member & youth practitioner
Anna Cutler
Director of Learning, Tate

5:30–6:30pm
Drinks Reception & Makey Makey workshop
Cafe

INTERVENTIONS AND INTERACTIONS

Listen to Rebellious Voices
A new work by sound artist and Circuit Digital Producer Hannah Kemp-Welch. Collaging political broadcasts with recorded conversations between Circuit participants, the work offers a second critical narrative of the programme and wider socio-political contexts.

Visit the Circulate Lounge
Hear about the programme’s key findings and take away ideas for creative evaluation designed by Circuit’s young evaluators. Curated by Circulate members Lou Greenwell, Jack Makin, Sufea Mohamad Noor and Bradley Parker, and Roz Hall, Circuit Critical Friend.

Makey Makey workshop
Drop into a digital workshop using Makey Makey technology to explore ideas and footage from the day. Led by Frazer Merrick, artist, and Liam Roberts, Circuit Digital Coordinator, Firstsite.

Explore Circuit’s archive
Mapping journeys through Circuit, creative social action and institutional critique through material generated by young people and staff. Curated by Nicole Jones, Circuit Programme Assistant, and Rianna Jade Parker, Tate Collective London member.

Discover an installation
Exploring the future of organisational change, drawing on key findings from Circuit and current shifts in the wider cultural and social landscape. Explore curated resources, contribute your own ideas and encounter others in an experimental library and social space. Curated by Rachel Noel, Assistant Curator, Young People’s Programmes at Tate Britain and Tate Modern and featuring artist commissions by Alice Thickett, Youth Programmer at Nottingham Contemporary and Sally Noall, Programme Manager: Young People at Tate St Ives.

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Join the debate: #SparkChange @CircuitPHF circuit.tate.org.uk