

We Will Remember Them, 2015

Commissioning body: North Primary School, Colchester, Essex, UK

50 Participants, 3 sessions



The project *We Will Remember Them* brought together a Historian, a Creative Writer and a Photographer (myself) to work with the Year 5 pupils of North Primary School to research, uncover and re-tell the stories of the former pupils of the primary school who volunteered or were enlisted in the First World War.

Each student was paired with a former pupil for the project. The students visited local library archives and the records office to build a profile of their soldier. They were also introduced to the significant photographic archive of Francis Frith, who had documented the town of Colchester in the 1890's.

As well as names and detailed descriptions of the soldiers, a map was created of where each soldier had lived in the town, most of which were in close proximity to the school. Each student was asked to photograph the current site or home of their soldier, creating a visual map, a contemporary archive linking the former pupil to the current students. The project reflected on the importance of making a record for posterity as well as on the impact of war.

The outcome was a publication, an exhibition and a Roll of Honour to be permanently displayed in the school hall.



Evolving in Conversation, 2014

Mult Agency Commission: Photoworks and Brighton Library Services

30 Participants, 8 sessions

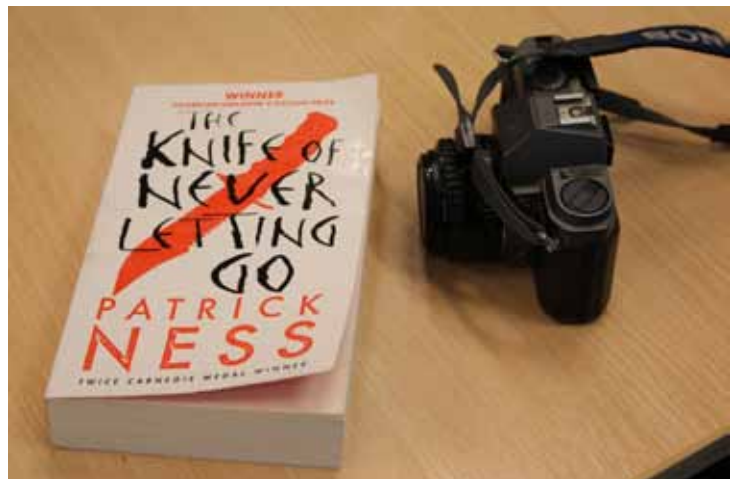
Evolving in Conversation was a multi-agency project that I worked on in collaboration with professionals from other fields to facilitate a series of photography workshops for young people to create new work that explores the theme 'How Individuals Make Society Change'.

The young people responded to a brief identical to a commission given to four emerging photographers. The resulting young people's work/commissions was presented as one installation at Jubilee Library for Brighton Photo Biennial 2014 in October and shared with communities across the city.

A second phase involved this initial group of participants collaborating in the facilitation of a series of family workshops held at four local libraries in Brighton and inviting local library users to participate.



<http://evolvinginconversation.tumblr.com>



CAMHERA, 2014

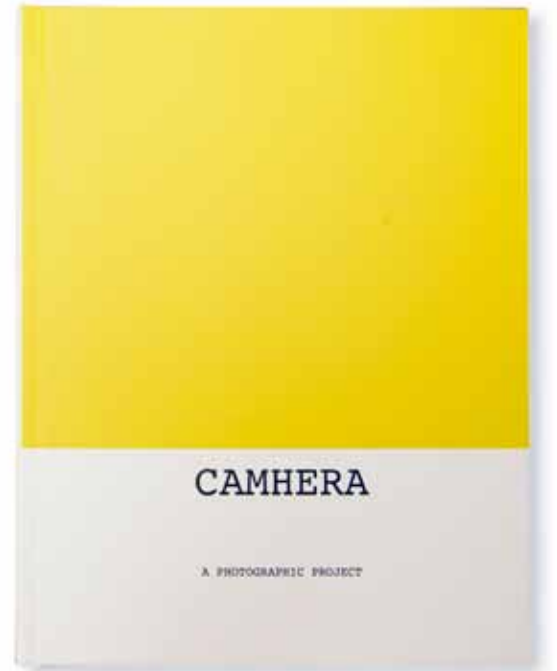
Joint Venture: East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) and the University of East London (UEL), School of Psychology

12 Participants, 2 x 2hour sessions - Pilot Programme

The University of East London's Clinical & Community Psychology Programme and the East London NHS Foundation Trust invited me to develop a pilot programme for young people attending an NHS child and adolescent mental health inpatient centre.

CAMHERA: A Photography Project, enabled participants to explore their creativity and discuss the experience of the clinical environment in which the workshops took place. Using disposable cameras, the 12 teenagers were introduced to concepts of documentary photography through searching for symbolic objects and themes.

A publication was produced of the work made by the group over the course of two photographic workshop sessions, each lasting only two hours.





THE CURATORS GROUP, 2013

Commissioning body: City of Melbourne

15 Young Curators / Signal Participants @ ArtPlay, City of Melbourne / 4 weeks

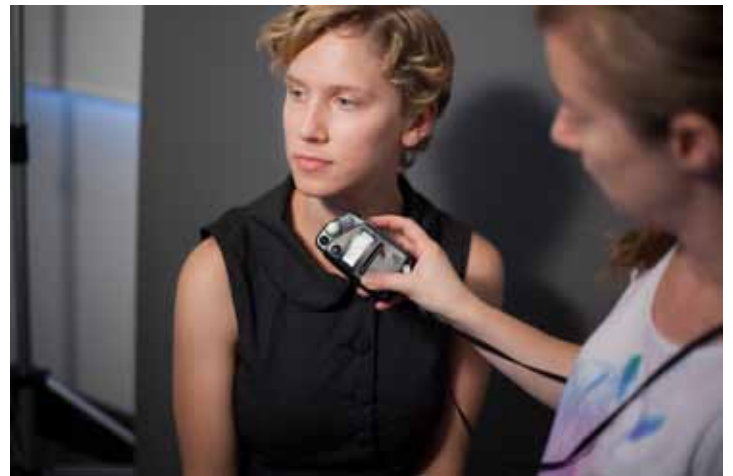


Signal is a youth arts initiative funded by the City of Melbourne. At Signal, professional artists are invited to work alongside participants in a collaborative way.

For this project I was asked to support a group of 15 young curators to develop an exhibition that would visually encapsulate the Signal arts centre, from concept through to production and exhibition hang.

50 portraits of Signal's summer program participants were made, along with documentation of objects identified as crucial to their artmaking process.

The exhibition was held at City Library Gallery and displayed on large digital screens installed on the exterior of the facility.





RESPONDING TO WALLACE, 2012

Commissioning body: Monash Gallery of Art

Participants: Year 10 photography students @ Melbourne Girls Grammar / 4 weeks

Responding to Wallace took inspiration from the photographic works of amateur photographer, Wallace Richards, whose work is held in Monash Gallery of Art's photographic collection.

As part of an artist in residence, Year 10 photography students from Melbourne Girls Grammar were invited to explore vernacular photography and were tasked with re-creating a past photograph from their family albums.

The resulting exhibition displayed both the original inspiration image and the contemporary photograph produced by the students.





THE BABEL PROJECT, 2011

Commissioning body: The Jewish Museum of Australia, Funded by: Vic Health
36 Participants / 4 Municipalities / 6 months



Utilising the utilitarian aspects of photography 36 participants from four municipalities in the state of Victoria, of varying ages, backgrounds, faiths and beliefs came together for *The Babel Project*.

Acting as collectors, participants photographed the commonalities that they all shared despite the diversity of their backgrounds, starting with the word 'Me' and ending with an images of the 'Sky'. The Babel Project resulted in a 2 year touring exhibition.





COLORS NOTEBOOK PROJECT, 2006

Commissioning body: St. Mary's House of Welcome

12 participants / 12 weeks



St. Mary's House of Welcome provide targeted services & social support to marginalised and homeless adults.

The COLORS notebook project encouraged participants to produce their own magazine and tell their chosen stories through words, illustrations and photographs, unedited and uncensored. The COLORS Notebook project became the perfect vehicle for a photographic workshop at St. Mary's House of Welcome.

The workshop and its participants were featured in a documentary film produced by Fabrica and the magazine was exhibited at The Pompidou Centre in Paris alongside Notebooks from around the globe.



I've been coming to St. Marys for the Best Part of My 20 years and indeed they are the best. My Favourite Place gave me a chance to take the viewers into St. Marys, My Favourite Place. St. Marys is a Place of Love, Respect. and Acknowledgement, of your Place Within a Local, Community.

this project gave me a chance to throw some Light into the dark. Corners of Brunswick. St. and show the world that they are,nt so dark. and desolate, that we are a Family, Who respect, acknowledge and Love, this I hope is captured. in the pictures that I share with you.

Pat Mcracken.

