



INSIDE MY DANCE

EXHIBITION TOUR

One woman's journey into creativity, motherhood and disability

Presenting, through voice, photography, dance & film, the story of Angela Lane, mother of a profoundly disabled daughter.

Premise

INSIDE MY DANCE aims to bring to a wider audience the experience of a mother and her profoundly disabled daughter and to create a bridge between those who are labelled 'disabled' and the rest of us who consider ourselves 'normal'. It does this by challenging perceptions of 'disability' in a creative and thought-provoking exploration of Angela's story.

Many hours of recorded interview material has been distilled into three five minute 'voice compositions', each representing the essence of Angela's lived experience at key stages of her life.

Photographs

A selection of vintage & new photographs reflect these stages:

1. MOVEMENT: up until the birth of her disabled daughter
2. STANDSTILL: the ten years following her daughter's birth
3. INTEGRATION: the last twelve years

Dance

And **INSIDE MY DANCE** has an added dimension. As a dancer and choreographer and with a need to explain her daughter to the world, Angela Lane choreographed a short piece called 'For Cherry':

"I made a dance once, using all the movements that Cherry made. Strange mysterious movements that were hard to understand. Movements that looked broken, but when I put them in a dance they became beautiful. To perform it I had to be inside her dance"

In a specially commissioned film, **INSIDE MY DANCE** presents a documentary recording the recreation of 'For Cherry'.

Linked Activities

'Challenging Perceptions of Disability' talk by Noelle McCormack
'Moving Closer' dance workshop led by Angela Lane

The Team



Noelle McCormack Project Leader

Noelle combines many years experience enabling disabled people to tell their life stories with her academic background, an MA in Life History Research, and a passion for photography, to lead INSIDE MY DANCE with a creative and innovative approach. Noelle runs workshops about developing best practice for engaging in life story projects with vulnerable adults.



Ashleigh Ivil Film Director

Ashleigh began his media career in independent local radio as a newscaster and journalist. He has also worked as a corporate video producer, production assistant, sound recordist, camera operator, radio producer, technical operator and composer. His work has been heard as far a field as Botswana and Burma. He is currently working as a freelance documentary film director/producer.



Angela Lane Narrator and Choreographer

Angela has taught and facilitated dance and movement workshops over four decades. She has worked with non-dancers, adults and children with learning disabilities and professional dancers, also making collaborations between artists, musicians, writers and now an oral historian. Angela has plenty of experience in 'building bridges' across which people can meet and celebrate each other. She currently provides training and

support in Total Communication approaches in East Sussex and has a special interest in Intensive Interaction as the approach that most closely echoes her experiences in understanding her daughter's communication.

Exhibition Elements

INSIDE MY DANCE will be presented in a creative and experiential exhibition comprising photography, sound and film.

INTRODUCTION

A2 wall-mounted written piece printed directly on to 3mm dibond with wooden sub-frame.

PHOTOGRAPHY

12 A2 wall-mounted matt laminate pieces printed directly on to 3mm dibond with wooden sub-frames. They will be presented in three sections, each comprising three photos and one written piece.

SOUND

Each section of the photographic display will be complimented by a 'voice composition' piece that reflects that period of the narrator's life. These three 5 minute 'voice compositions' will be accessed by sets of headphones at two 'Plug and Play' listening posts. The listening posts will be wall mounted or free standing and will require a plug socket.

FILM

The short film that records the recreation of the narrator's choreographed dance, 'For Cherry', will be viewed on a 42" TV screen with built in DVD player. The TV will be wall mounted or free standing and will require a plug socket. A written context will be printed directly on to 3mm dibond with wooden sub-frame and wall mounted adjacent to the TV.

Feedback from events to date

On the talk 6 Aug 2009

"I loved the talk, it was fascinating...the story behind the story beautifully told."

"Your collaboration and willingness to sit with the story and let it unfold are precious gifts."

"The structure and content of the talk was excellent and triggered thoughts and ideas. Your experience and preconceptions enabled the audience to do the same thing, to go on their own journey."

"I thought this was very powerful, beautifully written and read. It was accessible, a very 'human' and honest telling of the process."

"I also really appreciated Angela's willingness to share her life story with others – and I am sure other parents would find it very interesting, helpful, inspiring too."

"The talk made me think about how easily I can pre-judge others and have preconceptions of who they are."

On the workshop

"Loved this journey – freeing and challenging all at once..."

"Fab, brave and inspiring stuff..."

"I really enjoyed the way it was presented, I think there is a warmth and grounded ease with which you present that is so amazing to be a part of. I felt very included, very calm, very safe."

General Comments

"A very moving, lively, rich and passion-filled experience. I feel privileged to have seen the whole (so far) at this time and am blown away by the care, attention and sincere aims of both of you to the project. You are really hitting the mark - wishing you every success and enjoyment of all of this journey - it's superb." - Helen Zeida

"As professionals working with adults with learning difficulties we often don't see the whole picture, the true picture/journey of what the parents/family/carers have experienced." - Helena Ostermayer, SALT

Contact

We would like to bring the experience of INSIDE MY DANCE to you.
For more information, please contact:

Noelle McCormack

Tel: 01273 682073

Email: sweet.thames@googlemail.com

INSIDE MY DANCE is a Living Imprint project.

Web: www.livingimprint.org/insidemydance