

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Nationality: Dual Australian/British nationality
Date of Birth: 31 January 1957
Marital Status: Married

QUALIFICATIONS: **PhD Candidate, University of Reading**
Part-time practice-based PhD
Commenced October 2013

MFA Fine Art, 2013
University of Reading
Graduated: July 2013
Grade: Distinction

BA Honours Fine Art, 2006
University of Reading
Graduated: July 2006
Grade: First Class Honours

HND, Art and Design (Community Art), 2003
Reading College and School of Arts and Design
Graduated: June 2003
Grade: Distinction

A Level equivalent, Melbourne, Australia, 1974
(English Literature: A; English Expression: B; Art: C;
European History: B; Biology: D)

**PROJECTS and
EVENTS:**

**“What are they talking about?”
MFA final exhibition, June 2013**

“What are they talking about?” was a series of events in two parts based around conversation:

- 1. Celebration of Floating Bench:** a garden bench was launched on a recycled pallet onto Reading University's lake. The launch was celebrated with a procession to the lake and a picnic lunch for participants.
- 2. Children as Teachers:** three primary school children were invited to teach members of the public and academic staff how to meditate, which questioned who we listen to in conversation, particularly in educational settings.

**PROJECTS and
EVENTS:**

“How To ...” events, Reading University, February 2013

How To ..., was a series of events which explored social interaction through the construct of workshops led and attended by members of Reading’s diverse community, as well as students and staff from Reading University. Sessions included learning to cook Pakistani parathas, a Syrian banquet, weaving with recycled materials, musical improvisations and meditation.

Conversation became a form of creation where interlocutors shifted between unfamiliarity and familiarity through the sharing of tasks.

Grundtvig EU Refugee Women’s Project, 22-25 March 2013

As part of a 2-year EU project, 40 refugee women travelled from partner countries (Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Wales) to Reading for a weekend programme designed to build confidence in the women and open up employment opportunities. The project is being run in conjunction with Reading Refugees Support Group.

As lead artist, I created a platform within which the women’s journeys could be mapped, physically and metaphorically, reflecting on their strengths and recording the project through audio recordings, film and photography.

Cultivation, commenced 2011

Project in collaboration with Reading schools, Food for Families charity, Reading Refugee Support Group and allotment groups

This ongoing project is based around cultivating food and relationships. Members of the public are invited to grow vegetables in alternative, sometimes quirky ways. Vertical hessian sacks are utilized in urban settings where there are no gardens; children in schools learn how to use the sacks and then teach other what to do; the refugee community grow food together and at home; a diverse group of people join me on an allotment and test out alternative cultivation methods. At the end of each growing season, people come together to harvest, cook and share their food.

Silent Walk, 2008

Reading

Collaborating with Zimbabwean Owen Muganda, this procession through Reading was created to honour the victims of political violence in Zimbabwe in the run-up to that country’s elections. 200 Zimbabweans and their supporters walked slowly and silently in twos through Reading, creating a form of community within the group and, at the same time, a rupture, as the line of walkers temporarily dissected Reading’s shopping precinct.

Mums for Peace through Meditation, Reading, 2003 to 2008

In response to the second Iraq war and to support Muslim women from Reading’s diverse Newtown community (who feared prejudice from neighbours within their community), I created an ongoing project based around meditation. Mothers from diverse faith and cultural backgrounds met once a week in silence to honour families in Iraq and around the world who were caught up in conflicts.

EXHIBITIONS:

Cultivation Field, Reading, June 2012

This exhibition formed part of an ongoing dialogue into plant and land cultivation by 30 British and international artists, curated by Reading University PhD candidate Kate Corder. A symposium was held in September 2011 followed by a series of lectures in June 2012 run

concurrently with the *Cultivation Field* exhibition in which I took part, exhibiting both sculpture and films.

WAM (Weather, Art and Music), Reading Town Hall, 2012

Commissioned to respond - along with other artists, scientists and musicians – to the subject of weather within a three-day symposium and exhibition at Reading Town Hall and Forbury Gardens.

Counterpoint, London, November 2011

Invited to exhibit in *Counterpoint*, an exhibition which formed part of the *Platforma Festival 2011* commissioned by the Refugee Council. Artists, musicians and academics referenced themes of migration, asylum and human rights.

Whiteknights Studio Trail, Reading, June 2010 and 2011

Exhibited as one of 30 invited artists in the trail's annual weekend event.

Skinflint, Lewisham Art House, London, 2009

Invited to exhibit as part of a curatorial project curated by Rachel Price and Cath Bagg in response to the recession. Artists were selected for their inventive use of meagre means and materials.

Altered Images, Gun Street Gallery Reading, October 2008

Group show

The Cellar, 21 South Street, Reading, July 2008

Group show

Lost in Translation, Henley Fire Station Gallery, June 2008

Group show

Final BA Honours exhibition, Reading University, June 2006

University of Reading Fine Art Department

Mile End, London, July 2006

Curators from Goldsmiths invited selected BA finalists to be part of a collaborative exhibition at Mile End.

Mango Gallery, Reading, 2005

Solo exhibition of abstract photography

SCHOOL PROJECTS:

Bulmershe Secondary School, Wokingham, 2008-09

Commissioned by Creative Partnerships Slough as artist in residence to collaborate with teachers and Year 7 students within Bulmershe School on the subject of celebrating difference.

Workshops ranged from using constructed cardboard walls as sites of division and inclusion; learning from fellow students how to make Pakistani kites; using movement and dance as expressions of individuality and diversity; exploring Buddhist sand art and meditation.

The projects were recorded in film and photography and concluded with a series of exhibitions of the work.

SCHOOL PROJECTS:**Canopy, 2008****St John's and Newtown Primary Schools, Reading**

A collaborative project bringing together children from two primary schools in Reading's diverse Newtown community to find points of connection. The project comprised four workshops: making friends through drama; mapping journeys (local, national and international); discovering pedal power (to power electronic equipment); discovering wind power (making cars with sails and using our breath to race them).

This project was funded by Newtown Information and Support Services, Reading.

New Christ Church 2007

1. Collaborated with the children to design and execute a 25 sq m mural.
2. Collaborated with the children to translate fantasy shoes into a 25 sq m mural.

All Saints Infant School, 2007 to 2008

A series of workshops with children led to design and execution of enclosures and murals to reflect the games the children play: dragons, knights, fairies; home cooking; football.

St John's Primary School, Reading, 2003 to 2007

Artist in Residence. Various projects including:

Ceramics project 2007

Children in Lower School created ceramic faces which were then attached to the school's exterior courtyard walls; children in Upper School worked in teams to create totem poles for the courtyard garden.

Sea and Country, murals, 2005

Children from Reception to Year 2 chose the themes of seaside and countryside to design murals for their classroom corridor. Each wall measured 20 sq m and the children helped scale up their designs and paint them in situ.

Playground mural, 2003

Dimensions: 290 square metres on tarmac playground

Community project with children from each year and their parents to design and execute an interactive mural to cover a redundant basketball court.

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:**Tate Modern, July – October 2012**

Participant in Tino Sehgal's *These Associations*

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE COMPLIMENTARY TO CAREER IN THE ARTS:**Office Manager, Vietnam Project Team, 1990**

World Vision International (working from Bangkok)

International Relations PA, 1982-84

World Vision Australia, Melbourne

PA, office management and marketing positions

1976 – 1989; 1990 - 1996