



## **A resilient future? (Discourse and celebration of Arts practice, research and teaching & learning in Higher Education out of turbulent times)**

12 & 13 January 2023  
Northern School of Contemporary Dance

Deadline for submissions: **noon, Friday 2 December 2022.**

---

## **CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

### **Structure**

The conference will run across two days with an optional evening dinner and entertainment on the evening of Thursday 12 January. We will aim to create a schedule where delegates can attend the full conference or choose the one day that resonates with their work, practice or experiences the most.

### **Call for contribution proposals**

Proposals are sought against any of the conference themes, or through suggestion of your own theme, ignited from what is proposed.

We welcome proposals from individuals or teams from an institution or across multiple institutions as well as from students, student unions or other student bodies/groups. We particularly welcome submissions from artists working in and outside of Higher Education. We also encourage policy makers, regulators, funding bodies and local authorities to submit.

Our aim is that proposals represent the breadth of our artistic and educational community.

### **Suggested themes for the conference**

There are a number of themes that we would like to explore. This list is by no means exhaustive and we hope that proposals will enable many more to present themselves. We hope that the questions inspire and motivate your own thoughts, responses and contributions...

### **Resilience (motivator or barrier)**

*What does resilience actually mean for the arts? Is it time to find a new word to adopt? Is this is overused or is it more relevant and connected than ever?*  
*How does resilience manifest itself in all avenues of our professional practice? Through what areas of work and with which stakeholders and communities?*  
*Is it time to say 'we are not resilient'? – according to Tracie L. Washington - Louisiana Justice Institute: "Stop calling me Resilient. Because every time you say 'oh they're resilient' that means you can take something else from me."*

### **Artform and practice**

*Art and performance produced in times of crisis: how do resilient identities or resilient communities create Arts, theatre and performance in times of crisis or change?*  
*Resilient bodies: how are Art-makers working with bodies to find new choreographies, aesthetics or performance materials?*  
*What emerging politics and/or artistic values are artists working with in a time of crisis?*  
*What are the opportunities or shifts around contextual framing, which influence how you now approach creative processes?*  
*What is a resilient audience?*  
*What does a resilient practitioner/artist/performer look like?*

### **Teaching and Learning in Higher Education**

*What does the future of the Arts in Higher Education look like?*  
*How have our approaches to teaching and learning changed as a result of the challenges posed over recent years? How does this approach work and offer insight into the changes in our practice?*  
*What interventions, initiatives and changes are we making to encourage and present innovation?*  
*How are we using education to propose new ways of thinking about the training of professional artists and what possibilities is this leading to?*  
*What are the models that exist for a de-colonised curriculum? What best practice can we share?*  
*What support mechanisms have we had to invest in or need to invest in so that students can access education?*  
*What do feedback & evaluation look like in an education/performing arts setting? Do we need to explore/keep developing new methods of assessing young artists in an educational/practice-as-research setting? How do we improve the resilience & reflectiveness of young artists, in preparation for the post-education performance/funding environment?*

### **Political social and cultural context around the work we do**

*What do emergency planning, response and recovery actually look like for the arts sector?*  
*What is happening to the Arts in Higher Education and how can we protect their survival?*  
*Where is resilience happening across cultures through, because of and for the Arts?*  
*How are the Arts driving the political landscape forwards? Where is activism thriving?*  
*How do we inspire change in our approach to diversity and inclusion across the Arts and beyond?*  
*What do infrastructure, organisation and community resilience look like in our sector?*  
*System versus Individual resilience – the pressures and answers.*

### **A resilient being**

*Topics which relate to mental health and well-being and new initiatives/explorations to support artists and communities*  
*Intersections between Arts and health and Arts and science*  
*Resilience and longevity – how artists are forging long and beneficial careers*

### **Technology and enterprise**

*What are the new technologies we are utilising in our practice and what are their value and impact to us as an artistic and educational community?*  
*What are the collaborations we are forming to support best practice and resilience?*

## **Session types:**

### **1) Interactive workshops sessions (30 mins or 60 mins)**

These will engage peers in activities and discussions in various formats. We will be looking for a range of inventive modes of delivery to engage participants in the most useful way to share, receive and respond to practice and dialogue. You should allow 5- 10 mins for formal or informal questions and answers where possible or make space for this in the more relaxed coffee and lunch breaks and networking sessions.

### **2) Lecture demonstration (60 mins including time for questions)**

These will engage peers in observation and discussions around the themes. Like 1. We will be looking for a range of inventive modes of delivery to engage participants in the most useful way to share, receive and respond to practice and dialogue. You should allow 10 mins for formal questions and answers

### **3) Oral presentation (15 minutes + 5 mins for questions or 20 minutes + 10 minutes for questions)**

Oral presentations allow the presenter to give summary and insight into a piece of practice or action-research or a project. Presentations may be completed, or hitting a milestone of progress. Presentations which are early on and presenting more of a pilot research project but need feedback should keep to the 15 mins option and continue dialogue outside of the presentation.

Please note that the facilitator will support presenters keeping to their agreed timeslot. A central theme will group 2-3 presentations in an allocated slot

### **4) Online (Zoom) presentation (20 minutes + 10 minutes for questions)**

We will be allocating 2 late afternoon / early evening zoom presentations for delegates. We will be giving priority to overseas presentations which allow the presenter to give summary and insight into a piece of practice or action research or a project. Presentations may be completed, or hitting a milestone of progress. Please note that the facilitator will support presenters keeping to their agreed timeslot.

A central theme will group 2 presentations in an allocated slot

### **5) Poster presentation (A1 or A0 size)**

Posters offer an exciting and alternative dimension in their approach to presenting topics for discussion and research. We are looking for eye-catching, stimulating posters (which could include graphics, drawings, text, pictures and imagery). All posters will be available throughout the two days on display, with two allocated slots where poster presenters can be available for conference delegates to ask questions and talk to authors. For this reason we do not accept poster entries from non-delegates.

Posters should be professionally printed and sent or brought to NSCD ahead of the conference for display. We aim to be displaying the posters on Wednesday **11<sup>th</sup> January**. Only the following orientation and sizes can be accepted:

- Landscape – A1.
- Portrait – either A1 or A0.
- We cannot accept posters smaller than A1 in size.

## **6) Lightning talk sessions (5-8mins)**

These are short sharp presentations (with or without slides) – an ideal way to convey an initiative / collaboration or research/practice idea to stimulate and engage others in further connection or questioning. The sessions will be 40 mins long and aim to have 5-8 presenters in clusters.

## **7) Performance (15-20 minutes with minimal lighting)**

The art form says it all. We would welcome short performance pieces which appropriately align themselves to the themes and topics of the conference. If selected, our technical team will be in touch to discuss the minimum requirements needed for the piece to be seen. We would prefer that you are available on the evening of the Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January to tech your work. Please note the max 15-20 minutes duration is fixed and we request that candidates ensure they have the running time precise. However if you have much shorter work, we may be able to accommodate this during the programme.

## **8) Be part of a roundtable discussion**

If you feel that you would like to contribute to a roundtable discussion please complete the proposal form and a member of our team will be in touch to discuss what this could look like.

## **9) Other (please specify)**

We welcome suggestions from delegates for other formats of engagement and presentation. Where an idea is relevant to the theme or topic we will try to accommodate where possible.

Deadline for proposal submissions is: **Friday 2 December 2022 12 noon (GMT)**.  
Return to conference web page to submit your proposal.

## **Important dates**

**Tuesday 25 October 2022** – Call for submissions open

**Friday 2 December 2022** – Deadline for submissions

**Sunday 4 December 2022** – Lead presenters informed of submission outcome

**Thursday 8 December 2022** – Presenters to send in their picture and biography and amended abstract for publicity. Conference opens for delegate booking and presenters will be emailed an early-bird registration code.

**Friday 9 December 2022** – conference programme finalised and published and promoted.

**Tuesday 13 December 2022** – final pre-conference information sent and received with presenters.

**Tuesday 10 January 2023** Conference bookings close

For further information and an informal chat please contact: Darren Carr, Director of Studies at NSCD [Darren.carr@nscd.ac.uk](mailto:Darren.carr@nscd.ac.uk)

**When submitting your proposal you should have the following information ready to submit via the online form:**

<b>Title of your submission:</b>
<b>Lead contact name</b>
<b>Lead contact email</b>
<b>Presenter names (if different from lead contact)</b>
<b>Higher Education Institution name or independent artist or company name:</b>
<b>Proposal type:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interactive workshop session up to 30 mins</li> <li>• Interactive workshop session up to 60 mins</li> <li>• Lecture demonstration up to 60 mins with time for questions</li> <li>• Oral presentation 15 mins plus 5 mins Q&amp;A</li> <li>• Oral presentation 20 mins plus 10 mins Q&amp;A</li> <li>• Oral presentation on zoom (20 mins plus 10 mins Q&amp;A)</li> <li>• Poster presentation (A1 or A0 size)</li> <li>• Lighting presentation (8 mins)</li> <li>• Performance (15- 20 mins with minimal lighting requirement)</li> <li>• Be part of a roundtable discussion</li> <li>• Other please state</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Abstract:</b> No more than 100 words <i>This will be used for publicity purposes</i>
<b>Outline of proposal:</b> (Max 500 words) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief background information about your project, research or activity;</li> <li>• How your proposal links to the overall theme of the conference</li> <li>• What impact, value or outcomes will your session provide;</li> <li>• If a workshop/interactive session / performance: how your session will be delivered, how you will engage participants in interactive activities, and how your session delivery demonstrates originality/innovation;</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Maximum capacity requirements:</b> e.g. studio workshop up to 30 participants or up to 6 people in small space or unlimited NSCD to decide on capacity
<b>Layout request of space:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small space theatre style layout</li> <li>• Large space theatre style layout</li> <li>• Small space with opportunity to situate a small number of people</li> <li>• Unknown NSCD can decide</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>What equipment and resource needs will you have:</b> e.g. computer and projector, flip chart, mats, post-it notes etc
<b>Additional requirements:</b> These may include accessibility, access, or other additional requirements that will enable you to attend and present your session.

## Conference Terms and Conditions

Any presenter or delegate will be asked to sign up to our terms and conditions as part of the conference proceeding. As forward notice of this please be aware that the following terms and conditions apply.

Delegates are required to:

- I. agree to the collection and storage of personal data, as outlined in NSCD's Privacy notices;
- II. attend the in-person conference for a minimum of one full day to present their session should it be accepted into the conference programme. Please note, presenter places are not free of charge, but are offered at a discounted rate;
- III. agree to information about themselves, their co-presenters, their institution and their session details being promoted externally on the web-based conference programme;
- IV. permit their slides and relevant resources from the session to be posted after the conference on NSCD's website and in any conference proceedings
- V. allow their session to be photographed or filmed during the conference at NSCD's discretion;
- VI. allow their and their co-presenters' details (name, email address, institution, Biography – no longer than 100 words) to be shared with delegates during the conference on NSCD's conference web page;
- VII. permit the recording of their session for potential hybrid or virtual delivery of the conference, to be either live-streamed or circulated as a resource to conference delegates;
- VIII. Abide by any vaccination, testing, or Covid precautionary requirements stipulated by the Government, Local Authority or NSCD. These will be confirmed closer to the date of the conference and will be guided by governmental advice.

If you are uncomfortable agreeing to these conditions, you should select no. If you would like us to contact you to discuss your concerns, please note this on the proposal form.