

WORKSHOP #3 HOLDING (DIGITAL) SPACE TOGETHER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020, 17:00-19:00

How to relieve the performative pressures of platforms like zoom? This session was aware of teachers' own rapid learning to create entirely different vocabularies of expressing and communicating care. We considered how we might *curriculum* – derived from 'running' in Latin – digitally in ways that hold space for one another to be uncertain, to make mistakes, to not have all the answers. With Clare Butcher we discussed and shared co-designed processes that help identify the parameters of power and agency, along with the limits of expectations and connectivity. We experienced a grounding exercise and a reading on intimacy and not knowing. We also discussed the importance to leave (zoom) room for surprising correspondences, intimate acknowledgements, and collective listening, to keep in touch with one another at a distance.

Prompts Clare offered us for discussion:

- How do you understand the idea of 'holding space'?
- What are the spaces in which you and your students have been communicating these past months?
- How did you go about identifying and framing those spaces?
- Are there opportunities for you and your students to discuss what's working and if there are other needs?
- Are there some working models/ methods that you'd like to share?
- Are there some questions or

challenges that have arisen that you think could be useful for others to hear about? If so, please share if you feel comfortable.

- Have you addressed those challenges and uncertainties with students? Have they with you? If so, please share if you feel comfortable.
- How do you relate yourself to the term 'curriculum'?
- If 'curriculum' could be understood as a verb, are there some ways in which you'd like to put what you've learned here into action?

W/ CLARE BUTCHER



Clare Butcher is a curator and educator from Zimbabwe who cooks and collaborates as part of her practice. She is currently Curator for Public Programming and Learning with the Toronto Biennial of Art's amazing team. Clare is wondering what the future of gathering and learning together might be, and how the curriculum can be transformed through art education. Previously she co-organised the program *unsettling Rietveld Sandberg* with Judith Leysner and was an education coordinator for documenta 14. Clare has worked with a number of museums, academies, and organisations and holds an MFA from the School of Missing Studies, an MA in Curating the Archive from the University of Cape Town, and participated in the De Appel Curatorial Programme. Some collective and individual endeavours include *Men Are Easier to Manage Than Rivers* (2015); *The Principles of Packing...on two travelling exhibitions* (2012), and *If A Tree...on the Second Johannesburg Biennale* (2012).

**HOLDING
(DIGITAL)
SPACE
TOGETHER**

online
WORKSHOP #3

**w/ CLARE
BUTCHER**

**TUE DEC 8,
5-7PM**

How to make (zoom) room for surprising correspondences, intimate acknowledgements and collective listening?

Hear! Here! is a platform and research project for Rietveld & Sandberg staff. In 2020/2021 the platform is dedicated to dialogue and critical pedagogy.

Touchpoints for the (online) classroom as offered by Clare:

Vocabulary and Defining

Establish a ground to meet; discuss different resources together and reflect upon them. Give the opportunity to write in different languages. Discuss different protocols on how to reflect on text.

Buddies

Identifying buddies helps to create co-responsibility by being accountable to a fellow student, to give updates, to allow for peer-to-peer learning and intimacy.

Resources and Needs (Material and Immaterial)

Create accessible entry points, exercises, and space to process information. Don't forget the body (breaks!)

Keeping Time

'Field' Studies, Prompts, and Exercises

Leaving the computer, going outside, and getting away from the screen.

Segue Way

Validate someone's point and then redirect the question.