

A graphic of a musical staff with several notes and question marks, set against a background of a sunset over trees.

*What is the role of Creativity in a Complex World?*

# SOCIAL CHANGE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

30-31 JULY 2011, OXFORD, UK



REOS

Reos Partners works around the world supporting innovation and change in complex social systems. In this work, various methodologies and theories are applied. Many of these methodologies seek to untap the potential of individuals to create change in their work, lives and organizations. Central to these processes is creativity on a personal level and at the collective level of co-design and acting together. The opposite of a stuck system is one that moves. How this movement occurs requires creativity and innovation. In this festival, we adopt the theme, “What is the role of creativity in a complex world?” to explore this topic together, using a range of media: creative use of materials, spoken word, song, scenarios, writing, role-play, and dialogue. We also invite you to bring your own questions, ideas and techniques to embark on this exciting summer journey together.

## Programme

Time	Saturday	Sunday
9.30-11.00am	Plenary Welcome Opening Song Introductions Theme Dialogue	Plenary <i>Deepening the Learning</i>
11.00-11.15am	Coffee break	Coffee break
11.15am-12.45pm	<p><b>Theme:</b> <b>Our Complex World</b></p> <p><b>Sessions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Soldering Lumiphone with Technology Will Save Us</li> <li>2) The Deep Self with Deborah Ravetz</li> <li>3) Yemen - A Holistic Response with Zaid Hassan and Henry Thompson</li> <li>4) Interracial Co-Facilitation with Yvonne Field and Rebecca Freeth</li> <li>5) Systems Change for Vulnerable People with Dr. Leigh Gassner</li> </ol> <p><i>Plus Two Open Space Sessions</i></p>	<p><b>Theme: Creativity and Creative Responses</b></p> <p><b>Sessions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Personal Creativity to Re-imagine the World with Deborah Ravetz and Emily Wilkinson</li> <li>2) Writing and Social Change with Zaid Hassan</li> <li>3) Songwriting with Luke Concannon</li> <li>4) Scenarios and Social Change with Adam Kahane</li> </ol> <p><i>Plus Two Open Space Sessions</i></p>
1-2pm	Lunch at Grove House	Lunch at Grove House

<b>2-4pm</b>	<p><b>Afternoon Sessions</b></p> <p>1) The Ten Laws of Power and Love with Adam Kahane</p> <p>2) The Electrodough workshop with Tech will Save us</p> <p>3) Youth and the U-process with Emily Wilkinson, Tomas Rosenfeld and Yvonne Field</p> <p>4) Theatre and Social Change with Mia Eisenstadt and Zaid Hassan</p> <p><i>Plus two Open Space Sessions</i></p>	<p><b>Afternoon Sessions</b></p> <p>1) Story-telling, purpose and creating anew with Mia</p> <p>2) Creativity and Systemic Change with Zaid Hassan</p> <p>3) The Deep Self</p> <p><i>Plus two Open Space Sessions</i></p>
<b>4-5pm</b>	Plenary <i>Graphically recorded by Mindful Maps</i>	Plenary <i>Concert with Luke from Nizlopi</i>
<b>5-7pm</b>	Dinner available at Grove House	Looking Ahead <i>Check out Close and gratitude</i>
<b>7-10pm</b>	Theatrical Performance: White Men with Weapons starring Greg Coetzee	Reos Partners Dinner (all invited but please book in advance)
	Close	Close

*Note: If time allows morning sessions can continue in the afternoon session.*

## **Day 1: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July** **Our Complex World**

### **Day 1: Morning Sessions 11.15am - 12.45am**

#### **1) The Lumiphone soldering class with Technology Will Save Us**

Join us for a class about soldering and building your very own light to sound musical instrument. We will start with a kit of bare electronic components, which you will solder together and discover how easy it is to create music and light with simple electronics!

#### **2) The Search for the Deep Self and the Directory of Gratitude - Social Sculpture with Deborah Ravetz**

Deborah invites you to an experience of exploration and conversation. Deborah's social sculpture project, The Search For The Deep Self and the accompanying presentation, The Directory of Gratitude creates a container in which to explore what it means to be a free human being. This is a practical experience of helping to create a social sculpture.

### **3) Yemen- A Holistic Response with Zaid Hassan and Henry Thompson**

The situation in Yemen can be seen as 'the perfect storm' of systemic challenges, ranging from food shortages, to energy and security issues. We present and share a case study of a response to the situation developed by Reos over the past few years and invite your thoughts and feedback.

### **4) Interracial co-facilitation with Yvonne Field and Rebecca Freeth**

In preparation for Reos's racial justice work in South Africa, Yvonne Field, an African-Caribbean British woman, and Rebecca Freeth, a white South African woman, invite you to join them in a conversation on inter-racial facilitation. Through dialogue we will encourage you to share your personal stories of inter-racial facilitation, exploring some of the dynamics, which arise when working across racial lines. What are some of the power dynamics that surface when inter-racially facilitating predominately white groups? In what ways might this dynamic shift when co-facilitating racially diverse groups? How has your experience of inter-racial facilitation influenced whom you facilitate with in your current practice? These are just a few of the questions we will explore during this session.

To help us deepen our own personal awareness and professional practice, towards the end of the session we would like you to join with us in reflecting on your experience of the conversation we've just had, facilitated by a black and white co-facilitating team.

### **5) Systems Change for Vulnerable People: The Case of Services Reform for Family Violence response in Melbourne by Dr Leigh Gassner**

In this session Leigh will share the case of integrated and statewide service reform to victims of family violence and highlight the key elements and learning's for success from this project. Participants are welcome to come to the session and share their own experiences of projects working with systems change or vulnerable people and engage in discussion and share learning's. Questions to be explored include: how to gain support for these kind of projects; how is leadership built; the importance of values alignment what kinds of impact to these projects have and how do they serve vulnerable peoples and address reform in services for family violence.

## **Day 1 (continued): Afternoon Sessions--2-4pm**

### **1) The Ten Laws of Love and Power.**

Most social change practitioners believe that love and power are in opposition and that they need to choose one--and they are wrong. As Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anemic." Adam Kahane suggests that all creative social change requires us to learn to work fluidly with both of these drives, and offers a theory and practice of how to do so.

### **2) The Electro Dough workshop**

Discover the wonderful world of electronics by literally getting your hands dirty with electrically conductive play dough. We'll be using LEDs, batteries electro dough and your imagination to create our own sculpted interactive masterpieces.

About Technology Will Save Us:

Technology Will Save Us is a haberdashery for technology and alternative education space dedicated to helping people solve the problems that matter most to them. We provide a physical space with tools, curriculum and expertise to help individuals be more creative with the technology in their lives through hands on experiences and workshops in collaboration with diverse experts and sponsors. A "haberdashery for the 21st Century".

### **3) Youth & the U: How Can Young People Work With the U-Process to Help Facilitate Change in Their Lives? With Emily Wilkinson, Tomas Rosenfeld and Yvonne Field**

Young people can (and do) feel empowered to make changes in their own lives and the lives of others. In this session you will experience how through meaningful dialogue we can build supportive relationships, networks and communities to help turn our fresh perspective, energy, passion and ideas into action.

### **4) Role play with Power and Social Change with Zaid Hassan and Mia Eisenstadt**

In this session we co-create with participants a series of role-plays that explore working with power and status through theatrical techniques. Through role-play, reflection and discussion, we will experience and play with the ideas of power and status to enable personal, interpersonal and organizational change. The purpose of this session is to "unlock" the roles we commonly enact to be able to play and be creative with power.

This session is a taster of the course Effective Group Facilitation that has recently been run in London, Oxford and Johannesburg.

## **Day 2: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

### **Creative Responses**

#### **Day 2: Morning Sessions 11.15am - 12.45pm**

##### **1) Personal Creativity to Re-imagine the World with Emily Wilkinson and Deborah Ravetz**

**How does connecting deeply with our personal creativity help us to re-imagine the world – both individually and collectively?** In this informal conversation, Deborah and Emily will lead you through gentle exercises and soulful conversation to explore this topic.

##### **2) Writing and Social Change with Zaid Hassan**

A hands-on workshop on how to use your writing to advance your work in all types of change efforts: personal change, systemic change, social change, facilitation and others. Bring any pieces of writing with you that you would like to share or work on. Zaid brings experience of writing for WorldChanging.com as well as articles on his own experience of change and systemic change efforts in a range of fields.

##### **3) Song Writing with Luke Concannon**

Come and sing, dance and write songs from your passion. How can we be more joyful and fiercely purposeful? What place does singing have in our lives? How do we hear that creative voice in us that gives birth to beauty, truth, and passion? How can we get together and make art that nourishes, inspires, and helps to create the world we all want to see? “If you can talk you can sing, if you can walk you can dance”(a Zimbabwean proverb). If you have a musical instrument with you, feel free to bring it. No previous singing experience required. All abilities most welcome. Let's go in!

##### **4) Scenarios for Social Change with Adam Kahane**

Scenario planning is well established as a tool to help organisations adapt to an uncertain future. But scenarios can also be used to help citizens work together to shape the future. Twenty years ago Adam Kahane went from Royal Dutch Shell in London to Mont Fleur in Cape Town to try out this new approach--and has been pioneering this radically creative way of effecting social change ever since

#### **Day 2: Afternoon Sessions 2-4pm**

##### **1) Presencing, Story telling and Creating Anew with Mia Eisenstadt**

Connecting to purpose can unlock creativity and direction. In this session we will spend some time presencing as a foundation to share stories about purpose in our work and personal lives. We will use our hands to make physical models of our aspirations and ideas and gain peer-support on how to develop them in the “real world”.

## **2) Creativity and Systemic Change with Zaid Hassan**

What is the relationship between creativity and systemic change? What is systemic change? In this session, Zaid will focus building an understanding of what systemic change is in practice through discussion, case studies and experiential learning.

## **3) The Deep Self by Deborah Ravetz**

Another opportunity to participate in Deborah's social sculpture project.

## **Ongoing sessions**

### **Creative Documentation and Graphic Recording with Mindful Maps and Casper Ter Kuilie**

Reos aims to co-create a collaborative installation which creatively documents the Festival. Throughout the event Emily from Mindful Maps and Casper will lead a team of 'creative reporters' to harvest material. Using a variety of tools and techniques including graphic harvesting, photography and social media we will be gathering information and material from the festival and local context, which will be brought together in a pop-up installation. We welcome your participation and handiwork, email [emily@mindfulmaps.com](mailto:emily@mindfulmaps.com) or Mia ([eisenstadt@reospartners.com](mailto:eisenstadt@reospartners.com)) if you would like to be involved in this project.

## **Information about the Festival**

### **Food and Dining**

We will provide drinks and refreshments on both days in the morning and afternoon as included in ticket price.

Lunch for both days is available to buy at £6, vegetarian and non-vegetarian, and wheat-free available.

Dinner for both days is not included.

For the Saturday evening we will have dinner available to buy at Grove House before the theatrical performance. The cost is £10 and includes mineral water or juice.

On Sunday there is a dinner with the Reos Partners, if you would like to reserve a place for this please email Leo [leo@reospartners.com](mailto:leo@reospartners.com) by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> of July to reserve. Dinner will be at the Magdalen Arms on Cowley Road.

### **Participant-led open space sessions**

As you will notice in the agenda there is some space for you to host sessions. If you know in advance of the festival a session you would like to lead/host/facilitate please can they contact Mia Eisenstadt on [eisenstadt@reospartners.com](mailto:eisenstadt@reospartners.com) before the Festival

to make arrangements. Participants will be able to pose sessions on the day but bear in mind possible limitations with breakout spaces.

## Evening Entertainment

**Theatrical Performance: White Men With Weapons by Greig Coetzee (writer, actor)**

What happens to the minds of men who are forced to fight a senseless war in a foreign land? Sometimes the real terror to be fought is the one inside us. This South African theatre classic, by turns funny, poignant and harrowing, now has a broader relevance in a world full of senseless wars.

Armed only with razor-sharp satire, Coetzee's 13 characters will take you on a roller-coaster ride through the old South African Defense Force. A Corporal from hell, a drug-crazed Durban Rambo and an Anglican Chaplain with Tutu-phobia are just three of the many creatures you will meet during this journey into the heart of South Africa's forgotten wars. And along the way Nelson Mandela walks free, forcing these punch-drunk, blood-shot soldiers to face their final battle as the sun rises on a new country.

*'An exciting new talent. Hilarious and thought-provoking.'*  
*The Natal Mercury (South Africa)*

*'Very funny... an excellent actor! It's sharp and it's good.'* *Sunday Tribune (South Africa)*

*'A breathtaking showcase of pure talent.'* *Newworld (United States)*

*'A central performance which must be one of the finest of the entire Festival'*  
*Daily Mail (UK)*

*'Brilliant... hilarious satire.'* *Westside Resident (New York)*

*'The scope of Coetzee's abilities is astounding.'* *Cape Argus (South Africa)*

### **Luke Concannon**

Star of former band Nizlopi joins the Festival as a Musical Artist and Facilitator. We are delighted that Luke will be bringing his unique mix of soul and folk to share with us. Luke's recent songs can be found here: <http://www.myspace.com/lukeconcannon/music>