

Keep on, keepin' on

***Scottish Artist's Union
Annual General Meeting 2017***

Does the concept of resilience bring anything new to our approach to problems – be they individual, professional, societal, political?

This year's Annual General Meeting for the Scottish Artist's Union focus is on ideas of resilience and acts as a forum to collectively interrogate what this can mean for artists. POOL has put together some of the AGM's activities to address different aspects of resilience in the lives of working artists today. We have tried to dig into the different modes of this resilient interface between artists and the larger world. From our own personal time perception, to communication and our place in the hyper personal and political landscape of an evolving world of work.

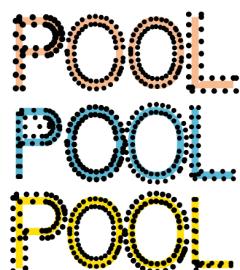
POOL (Peer Organisation for Open Learning) is a Glasgow based learning collective that has been working and researching together since early 2016. POOL is currently looking at expanding on the idea of city-as-curriculum to form a digital platform for the multitude of self-organised educational groups or events that already exist across Glasgow and Scotland. We hope that this platform will then act as a tool for individuals and groups to connect with each other, access or contribute support and continue to grow overall access to different kinds of continued learning.

The Force of Listening reading group POOL

“...the courage, the determination, the desire to act, relies very much on the ability of listening and thinking together with other people”

In *The Force of Listening*, Adriana Cavarero and Claudia Firth compile a series of interviews with members of the Precarious Workers Brigade, Ultra Red and participants of feminist Consciousness Raising groups, considering the role that listening plays at the intersection between art and activism. The book aims to generate a new kind of collective intelligence, one which they argue has been neglected by the individualism and careerism of neo-liberalism. In considering extracts of Cavarero and Firth's book, we will be looking away from the vocalisation of political thoughts and ideas, to the role that listening plays in the determination of new lines of collaboration and collusion. By keying into an attentive kind of listening we will be developing space for kinship within our multiplicities, resisting isolation by finding new ways of relating to one another through care and generosity.

www.p-o-o-l.org



Optimum-o pie workshop POOL

What kind of work are we doing, how long for and for who?

Optimum-o pie adopts the tone of a corporate time management tool and contemplates where we draw our lines. If the myth of productivity is dispelled how can a balance be struck not only for the individual, but between many people's responsibilities?

We come to recognise the pie as a dissident game for contemplating the ways we spend our energy; how we should have the right to choose dependent on what our needs and desires look like; how variety and freedom is integral for our humanity and our mutual cooperation. It makes visible a conversation of how we may ultimately expand the conditions that make art possible, fostering an environment for practicing artistry of some kind, for all.

Digesting Politics snack hour Keep it Complex

Keep It Complex is a collaborative and evolving organisation which confronts political issues through ideas and action. It's about using art to have conversations with people you don't usually talk to. It's about not giving in to fear and apathy. We currently have several strands of activity; working collaboratively to run events, curate workshops, facilitate discussions and create campaign materials.

Further Reading

Recommended by Keep it Complex

Do the right thing

A manual by Malmö Free University for Women
studio-sm.se/MFK_Do-the-right-thing_ENG.pdf

Running a great meeting

globaljustice.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/resources/running_a_great_meeting.pdf

Give up activism

An article from Do or Die Issue 9
eco-action.org/dod/no9/activism.htm

Notes to a white left world

Activism in this current political crisis
goo.gl/YSMM2r

Unite Against Dividers

An activation weekend for the arts
makeitclear.eu/unite-against-dividers/

Recommended by POOL

Understanding Diversity in the Arts

Survey Report, 2017 Creative Scotland
goo.gl/wBghSo

Work, Work, Work, A Reader on Art and Labour

Enqvist A, Engqvist JH, Masucci M, et al. (2012)
Sternberg Press

Demand a 4 Day Week!

@4DayWeekCampaign

Manual Labours is a research project exploring physical and emotional relationships to work, initiated by Jenny Richards and Sophie Hope
manuallabours.co.uk