SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dr Eleonora Belfiore | @elebelfiore

Dr Eleonora Belfiore is Associate Professor in Cultural Policy at the Centre for Cultural Policy Studies at the University of Warwick. Her research interests focus on the politics of cultural policy-making and the analysis of the discursive formation around justifications of public funding for the arts and culture. She has written extensively on the social impact of the arts and the politics of their measurement and evaluation in a policy-making context, the role of research evidence in policy development, and cultural value. In the Summer of 2012, she founded The Culturalvalue Initiative (www.culturalvalueinitiative.org) an online resource and curated blog, and she is Arts Director of Studies of the Warwick Commission on the Future of Cultural Value (http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/research/warwickcommission/futureculture/), a large scale public engagement project that aims to foster a national conversation on the value of the arts and creative industries and to help develop fresh policy thinking.

Professor Franco Bianchini

Franco Bianchini is Professor of Cultural Policy and Planning at Leeds Metropolitan University. From 1992-2007 he was Reader in Cultural Planning and Policy and Course Leader for the MA in European Cultural Planning at De Montfort University, Leicester. Franco is a member of the Media, Communication, Cultures subject team, as well as of the Management Team for the School of Cultural Studies and Humanities, and of the MA Social History course team.

Franco has been a member of the Editorial Board of International Journal of Cultural Policy since 1997 and of the Advisory Board of ENCATC Journal of Cultural Management and Policy since 2012.

He was appointed in June 2001 by the President of the European Parliament to the selection panel responsible for the designation of Cork as the 2005 European Capital of Culture. In 2006 the Minister of Culture of Slovenia appointed him to the panel responsible for the selection of Maribor as Slovenia’s choice for the 2012 European Capital of Culture. Franco has given invited lectures, mainly on urban cultural policy and planning issues, in most European countries, and also in Australia, Colombia, China and Japan.

His research interests include: the role of culture in urban regeneration (with a particular focus on port cities and on European Cities/Capitals of Culture); cultural diversity and interculturalism as resources for innovation in urban policy, and the development of urban cultural strategies in Europe in the context of the current political, economic and environmental crises.

Dr Mandy Chivers | @mandysmojo

Director of Quality and Innovation; Mersey Care NHS trust

Revans Fellow; MBS The University of Manchester
Following her earlier clinical career as a speech and language therapist, Mandy joined Mersey Care in 2003 to take up an innovative post with a portfolio designed to lead organisational and cultural transformation. Shifting the pattern of engagement and creating opportunities for clinical leaders, managers and service users to work and learn together for health improvements, she replicated an approach she developed during her doctoral fellowship: A creative model for integrating service improvement, organisational learning and distributed leadership. The model shared in a co-authored ‘Handbook for Action Learners’, which was initially written to support colleagues in-house, is now used nationally and internationally by people and organisations across all sectors.

Mandy has led an exciting vision and campaign for learning in Mersey Care, which is inclusive and participatory. ‘Each One Teach One’ was a strategy which both inspired people to get involved whilst delivering key programmes of practical support to a diverse group of 4000 staff and service users across 50 sites. Mersey Care was the first union learning centre in the NHS in the country.

Integral to this has been her keen interest in the development of a network of people championing creative approaches to innovation and improvement in healthcare. In developing a range of creative programmes delivered by multi-disciplinary healthcare clinicians in collaboration with Liverpool’s cultural sector, she has stimulated a strategic shift towards recovering wellbeing. These partnerships bring the ‘outside world’ into health care settings, and help to establish relationships that open doors for people with mental health problems.

Andrew Dixon | @BolivarD123

Andrew Dixon worked for over 30 years in the arts, tourism and regeneration in Yorkshire, North East of England and Scotland. He worked in rock music, theatre and journalism before becoming a local authority arts officer. He was Assistant Director and then Chief Executive of Northern Arts (Regional Arts Board) in Newcastle where he led the regional Case for Capital, raising resources and helping implement projects such as the Baltic, The Sage Gateshead and the Angel of the North. Then as Executive Director of Arts Council England he designed the regional Arts Lottery Programme and then the National Lottery programme Grants for the Arts.

He was Chief Executive of Newcastle-Gateshead Initiative from 1995 to 2010 in charge of tourism, marketing and the delivery of a region-wide programme of festivals and events. He was the Programme Director for the World Summit on Arts and Culture in 2006. He led many bids for the North East including work to return the Lindisfarne Gospels, the bid to host WOMEX, the World Music Expo.

Andrew was previously Council member of Durham Cathedral, Board member of Gateshead College, board member of Entrust and member of the fundraising advisory boards for The Sage Gateshead and The Theatre Royal. He has been a judge for various business, architecture, broadcasting and enterprise awards.

He received an honorary doctorate from The University of Northumbria in 2009 and was recipient of the Hadrian Award in 2011 for his work in the North East of England.

In 2010 he moved to Edinburgh as founding Chief Executive of Creative Scotland, the new national agency for the arts, film and creative industries managing a budget of £80 Million and overseeing the merger of Scottish Arts Council and Scottish Screen.
In February 2013 he left Creative Scotland and set up his own company ‘Culture Creativity Place’ providing advice on cultural policy, regeneration, festivals and broadcasting partnerships. He is currently contracted as Bid Adviser and Programme Director for Hull’s UK City of Culture in 2017 and an adviser to various clients in local government, creative industries and regeneration in York, Newcastle and Edinburgh.

He has spoken widely on cultural policy and the arts including in Ireland, Australia, Sweden, Turkey, USA, Hong Kong and South Africa.

Dr David Fleming | @DrDavidFleming

David Fleming, OBE MA PhD AMA, became director of National Museums Liverpool (NML) in 2001. Since then he has led a major modernisation of NML, which has resulted in its becoming a leading example of an inclusive museum service with a large and diverse audience.

Over the past twelve years, NML audiences have more than quadrupled, rising from around 700,000 to more than 3.2 million per year. David has been responsible for the creation of two new museums in Liverpool, the Museum of Liverpool and the International Slavery Museum.

David is a former President and current Vice President of the UK Museums Association, has served on several UK Government committees and task forces, and has advised a number of government and municipal bodies overseas (eg Belgium, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway).

He sits on a number of boards and governing bodies, and is currently Convener of the Social Justice Alliance of Museums, Chairman of ICOM’s Finance and Resources Committee, Treasurer and Vice President of the European Museum Forum, and President of the Federation of International Human Rights Museums (FIHRM). He is Visiting Professor of Museum Studies at Liverpool Hope University, UK, Special Advisor to the Museum of Democracy, Rosario, Argentina, and External Examiner for the celebrated Leicester University MA in Museums Studies. He is chairing a task group on the development of Liverpool’s cultural heritage for Mayor Anderson.

David has published extensively and has lectured worldwide - most recently in Greece, Albania, Denmark and Taiwan - on museum management and leadership, city history museums, social inclusion, human rights and politics.

Dr Beatriz Garcia | @beatriz_garcia

Dr Beatriz Garcia is Head of Research at the Institute of Cultural Capital and Senior Research Fellow in Sociology at the University of Liverpool. She has been at the forefront of debates about culture-led urban regeneration research since 1998. High profile research directed by Beatriz include a review of all available evidence on the European City/Capital of Culture (ECoC) programme since 1985 for the European Parliament; the pioneering Impacts 08 programme on the multiple impacts of Liverpool as ECoC 2008; the first holistic assessment of a four-year national Cultural Olympiad for the London 2012 Olympic Organising Committee; and the first comprehensive study of the 20-year legacy of bidding and hosting an ECoC, focusing on Glasgow 1990 and covering 1986 to 2005. Beatriz has conducted fieldwork on the cultural dimension of every Summer and Winter Olympic Games since Sydney 2000 and has been involved as advisor, researcher or observer of a wide range of ECoCs and other major events, such as the Commonwealth Games. Funders for Dr Garcia’s work include the European Parliament, European Commission, International Olympic Committee, Research Councils UK, British Academy, Arts Council England, English Heritage, Creative Scotland and the
Universities China Committee in London. She is Editor of the online magazine Culture @ the Olympics and author of numerous journal publications on the cultural dimensions of mega-events. Her monographs ‘The Olympics. The Basics’ and ‘The Olympic Games and Cultural Policy’ were published by Routledge in 2012. For more information and access to reports on all her major studies visit: www.beatrizgarcia.net; www.impacts08.net; www.iccliverpool.ac.uk; www.culturalolympics.org.uk

Christopher Gordon

Christopher Gordon is an independent consultant and university lecturer in international cultural policy in the UK and in continental Europe. Formerly Chief Executive of the English Regional Arts Boards, a local authority Arts Officer (LB Camden and Hampshire CC) and festival programmer, he led and wrote the National Cultural Policy evaluations of Italy, Latvia, Cyprus and Turkey for the Council of Europe, and is author of two UNESCO cultural policy publications. Sometime Adviser to the Culture Committee of the European Parliament and Treasurer of the European Forum on the Arts & Heritage, he is an editorial board member of the International Journal of Cultural Policy.

Aideen McGinley OBE

Aideen McGinley is National Trustee for Northern Ireland on the Board of the BBC Trust. She has 37 years of local and central government experience. A woman of many firsts, Aideen was the first woman CEO in local government in Northern Ireland and following the 1999 Peace Agreement, went on to become the first woman Permanent Secretary in the newly formed central government. She created the first Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and then moved to the Department of Employment and Learning where she was responsible for further and higher education, employment and skills.

Following her interest in urban and rural regeneration, Aideen was seconded from central government in 2009 to become CEO of ILEX, the Urban Regeneration Company for the city of Derry~Londonderry. Aideen was instrumental in developing its £400million, 10-year regeneration plan. Of the many significant achievements, two stand out. One was building the award-winning and symbolic Peace Bridge that connects two sides of a previously divided community. The other was successfully securing the inaugural UK City of Culture 2013 title for Derry~Londonderry.

Aideen has a particular interest in and experience of Whole systems thinking and effective stakeholder engagement. She sponsored gatherings of large diverse groups on issues ranging from social entrepreneurship, integrated economic development and creativity to women and leadership development.

Aideen was awarded an OBE in the Queen’s Millennium Honours List and an honorary degree from the University of Ulster in recognition of her work in the public, private and non-profit sector and her ability to create and deliver integrated policies and plans.

She is an associate of Future Search Associates and Co-Chair of the Carnegie UK Trust initiative on the measurement of well-being in Northern Ireland.

David Powell

David Powell works as an animateur, consultant, mentor and board member with arts and cultural organisations across the UK and internationally. Since 1990 he has run his own independent research and development practice, DPA. He advises civic and cultural leaders – in the Thames Gateway, in the North of England, in coastal communities and elsewhere. He promotes the role of cultural practice
and creative businesses in regeneration and community building, helping strong local cultures and economies to flourish. He was a Director of Inter-Action, the influential arts and community development charity, until 1985. He is a visiting professor at University of East London.

**Peter Stark**

Peter Stark’s work in researching, developing and delivering cultural policy and projects in the UK has ranged from his founding directorships of South Hill Park Arts Centre and Voluntary Arts to the culture-led transformation of his native Tyneside. In South Africa, since 2000, he has worked in inner-city Johannesburg and the former homelands of the Eastern Cape. Throughout his career he has been a teacher of cultural management and leadership. He was awarded the OBE in 1990 for his work as Director of Northern Arts and he was appointed Professor in Cultural Policy and Management at Northumbria University in 2000. He is the Chair of Voluntary Arts (UK & Ireland).