



Performing Public Health



Normal Was No Good: What We Learned From Remote Cultures

As social distancing measures emerged, people engaged with the arts in a variety of ways in order to maintain their well-being. In this context, “Remote Cultures” refer to the cultures evolving in response to the public health measures implemented due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Remote Cultures vary among different populations and communities, including **Unique Precarities** (particular experiences, knowledges, needs, and abilities of marginalized groups) and individuals’ adaptations to the novel public health measures implemented during this pandemic.

Remote Cultures “coded” a series of conversations with artists, administrators, health officials and others. Participants in one conversation declined to be coded, seeing it as a form of institutionalized categorization they rejected. This rejection was interpreted by the coders of this discussion’s transcript as a form of data in itself, with the valuable message to communicate to readers/consumers of the takeaways from this conversation series. From those conversations to which participants accepted the request to be coded, themes and guiding questions emerged and are documented below.

Remote Cultures Conversations: How Uniquely Precarious Artists are Performing Public Health

- Participants in this conversation declined to be coded, not wishing to subject their experiential knowledge to institutional paradigms. We consider this refusal to be a form of data that speaks volumes about institutional trust in marginalized artist communities.

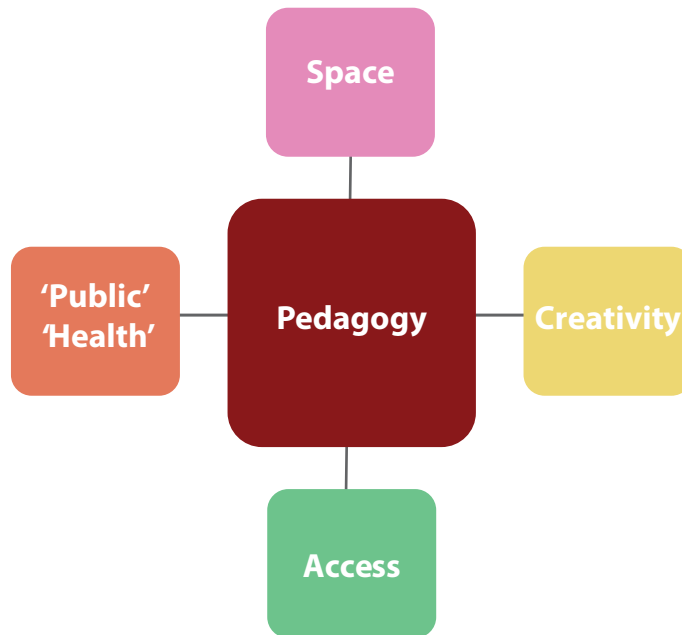


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Remote Cultures Conversations: How artists build and maintain relationships during the pandemic

- In this conversation between Dakota Camacho, Artist and Indigenous Rights Activist, Dionne Champion, Research Assistant Professor, Center for Arts in Medicine, and Kevin Gotkin, Assistant Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication, the following themes emerged:



Attributions: Kevin Gotkin, Dakota Alcantara, Dione Champion

- The following questions emerged:
 - Who controls space, and/or its access?
 - How to ground access as a creative endeavor?
 - What is 'public'? What is 'health'?

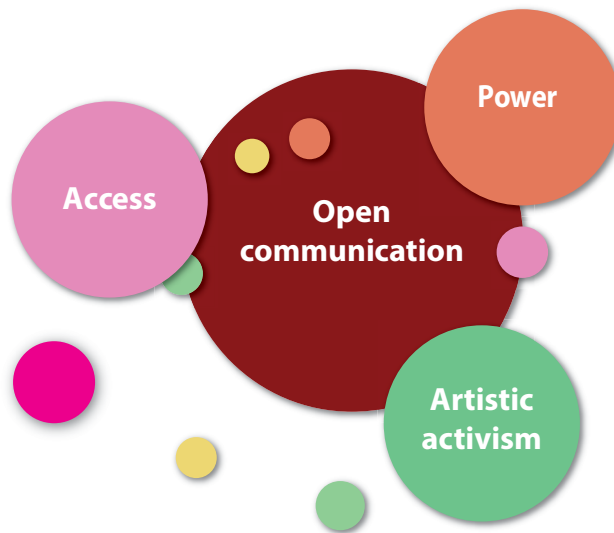


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Remote Cultures Conversations: How the emergence of a vaccine provokes urgent collaborations in the arts and public health

- In this conversation between Merith Basey, Universities Allied for Essential Medicine, Dannie Snyder, Interdisciplinary Artist (artist + activist) and a member of the [#FreeTheVaccine](#) campaign and Dr. Edward Scott, Professor in the UF Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, the following themes emerged:



Attributions: Meredith Basey, Ed Scott, Dannie Snyder

- The following questions emerged:
 - Why not leverage this moment, start from zero and be as inclusive as possible?
 - How can we use creativity to spread facts in digestible ways?



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Remote Cultures Conversations: How Artists support pandemic recovery efforts

- In this conversation between Stephen Kwok, an artist working across multiple forms, Edie Hubert, a musician, educator, and Performing Public Health Advisory team member and Louise Shaw, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Museum Curator, the following themes emerged:



Attributions: Edith Moore Hubert, Louise Shaw, Stephen Kwok

- The following questions emerged:
 - How can we meet this moment and create openings for new experiences?
 - How to build on shared communication tools between the arts and public health sectors?



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Overall, the following guiding questions and thoughts can be used for future learning:

- How to realize 'public' health?
What works for you, may not work for me
- How to leverage creativity to reimagine access to power? To space? To systemic inequity?
Towards a pedagogy of space/access/equity
- How to use the Coronavirus pandemic as an opportunity to start from zero?
Strengthen bridges between the arts and public health sectors
- How can the concepts of Performing Public Health help to integrate the arts and public health sectors towards realizing a more just, accessible, and equitable society?