

# Lydia Catterall

# Curriculum Vitae

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*'Artists excavate the unconscious of our culture and act as seismographs, recording subtle tremors long before they are felt more widely in our community' - Corrin, 1999*

## Education

Leeds Metropolitan University

Sep 2010 – Jun 2013

BA Hons Fine Art: First Class Honours

Recipient of Alan Mohun Memorial Prize

## Work History

Self Employed

Oct 2016- Present

Creative Practitioner

Working across the artist-led, creative, cultural, community, charity and council-led sectors, aiming to connect conversations, share agendas and incorporate creative processes as central. Artist, facilitator, connector, researcher, writer, project manager and host.

Unlimited, WYCA Freelance Support

April 2024 - Present

A project partnership between Unlimited and West Yorkshire Combined Authority, seeking to increase access for disabled artists and audiences. Leading on a new capital grant, evaluation and relationship management. Part of Unlimited's commitment to sector change.

Job Aide

September 2021 - May 2024

Supporting the work and business development of two, brilliant, neurodivergent artists. Includes creative strategy and project development, writing support, fundraising, network and comms management and noisy cheerleading.

LS14 Trust, Leeds

July 2020 - Nov 2022

Artist in Residence

An initial commission to creatively evaluate a collaborative response to the Covid-19 Pandemic became an invitation to build 'Learning Lab'. This includes development of a Learning Lab environment and culture, the design and delivery of a 'Young Leaders' programme, creative commissions, communications and relationship building.

Huddersfield University

April 2019 - April 2020

Research Assistant in Transdisciplinary Impact

Supporting the development of an Impact Case Study submitted from the School of Art, Design and Architecture for REF 2021, and contributing to the creation of future research outputs, including printed publication.

Associate

Together for Peace

July 2018 - December 2020

A community-based charity made up of a freelance team working across West Yorkshire. Projects address topics such as poverty, climate crisis, power relations and amplifying marginalised voices.

Seedbed

January 2018 - January 2019

Researcher

A rigorous exploration of the charity's extensive work and national network using an appreciative enquiry model. Included conducting and processing interviews, research visits and building new relationships; developing and exploring questions both independently and as part of a team, culminating in recommendations being made in the form of a report.

East Street Arts

November 2015 - October 2016

Research and Content Development Coordinator

Leading on the development and exploration of data that informs the organisation as well as contributing to methods of monitoring and evaluating projects. Building new relationships,

programming professional development opportunities and delivering programme, including management of budgets £100k+.

East Street Arts

Open Studios Coordinator

January 2014- November 2015

Leading on the development and delivery of an annual Open Studios event, spanning across sites nationally. Researching Open Studios models, delivering a professional development programme for artists around key issues and the organisation of a symposium questioning the studio model.

Heads Together Productions

Sep 2013- Dec 2013

Internship

Contributing to the development and delivery of sessions and workshops with children and young people from 5-18 yrs. Content development for radio broadcasting and delivery support at festivals, including Ilkley Literature Fest. Research regarding career routes into community and participatory practice in response to Paul Hamlyn outcomes.

Intercultural Institute, Timisoara, Romania

May 2009 - November 2009

Long-Term EVS Volunteer

Initiated and facilitated a community arts project actively involving over 100 people from a range of countries and backgrounds, resulting in a community artwork that has been shown in Romania and the UK. Speaker at international conferences, worked alongside Timisoara Youth Council and organised activities with disabled adults.

Rotherham Youth Service, Voice and Influence Team

August 2008- February 2009

Young Advisor

Created and facilitated opportunities for young people to have a voice and influence over local services. Particularly focused on increasing the involvement of young people from minority groups. Aided the participation of young people in the design process of a new £3m youth centre as part of the government initiative 'MyPlace', supported in several dedicated groups, including work with disabled young people, and the planning and delivery of sessions and projects.

## Selected Projects and Commissions

WakeFIELD Co-host, *March 2024*

Co-hosting a two day residency for disabled artists based at ArtHouse, Wakefield.

*Yorkshire Producing Collective, Project Reflection, November 2023*

Design and delivery of an online, reflective session for new producers in Yorkshire. A written report.

*Jersey Government, Community Connectors Training October 2023*

Design and delivery of a group workshop on themes of connection, power and resource.

*Axisweb, Online Talk September 2023*

A reflection on 'Connection as Practice'; an online talk workshop as part of the Back to School Series.

*Stellar Projects, 'Happy Rooms', October 2022-July 2023*

Organisational and project development. Research and design of a care-filled consultation practice document. Workshop design and delivery.

*Leeds 2023, My World My City My Neighbourhood, September 2021-May 2022*

A 9 month commission as part of the Leeds 2023 Programme, supporting co-creative approaches to 'Letting Culture Loose' in 33 areas of Leeds. 'Where's the Gold?' became a project seeking to uncover lesser known stories of Seacroft, resulting in a celebration event and range of local merchandise.

FIELD, September 2021

A residency with Two Destination Language based in Leeds involving 10 artists and 10 art organisations. Through conversation and collaboration, we unpacked the idea of 'value', resulting in a book of written responses.

<https://www.twodestinationlanguage.com/curation/field-residencies>

*East Leeds Covid-19 Response, August-October 2020*

A deep listening process, resulting in practical and creative reflections on the partnership working response to Covid-19 in Seacroft, Leeds, planning for a more community-orientated future.

*Policy Writing, Together for Peace July-December 2020*

The development of a suite of accessible, relevant policies, procedures and codes of conduct that reflect the organisation's pursuit of non-hierarchical leadership.

*Bradford Producing Artist Hub, February 2020*

A series of curated meals and creative conversations with established artists across Bradford to shape a plan for future investment for the creative sector in the region.

*AN Assembly, November 2019*

A workshop delivered to artists at the AN Assembly in Stoke on the theme of resilience and sustainability within art and activism.

*Durham University PURSI Project Evaluation, October 2019*

A one-day evaluation workshop for academic researchers at Durham University and independent artists. The process aimed to measure success by various markers, meeting the needs of financial, academic and artistic stakeholders.

*Resilience Workshop at Castlefield Galleries, March 2019*

A workshop for associate artists addressing ideas of sustainability, networks and personal resource.

*Prospecting, November 2018*

Conference organised by Somerset Art Works to explore peer-led artist development, my workshop raised themes of connection, resilience and resourcing a sustainable creative practice.

A review of the event can be read at: [somerstartworks.org.uk/prospecting/](https://somerstartworks.org.uk/prospecting/)

*Thinking Through Artists Reinterpreting Heritage, September 2018*

Chaired a panel discussion at LeftBank Leeds, interrogating artist and institutional relationships in the context of heritage from an academic, organisational and artist-led perspective.

*DIY Summer School, August 2018*

Application based programme on Doing It Yourself – from self-publishing to self-organising, taking over buildings to building your own technology. Tutors included Spacemakers, Studio Polpo and General Practice. Hosted by Mansions of the Future and Kathrin Bohm.

*Darlington Market Picnic, August 2018*

The shaping, hosting and documentation of a conversation between members of the creative community based across Teesside, focussed on the bid for City of Culture 2025. Recommendations offered in the form of a report.

*Belle Isle and Middleton Stories, July-August 2018*

Research, led by Leeds University, seeking to understand choices about work and education routes for young people based in South Leeds. Face to face interviews, a written report of each conversation and recommendations in response.

*Cities Learning Group, June 2017 - November 2018*

A learning group of city-based, cross-sector practitioners researching ideas of placemaking, governance, creative and cultural production.

*Deep Adaptation, New Bridge Project, Jul 2017- May 2018*

A member of the commissioning team for a programme of commissions, talks, screenings, workshops and events exploring how current social, political, civic and economic issues can be understood in relation to climate change.

*Northern Film and Media Evaluation, Jan 2018*

Design and facilitation of a creative evaluation process for the Connect/Exchange project with participating artists and host organisations, including the production of a reflective report.

*These Northern Types*, March 2018

A written response to the term 'Make Do and Mend' exploring ideas of degrowth and creative economy, published in a book stocked nationally in book shops, including Foyles and Fred Aldous.

'Working for Resilience', The Royal Standard, Jan 2018

Food, strategy and stress management: An evening of creative personal and organisational planning for the future, with self care front and centre.

*Think 2023*, June - November 2017

Supporting a young peoples' focus group in exploring, questioning and contributing to Leeds' bid for Capital of Culture.

*Leeds Creative Family Tree*, June 2017

Researcher and project support for the creation of a map of creative people and organisations in Leeds.

*Producer School*, Feb 2017

A facilitated activity with early career producers exploring personal and professional connections, the artists' footprint and making the most of the resources you have.

*Hidden Civil War NewBridge Project* October 2016

Member of the programme team for a month long programme of activity in Newcastle, inviting activists and artists to contribute to a series of events that expose, collate and present evidence of a Hidden Civil War in Britain today.

*Curator of 'Open House: A Collaboration of Experts'* Huddersfield Art Gallery, June 2016

Guest curator of the ROTOR programme: A collaboration between Huddersfield Art Gallery and Huddersfield University. The exhibition explored ideas of co-production and the artist-community relationship, involving a four week residency followed by a static show.

## Writing and Publications

Zetland Road Project, 2022

A commission to respond to the work of artist, Amy Davies, after her residency on Zetland Road.

'A Funeral for the Man', Field Notes Two, 2022

A collection of essays from artists who took part in the third FIELD residency

'It's in the Bones', Creature Zine, 'Undercurrent', 2021

Connecting Conversations, 2020 - Present

A newsletter: New writing, connecting stories, histories, politics and nature, hosted on Substack

'Make Do and Mend', *These Northern Types*, 2018

## Training and Courses

*Create Place*, October 2022 - February 2023

A placemaking and co-creation leadership programme hosted by Staffordshire University.

*Trauma Informed Practice*, May 2022

*Disability and Neurodiversity Awareness*, November 2021

*A School Called Home*, 2020-2021

An online cohort of diverse practitioners considering the practices of 'regrowing a living culture'.

*Art of Hosting*, May 2018

An approach to leadership that scales up from the personal to the systemic using personal practice, dialogue, facilitation and the co-creation of innovation to address complex challenges.

*Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees*, March 2018

An overview of charitable status and what this means for trustees, legal duties of trustees and good practice delivered by Arts at Leeds.

*Solidarity Economy*, November 2016

A 10 day exploration of themes, structures and project examples alongside international partners, held in Lille, France.

## Memberships

*Director*

Basement Arts Project

September 2020 - Present

*CIC Board Member*

LeftBank Leeds

May 2018 - April 2020