



University of  
**Strathclyde**  
Education

# **State of the Art 7 National Conference**

**Saturday 1st November 2008**

**Crawfurd Complex  
University of Strathclyde  
Jordanhill Campus**

**National Society for Education in Art and  
Design**

## **Background to *State of the Art 7***

Now in its seventh year, *State of the Art* is the annual conference for art educators in Scotland. The conference is run by art educators for the benefit of those concerned with art and design education at all levels. The Scottish committee of the National Society for Education in Art and Design (NSEAD) organises this event. The planning group includes practitioners from primary, secondary, further and higher education institutions across the country. The conference developed from the *Art and Design Directory*, which was hosted at the Jordanhill campus of the University of Strathclyde between 1998 and 2005. The 2008 Directory will take place in Perth again this year. Details will be available to delegates and will be posted on the DEG@S web pages: [www.strath.ac.uk/degas](http://www.strath.ac.uk/degas)

It is against this background that *State of the Art 7* takes place. This year, the conference aims to:

- Present perspectives from artists and arts educators in the field of Scottish and Northern Irish Art and Design Education;
- Illustrate examples of art and design education practice in Scotland and Northern Ireland;
- Stimulate debate about art and design education.

## **Who will be presenting at *State of the Art 7*?**

Celebrating practice in art and design education is the main theme of the conference. *State of the Art 7* will, like previous conferences, maintain an emphasis on practice-based research. Presenters have been invited to give a personal perspective on art education as they see it. In addition to the primary and secondary educators' presentations this year, three keynote addresses, '*The Big Picture: Why Art and Design Education is Important*', '*The Leonardo Effect*' and '*Artists in Schools*' are included in the programme. Dr Paul Dougall will talk about the importance of art and design education and how it might still be relevant to the changing educational landscape. Deirdre Robson and Maryann Flannigan, from St Mary's University College, Belfast, will talk about an exciting project dealing with the integration of art and science. The final morning keynote offers a fascinating insight to the work of Jeanette Sendler an artist with extensive experience of work with schools. In the afternoon more informal breakout sessions explore a range of issues and opportunities including the Visual Arts Studio, a closer look at *The Leonardo Effect*; the Glasgow Print Studio; an opportunity for your school to take part in research and a intriguing look at the work of the innovative theatre company *Visible Fictions*.

## **Who should come to *State of the Art 7*?**

In short, anyone who is interested in Art and Design Education should attend. Art education professionals who work with people in any sector of education will attend. It is hoped that there will be a good representation from primary and secondary teachers, Cultural Coordinators, Creative Links Officers, Museums, Arts Education Officers and other interested educators. The conference is always a stimulating, thought-provoking event with the opportunity to debate and share current practice.

**For further information, please contact:**

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## OUTLINE PROGRAMME

**Saturday 1 November 2008- Crawford Complex, Jordanhill Campus, University of Strathclyde**

**State of the Art 7 – Chair: Julie Austin**

0900 – 0930            **REGISTRATION AND COFFEE**

0930 – 0945            **Welcome and introduction**  
*Glen Coufts, University of Strathclyde*

### **MORNING KEYNOTES**

0945 – 1030            **The Big Picture: Why Art and Design Education is Important**  
*Dr Paul Dougall, University of Strathclyde*

1035 – 1115            **The Leonardo Effect: Synchronised Integration of Art and Science – A Pilot in Schools Project**  
*Maryann Flanagan and Deirdre Robson, St. Mary's University College, Belfast*

1120 – 1140            **COFFEE**

1145 – 1225            **Artists in Schools**  
*Jeanette Sandler*

1230 – 1330            Lunch

### **AFTERNOON BREAKOUTS**

1335 – 1430            **Practitioner's Tales** (*breakout sessions*):

- *The Visual Arts Studio*
- *Visible Fictions Theatre*
- *The Leonardo Effect - Up Close*
- *A Line Travelled: Online participative research project*
- *The Glasgow Print Studio*

1435 – 1530            **Question Time – all speakers/ presenters**

1600                    **CLOSE**

*Programme subject to change*

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## **Keynote Presentations**

**Dr Paul Dougall, Senior Lecturer in Drama Education, University of Strathclyde**  
***The Big Picture: Why Art and Design Education is Important***

This year's keynote presentation offers an individual view on the role of art and design education from the perspective of one of the country's leading experts in drama education. The presentation will include personal reflection on the way that the educational landscape is changing including the opportunities and threats facing arts education in general.

**Maryann Flanagan and Deirdre Robson, St. Mary's University College, Belfast**  
**The Leonardo Effect: Synchronised Integration of Art and Science – A pilot study carried out in schools across the British Isles**

We will present The Leonardo Effect, which is a radical approach to learning and teaching that is grounded in current educational theory. The approach brings science and art together in children's learning while stimulating creativity and developing a range of skills through active observation and investigation. The central role of art in the approach provides a context where children are agentive in the construction of their own learning and which engages, motivates and stimulates young learners. The children explored, experimented, discovered and created like little Leonardos through synchronised art and science activities and experiences.

### **Jeanette Sendler: Artists in Schools**

Jeanette Sendler is an artist whose work is concerned with expressing the social and cultural aspects of our daily domestic lives through textiles, presented and exhibited in a fine art context. As a practising artist Jeanette has been invited to work with both primary and secondary schools throughout Scotland, adapting and developing traditional handicrafts in a contemporary setting.

In 2007/8 Jeanette was employed as the first Artist in Residence at the newly opened Steeple Arts Complex in Newburgh, Fife. During the course of the residency she found inspiration for her own practice in the history of the surrounding area, which led to exhibitions both in Newburgh and in St Andrews. Jeanette also worked with the local primary school on a number of projects throughout the year, creating a large scale felt wall hanging and a number of performance pieces and installations inspired by the weaving industry.

### **Afternoon breakouts**

- **The Visual Arts Studio – Willie Nelson**

The Visual Arts Studio is a developing facility based the Tramway, a centre for contemporary art, music, and dance. It is funded by Glasgow City Council to support the education of Art and Design in and around the surrounding area. It offers Portfolio Preparation Courses, helps and supports Secondary Art and Design departments and offers art and design In Service courses. The facility also offers evening Life Drawing and art classes to local special needs groups. The session will show examples of past portfolios and current portfolio presentation work in order to exemplify our teaching approach.

- **Visible Fictions Theatre – Dougie Irvine, Artistic Producer, Visible Fictions**

*Dougie Irvine, the lead artist and founding member of Visible Fictions will give an overview of the work of this internationally acclaimed theatre company - its innovate professional performance pieces and its pioneering education and participation work. Dougie is excited to encourage debate and discussion about new ways for professional theatre-makers to collaborate with art and design to bring the curriculum alive.*

- **The Leonardo Effect: Up Close- Maryann Flannigan and Deirdre Robson**

In this workshop we will consider the nature of both art and science and the commonalities across the disciplines. Practical activities will allow hands-on experiences of synchronised integration and provide opportunities to devise and trial joint learning outcomes. The implications for the classroom will be addressed.

- **A Line Travelled: Online participative research project - Glen Coufts and Fiona Stewart**

This workshop will present a research project about public art aiming to develop a 'community of interest' using specially developed urban trails as a starting point for looking at art in public spaces. One of the aims of the research is to help young people to actively consider the place of public art using simple resources freely available on the internet. After a brief presentation, participants will have a 'hands on' session exploring the developments to date. **Note:** places limited to 20.

- **The Glasgow Print Studio – Sarah Stewart, Education and Outreach Coordinator**

### **What Glasgow Print Studio can offer to schools**

Sarah Stewart is responsible for Glasgow Print Studio's Education Programme, which offers opportunities for all ages and abilities to participate in fine art printmaking. Sarah will discuss the redevelopment at Trongate 103, King Street which will increase GPS facilities to include a designated Learning Space for workshops and an Archive Room which will allow access to 30 years of Printmaking at GPS. Sarah will discuss past educational projects and introduce the Continuing Professional Development opportunities available. She will be joined by Kerry Patterson, Archive Curator, who will discuss the current *Past Impressions –30 years in Print* project to catalogue the Archive. Plates and prints will be available to view to show the scope of the Archive.