

Curriculum Vitae

Maria Hayes BA(Hons) MA PhD

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Profile

Born, living and working in Wales, Maria Hayes is a Fine Artist with a portfolio career. Her own creative work is central and informs her roles as facilitator, trainer, project manager, producer, evaluator and mentor.

Maria often collaborates with musicians, dancers, and storytellers on performance based projects. She has shown her work extensively since 1986 in solo and group exhibitions, and performs drawing at live events. Maria's work is in national and international collections, private and public.

Regularly commissioned to devise and deliver creative workshops for all ages and abilities, Maria facilitates the artist in everyone. Since 1986 she has accrued extensive experience of working with people with special needs and other forms of disadvantages, such as physical and mental ill health.

In 2012 Maria was given the *Drawing Inspiration Award* from The Big Draw for her *Energy Gift Exchange* project (2011). Also in 2012 Action for Children's Arts awarded her a *Member's Award* for her 'contribution to the enrichment of children's lives through the arts'.

As well as being a pioneer of Arts in Schools work, Maria has been active in contributing to and developing the Arts in Health sector. In 2020 Hayes created a remote creative evaluation tool that is now being used extensively throughout the UK.

Freelancing since 1986, Maria has devised and delivered workshops in schools, colleges, galleries and healthcare settings including high profile organisations such as the Human Rights Commission to the Wales Millennium Centre. In feedback on her recent work in secure hospitals staff said 'It was a pleasure to observe your interactions with the patients. It was very individual from patient to patient, and spot on every single time. They all had opportunity to express themselves, and participate with something big and unique.' And 'I would really strongly recommend Maria to return here to complete a longer residency in order to capture more patients and for staff to have the caring space following the trauma of Covid-19'.

Maria served on the board for Dawns i Bawb (1999-2001) and Arts Training Wales (2002 – 2004). Maria has a current DBS Certificate, Public Liability Insurance and is a UK citizen.

Artist's Statement

When I draw I observe and listen to my subject, literally and metaphorically capturing the quality of energy I am witness to. The resulting image reveals, through accumulated traces, a drawn equivalent of that experience. I translate the energy of movement and sound into a visual language. Drawing techniques that maintain the eye's gaze on the subject generate a deeper engagement in the act of looking and drawing. These techniques retrain the body to facilitate 'a condition of connected looking' (Hayes 2013). In such a condition, the process of observing and drawing becomes integrated to the extent that the distance experienced between the observer and the observed is dissolved. The aim is to develop the human sensing system for a humane art.

Qualifications

2019 **Arts in Health** accredited module with Aesop Institute, Christchurch Canterbury University (ACW funded)

2013 **PhD Fine Art** Aberystwyth University (University Scholarship)

Thesis: *'Learning to Dance on the Page' Approaches to drawing movement by integrating analogue drafting techniques within a technologically assisted environment.*

2011 Research Exhibition *'Shedding Skins'* University Gallery, Aberystwyth University. Included participatory *'Energy Gift Exchange'* performative drawing sessions.

1986 **MA Theatre Studies** Leeds University (British Academy Grant)

Thesis: *'The Theory and the Practise'* a study on devising and directing a new piece of work combining sculpture, drawing and physical theatre. The resulting piece *'Body Works'* was performed at The Workshop Theatre, Leeds.

1985 **BA (Hons) Fine Art (1st Class)** Portsmouth Polytechnic (Grant)

Thesis: *'Time Will Tell'* a comparison study on ancient stone circles and contemporary land art.

Selected recent Solo Shows and Collaborative Performance Projects 2015-2020

2020	Lockdown Paintings	Ongoing online sharing of work created in situ in real time. Meirionydd and Facebook
2019/20	Cân Elenydd <i>with Sianed Jones (musician) and Jake Whittaker (filmmaker)</i>	Small World Theatre, Camarthen / Ceredigion Museum, Aberystwyth/ SHIFT basement, Cardiff Aired on S4C 11/11/20
2017	Aber Music Festival	Artist in Residence, Aberystwyth Arts Centre
2017	The Fifth Branch (Mabinogi)	Performance drawing, Aberystwyth Arts Centre
2016	BBC Digital Connected Studio	Selected to collaborate with BBC, ACW and Nesta on a prototype for an interactive digital project. Cardiff
2015	Y Mabinogi	Aberystwyth Arts Centre (<i>performance</i>) Bi-lingual performance with six storytellers

Selected recent projects 2019-2020

2020 Artist Facilitator Contributed to *Creative Careers - Arts in Healthcare, Arts Council of Wales.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gNVehXtdpM&feature=youtu.be>

2020 Artist Facilitator *Y Lab, NESTA and Cardiff University.* Remote Arts in Health project.

Designed and delivered an innovative remote arts in health project during Lockdown 1. For the project I designed a remote creative evaluation tool – the Wellbeing Measure. This is now in use across the UK in a variety of Arts in Health initiatives.

2019 – 2021 Artist Facilitator *Elysium Healthcare*

Creating Recovery Tree murals in secure hospitals with patients and staff. Week-long residencies that give everyone an opportunity to co-create a beautiful mural in their space. On-going evaluation reports are completed after each project. Hospitals throughout the UK
(*Work suspended during lockdown –11 projects delivered*).

2019 - 2020 Artist Trainer New course: *Devising and delivering Arts in Health projects for Celf O Gwmpas*
Nine month course, 7 trainees, 2 days a month. ACW funded. Llandrindod Wells

Selected recent publications 2019-2020

Maria Hayes, *The Art of Wellbeing* – article published by National Museum of Wales's online magazine *Cynfas*. Published online on 22/11/20 <https://museum.wales/cynfas/article/2276/The-Art-of-Wellbeing/>

Ed. Aldobranti, *Critical Moss – Art Beyond The Bubble* (2019 Fosco Fornio)

ISBN: 9-781999-584726-01499