**Akerman, Jeremy**

Jeremy Akerman is an artist and freelance curator; he is co-director of akermandaly.com; an organisation that specialises in commissioning and publishing writing by artists. He is guest curator for HSBC’s art collection at Canary Wharf and teaches ‘An Introduction to Curating at Central St Martins’ college. Akerman Daly website hosts artist’s residencies and a library, runs courses teaching writing skills for artists and regularly posts out text based artworks free to subscribers. Akerman’s own artwork is painting and photographic collages, which he shows periodically; he also takes a keen interest in the work of other artists and anything to do with artist’s books. For his many curatorial projects he has included paintings, sculptures, photography, installation and performance art making exhibitions held both in the UK and in South Korea.

**Anderson, Kate**

Kate Anderson is a creative producer and strategic arts leader. Festival Director of Bloomsbury Festival and Co-Director of theatre company, Ingenious Purpose, Kate also undertakes occasional strategic development projects. Kate was Executive Director/joint CEO of Southampton’s Nuffield Theatre for twelve years where she produced/co-produced over a hundred plays, and programmed work in the theatre, studio and on tour. At Southampton, Kate worked with Anglo-French outdoor arts partnership ‘ZEPA’ to produce a four year programme of work and exchange, and with Southampton cross-arts partnership, Art at the Heart, to create arts projects that animated the city centre. In 2008, Kate led the company’s successful tender to run the performing arts in Southampton’s new arts complex which is due to open in 2017. Earlier roles included working with Scarlet Theatre, Richmond Theatre and ENO. Kate is on the Board for Think Tank Theatre (Streatham Space Project), Jackson’s Lane and National Centre for Circus Arts.

**Arthur, Jane**

Jane Arthur is a freelance consultant for the museums and heritage sector. She has over 30 years’ experience of working in museums with a background in standards, collections development and audience engagement. She started her career as Curator & Librarian of the Wisbech & Fenland Museum and has worked in the West Midlands since 1985. Firstly as Keeper of Decorative Art at the Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke on Trent, then as Assistant Director (Collections) at the West Midlands Regional Museums Council. From 1997 to 2007 she was Head of Collections and Deputy Director for Birmingham Museums & Art Gallery. She is a member of the Museum Accreditation Committee and a Mentor for the Heritage Lottery Fund. As a Trustee of the Birmingham Conservation Trust she is involved in the development of Newman Brothers Coffin Fitting Factory in Birmingham as a heritage attraction. She is currently developing her own creative practice through textile art and poetry.

**Attwood, Vince**
Vince is a co-director at Soft Touch Arts a participatory arts company based in the east midlands after an early career as an artist/ designer /performer in visual theatre in the North West, Holland and Belgium. Vince returned to England in the 80’s and co-founded Soft Touch as a co-operative. With Soft Touch he has been instrumental in developing the practice of participatory work particularly with disadvantaged young people both as a practitioner and strategically through national and regional working groups and networks. Vince has also developed work within youth justice and health settings often working beyond the arts to improve services for young people, for example sitting on the board of Healthwatch Leicestershire and the Leicester Childrens Trust board. Vince has also spent the past 30years being a pyrotechnician and a street musician just for the fun of it.

**Baber, Donna**

Donna Baber is a freelance management consultant for the arts, cultural and heritage sector. She has over 18 years’ experience of working in and with arts organisations, museums, heritage sites and the voluntary sector and specializes in fundraising, income generation, project development and organisational development and change programmes. She currently is CEO at Time2Share ([www.time2share.org.uk](http://www.time2share.org.uk)) a small local charity working to support disabled children and young people. Donna is also working as Project Manager for South Gloucestershire Council’s three-year Arts Council funded Arts & Libraries Project, which works across South Gloucestershire to bring arts and creative activity to people with experience of mental health conditions, and for people with dementia in their local library. She started her career as Development Co-ordinator at Arnolfini in Bristol where she was responsible for raising £5m of a £12.5m capital development programme. From 2004 – 2011 she was Director of Creative Learning Agency, an arts education agency which supported artists and educators to work together to enhance and enrich the curriculum. In 2010/11 she successfully led the organisation from being a local authority hosted service to becoming an independent company limited by guarantee and registered charity. She was chair of trustees for Artists First, a group of practicing disabled artists for five years, and more recently, has been a board member for Drastic Productions, now Liz Clarke & Company; an organisation which works with those who have little access to the arts through participatory work in performance and live art.

Since 2011 she has drawn on these experiences of fundraising, income generation, strategic business planning, leadership, change management and delivering creative education programmes to a broad range of audiences and now offers a range of consultancy services as well as interim leadership and management.

**Batstone, Chris**

Chris Batstone is artistic director of Juice, a children and young people’s festival delivered by Newcastle Gateshead Initiative. Juice is a multi-arts festival that presents and champions arts and culture made and led by children and young people. Prior to that Chris worked as Combined arts relationship manager for Arts Council England in the north east, with particular expertise in festivals, outdoor arts and commissioning and programming for light festivals.

He has worked extensively across the north of England as a director and drama practitioner for companies such as darts (Doncaster community arts), mind the…gap and Lawrence Batley Theatre. Chris has also been director of a Creative Partnerships programme in the East midlands and has a passion and commitment for raising young peoples, engagement, aspiration and skills through creativity.

Chris is currently re-shaping the Juice festival programme to more strongly reflect and be shaped by young people’s culture, breaking and reshaping the boundaries between arts, science, technology and popular culture.

**Bedford, Suzannah**

Suzannah Bedford is creative director of the Renewal Trust, a regeneration charity working with communities in Nottingham’s eastside. Beginning as administrator with Out of Joint Theatre Company, she has been general manager with Talawa Theatre Company, and with Greenwich and Lewisham Young People’s Theatre. She also worked as dance officer with Arts Council East Midlands. With expertise in literature and visual arts, Suzannah worked with Backlit Studios through a period of change that saw them win Matt Collishaw as part of Connect 10. Her work has moved towards producing arts projects and opportunities of the highest calibre with communities. Recent projects include Nott Ballet with Birmingham Royal Ballet and 60 young people performing at Theatre Royal Nottingham as part of U.Dance2014, turning a community centre The Chase into a venue for the NEAT14 festival, and producing Rankin on St Ann’s Allotments, featured in the BBC2’s Museums at Night programme.

**Bettridge, Emma**
Emma Bettridge is a Producer, Dramaturg and Festival director. She is the Producer for Bristol Old Vic Ferment and Consultant producer for Hunt & Darton. Prior to this she ran Pulse festival at the New Wolsey Theatre for three years and was part of the curatorial group for Caravan2014 (Farnham Maltings/Brighton Festival). She was an associate reader for the Soho Theatre, a consultant for East to Edinburgh (ACE East initiative) and a peer reviewer for the Wellcome Trust from 2010-2013. In 2010 she managed Gecko's international tour of The Overcoat (China & UK), produced the national tour of My Name is Sue (Northern Stage, Queer Up North, Soho theatre) and worked on the NSDF festival in Scarborough. Between 2004 and 2009 she ran the Pleasance London and Edinburgh Programmes. Her passion lies in developing and commissioning new work. With a focus on creating and enabling artists to make the best work they can. Examples of this type of process are demonstrated in Stillhouse's Ours Was the Fen Country, The Bullet and the Bass Trombone (Sleepdogs), Exposure (Jo Bannon), Sue the Second Coming (Dafydd James & Co) and Hoke's Bluff (Action Hero).

**Bobrowicz, Ania**

Ania Bobrowicz is Senior Lecturer in Digital Arts at University of Kent, Canterbury, where she is Course Director for the undergraduate Digital Media degrees. She has worked with digital media since 1990s. Her research interests are interdisciplinary including digital media, cultural heritage, art history, human-computer interaction, health and wellbeing, with particular interest in dementia and autistic spectrum.  She has industrial and public sector experience having worked for the BBC, British Telecom and Health Education Authority.  In her academic role, she collaborated with local art galleries (Turner Contemporary), museums (Powell-Cotton museum), and festivals (Canterbury Festival).  She has conducted and supervised research into visitor engagement with museum artefacts via digital technology, use of digital technology by Islamic artists as well as exploring the creativity of people with dementia through digital sculpture.  She has postgraduate degrees in Applied Linguistics (English and Russian), Multimedia Systems and Art History.  She is a Fellow of Royal Society of Arts.

**Brien, Paulette**
Paulette graduated from Dartington College of Arts in 1992 moving to Manchester in the same year. Since then she has been involved in the inception and delivery of a number of artist-led initiatives, most recently The International 3 of which she is co-founder and co-director. Recently relocated to Salford, The International 3 presents a year-round programme of exhibitions and events both on and off-site as well as representing artists and participating in national and international art fairs. The International 3 also undertakes consultancy, delivers professional development activities, is the curatorial coordinator for The Manchester Contemporary and is an invited member of NADA (New Art Dealers Alliance). Separately Paulette has worked part-time and freelance for organisations such as Arts Council England and Creative Industries Development Service. She is regularly invited to deliver presentations within education and professional development settings, has acted as a mentor for emerging artists’, writes articles, critical texts and catalogue essays and is an MPhil candidate at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**Brown, Helen**
Helen Brown is a freelance curator and museum consultant with curatorial expertise in fine and decorative art. She has strong interests in craft and contemporary art and in working with artists and makers to open up historic collections (working on projects with Neville and Joan Gabie and Edmund de Waal to achieve this). She is also interested in working internationally: currently working on an exhibition of contemporary Chinese ceramics and glass. Until 2013 she was a senior manager at Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum where she also developed expertise in programming, audience development and museum interpretation. Helen has been a board member of the South West Federation of Museums and Art Galleries and is currently a museum mentor and member of the Arts Council Accreditation Panel.

**Brown, Zerritha**

Zerritha Brown is Arts and Heritage Manager at the London Borough of Brent and is responsible for arts development across the borough. Her background is in performing arts of which she has 20 years’ experience as a performer, administrator and manager. She was the London 2012 Manager for Brent responsible for the development and delivery of the Cultural Olympiad programme which included devising the Olympic Torch relay route. She was responsible for programming the boroughs outdoor festival*‘Gladstonbury’*and lead on the commissioning and development of the boroughs first large scale site specific performance for the opening of the new Civic Centre. In 2015 she delivered the opening celebrations for the Library at Willesden Green, the boroughs new £10m library, museum and cultural centre. She previously spent seven years at Arts Council England where she worked on the flagship arts and creativity in education programme Creative Partnerships as a Development Officer in the national team and an Operations Manager and Operations Director at the London East, South and West offices.

**Castle, Kate**

Kate Castle trained at the Royal Ballet School, and was a dancer with the Royal Ballet, before becoming one of the UK’s first dance *animateurs*. She established the Royal Opera House Education Unit, and has worked for Arts Council England as either Dance Officer or Relationship Manager in three regions. As a consultant, she has worked with numerous organisations, local authorities, the Arts Council, and RESEO, The European Network of Education Units in Opera Houses. She also led the re-structuring of The Dancers’ Resettlement Fund and Trust as Dancers’ Career Development. Kate was the founder Director of Dance South West National Dance Agency, a post she held for eight years, successfully leading the capital and artistic development of Pavilion Dance. Most recently she was Associate Director of the Foundation for Community Dance, contributing to the re-launch as People Dancing and the international conference in Cardiff, November 2014. In 2016 she became an Honorary Life Member of that organisation. Kate is currently involved in pioneering a mentoring project for young people leaving care.

**Chambers, Janys**

Is a freelance actor, writer and director, Associate (New Writing) at the Octagon Theatre Bolton, and Dramaturg for National Theatre Wales. She has written widely for regional, community and young people's theatre; and for Radio 4. Television work includes *Holby, Children’s Ward,* *Engie Bengy,* and *Emmerdale.* Her episode represented BBC's *Belonging* when it won Best Series. She’s been BAFTA-nominated as Best New Writer for Television; nominated for Best Episode in a Soap; been Writers' Guild nominated for Best Radio Play for Children; and was runner-up in the Greenwich International Poetry Competition. Janys has directed for the New Vic (as Associate Artist), Theatr Clwyd, Oldham Coliseum, Theatre Centre, New Perspectives, Action Transport and many youth theatres. She has made specially commissioned pieces for Rural Touring Networks and NHS Wales. She has worked as a performer at York Royal, Manchester Library, Manchester Contact, Birmingham Rep, Northampton Royal, KneeHigh, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Chester Gateway and Dukes’ Lancaster. TV acting includes *Coronation Street/ Brookside/ Hetty Wainthropp/ The Royal Today/ Courtroom/ Always and Everyone/ Dalziel and Pascoe/ Out of Hours* and *Butterfly Collector*. Specialist interests include new writing, Shakespeare and the classics, adaptations, work for and with young people, programmed work, and work using dance/circus skills.

**Chappell, Wayne**

Wayne Chappell is a freelance guitarist and teacher based in the south of England. He currently teaches students aged between 11 and 19 in secondary schools and FE colleges but has extensive experience at all key stages as well as in adult education. He has overseen or contributed to a number of community outreach projects as well as being employed to both deliver and consult on musical inclusion projects in line with the National Plan for Music Education.

As a performer, Wayne is equally at home across a variety of genres from contemporary classical music to musical theatre. He is regularly engaged in pit bands along the south coast and can often be seen performing in big bands, world music groups and chamber ensembles.

**Clarke, Verity**

Verity Clarke has worked in the arts sector for over 25 years. Her career began in contemporary dance in the early 90s as Co-Artistic Director and performer with Whoopee Stomp Dance Theatre - a Sheffield based company making experimental, multi-disciplinary work using movement, theatre, live music, visual arts and digital technologies. Alongside this she had a wide portfolio of dance teaching work with children and adults in education and community settings. After 15 years she moved into project management roles developing new passions in socially engaged practice and digital arts, devising education programmes and commissioning new work in Barnsley. She was Creative Programmer, then Director of, Creative Partnerships South Yorkshire for 6yrs before moving into her current role. Verity is Cultural Education Manager for CapeUK. Through partnerships, networks, professional development and effective links into the education sector, her role is to support and encourage the arts and cultural sector in Yorkshire and Humber to increase and enhance their offer to children and young people.

**Clements, Sally**

Sally Clements is a consultant and facilitator who mostly works with adults to develop and improve their arts practice with children and young people. This year she is coordinating a broader adult and community education programme and, as such monitoring teaching and learning within courses to meet OFSTED and SFA requirements. She is based in the south west and has worked nationally with Trinity College London and Arts Council England to develop Arts Award and Artsmark for a number of years in senior moderation and validation roles. Sally has specific experience of working on programmes to engage 'at risk' young people, disadvantaged communities and delivering Family Learning. In the past she has worked for Arts Council England, Youth Music, Catch22, South West Music School and Bristol City Council.  She regularly works with music education hubs, and with the two southern Bridge organisations (RIO and Artswork) as a trainer and facilitator, an adviser to smaller organisations and evaluator to shape future programming. She is contracted by smaller arts and cultural organisations to help them make sense of and build their participatory programmes, broker partnerships and build more sustainable futures. Sally brings experience of community education, youth justice, school and FE provision and family focused work that ensures a breadth of perspective to benefit the arts and cultural sector. She is particularly skilled in assessing participatory activities or programmes that have a community focus, across a range of art forms.

**Colthorpe, Martin**

Martin Colthorpe is a freelance literature and cultural programmer, and currently Programmer Director of the International Literature Festival Dublin. As Senior Literature Programmer at Southbank Centre he was responsible for the year round curation and delivery of literature, spoken word and debate, working with a range of high profile partners including The Economist, The Book People and Mastercard. He launched the London Literature Festival in 2007 and programmed bespoke festivals including Poetry International and Imagine Children’s Festival. In 2012 he set up his own company, Modern Culture, an agency for programming and commissioning events inliterature, film and visual culture with high profile clients including Kings Place, Turner Contemporary and London Festival of Architecture.

**Crouch, Amelia**

Amelia Crouch is a visual artist who makes work both for a gallery environment and site specific public realm locations. Recent projects have included commissions for Coventry Artspace, Pavilion, Leeds and a residency with The Art House, Wakefield. Additionally she teaches part-time at Leeds College of Art. Over the past 10 years she has been involved in a number of arts organisations and artist led projects in and around Leeds. This has included working as Gallery and Programme Manager at PSL [Project Space Leeds] and project managing the Northern Art Prize from 2011-13. In 2009 she cofounded Leeds Art Walk and continued to co-lead this until 2014. She also works as part of the collaborative group Black Dogs who make participatory and relational projects. She holds a BA Fine Art from The University of Leeds and MA Fine Art from Manchester Metropolitan University.

**Cutter, Gareth**

Gareth Cutter is a London-based artist, writer and arts, working in the fields of Live Art, contemporary theatre, cabaret and music. As an artist he has presented works at festivals and venues including SPILL Festival of Performance, Outburst Festival, Haphazard, Contact, Camden People's Theatre and more. In addition to his solo performances, he has worked in collaboration with GETINTHEBACKOFTHEVAN, Greg Wohead and Kings of England. Between 2009 - 2011, he curated independent cabaret events at Manchester's **green**room before working with Mother's Ruin, an organisation supporting emerging and established North-West based LGBTQ artists between 2012 - 2015. He joined The Yard as Development Officer in 2016.

**Denholm, Alison**

Alison Denholm has worked at Nottingham based City Arts since 2005. She is a arts and community engagement specialist, focusing on carnival and outdoor work specifically, but has experience of working on numerous festivals and events. These include the Cultural Olympiad Festival World Event Young Artists, and the South Asian Arts Festival with Nottingham Asian Arts Council. She works developmentally with artists in order for them to challenge and extend their practice, and through this enable exciting and innovative work to be created in partnership with communities. She is particularly interested in Carnival, processions and puppetry, and the music that underpins these kinds of events.

**de Swiet, Chas**

Chas is a creative producer and artist. He has worked in a variety of roles including General Manager, Head of Operations, Project Manager, Producer and Trustee; there has often been a specialism around disability arts and diversity.

Since 2000 he has worked for a number of organisations including London Disability Arts Forum, Mental Health Media, The Jasmin Vardimon Dance Company, Audio Addiction Guy Bar-Amotz, Creative Routes, LOCOG (London 2012), Arts Council England, DaDaFest and Core Arts. Chas recently worked for Greenwich + Docklands Festivals as a Producer on outdoor arts festivals including four Liberty festivals. Chas is currently working as Executive Director at the theatre company Vital Xposure. As an artist Chas works primarily with sound and music. His progression has been from a classical violinist through to a world music and ambient DJ and then on to playing in bands and producing music for film, dance, theatre and events.