

#### **Create & Connect: wearable stories**

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### **Imagine Connectivity**



**Wearable Stories** 

RGS-IBG Annual International Conference 2014
Geographies of Co-production
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Geographies of Making (3): Workshops

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#### Abstract

As we navigate through our lives we often collect and keep mementoes, souvenirs and found objects that remind us of significant moments, times, places and experiences. However for the vast majority of people, making and material knowledge is limited and a sense of agency with our 'stuff' is missing.

In his book 'The case for working with your hands' Matthew Crawford (2009) suggests that in order to be responsible for the world and our sense of being within it we need to feel that it is intelligible and the provenance of our things need to be brought closer to home.

In this workshop we will explore how different material objects can be used as cultural probes in order to articulate cultural identities and values. It will use contemporary studio jewellery as a device to engage participants in a dialogue about the everyday and will explore how sensory experiences with the material world define who we are. Design thinking and craft knowledge will be combined in a practical co-creative workshop to interrogate the emotional connections between people, materials and body adornment. It will use life experiences, storytelling and narrative structures to inform the making of a wearable jewel.

It will focus on the following two questions:

- How can the intrinsic preciousness of 'things' often discarded (but kept) be re-appropriated through creative making?
- How can objects, fragments and materials be beautified and re-contextualised through design thinking and processes of craft (reclaiming, reworking, transforming and relocating)?

### **CONTEXT - MEANING - CRAFT**

Welcome to the 'Wearable stories' workshop

We would like to invite you to sit with us and make

What you make is yours to instil with meaning and yours to keep

In this workshop different material objects are explored and used as cultural probes in order to articulate cultural identities and values.







How can the intrinsic preciousness of *THINGS* often discarded (but kept) be re-appropriated through creative making?

## How can objects, fragments and materials be beautified and re-contextualised through design thinking and processes of craft?









**Triggers** 

**Stories** 

**Memories** 

**Narratives** 



As we navigate through our lives we often collect and keep mementoes, souvenirs and found objects that remind us of significant moments, times, places and experiences.



**Empowerment** through sharing



## Providing some tools and basic skills





**Selecting** 

**Reclaiming** 

**Reworking** 

**Transforming** 

**Relocating** 

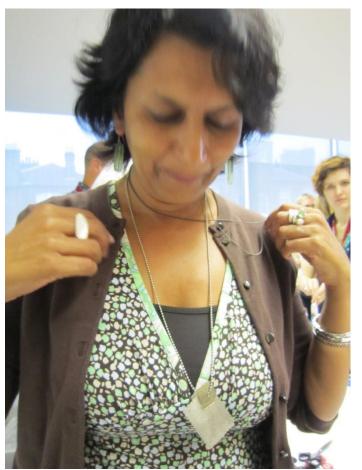




# **Co-creation**

dialogue participation





Identity.....







Memento.....



Talisman.....



Dialogue.....





Wearable stories.....