



EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Connecting People to Restore Just Relations



Clair Aldington

BIO

Clair is a creative and a restorative practitioner based in Scotland. She trained as a restorative practitioner in 2002 and combines her artmaking practice with her RJ work. From 2001–2007, she worked with Oxfordshire Youth Offending Service, England, and currently works with Space2face RJ Arts Organisation, Shetland, Scotland. Clair is in the final year of her PhD, which investigates whether a handmade gifted object can enable connections, or moments of convergence and solidarity across the space between people in RJ.

ABSTRACT

I am interested in spaces, and the voices that connect across them. In this presentation, I will introduce elements of my PhD research in Restorative Justice and Design, on which I have worked as a creative and a restorative researcher– practitioner. My studies investigate this inter-disciplinary way of working with RJ participants and ask what it can contribute to moments of solidarity and convergence between people harmed and responsible. I will examine some of the words and

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phrases I have gathered to begin a discussion around language for speaking about the narratives of convergence (from 'com' - with, together + 'vergere' - to bend, turn, tend toward). As part of the presentation, I will show handmade objects gifted between participants in RJ encounters, and you will hear through the artwork, the voices of the creators, and the moments of convergence they enabled, in part, through their objects.

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