



Simpson, E. (2017) 'Authoring desistance: the role of practitioners in creative interventions', *The Second Narrative Criminology Symposium*, University of Oslo, Norway, 14 - 15 June 2017.

ResearchSPAcE

<http://researchspace.bathspa.ac.uk/>

Your access and use of this document is based on your acceptance of the ResearchSPAcE Metadata and Data Policies, as well as applicable law: -<https://researchspace.bathspa.ac.uk/policies.html>

Unless you accept the terms of these Policies in full, you do not have permission to download this document.

This cover sheet may not be removed from the document.

Please scroll down to view the document.

Authoring Desistance:

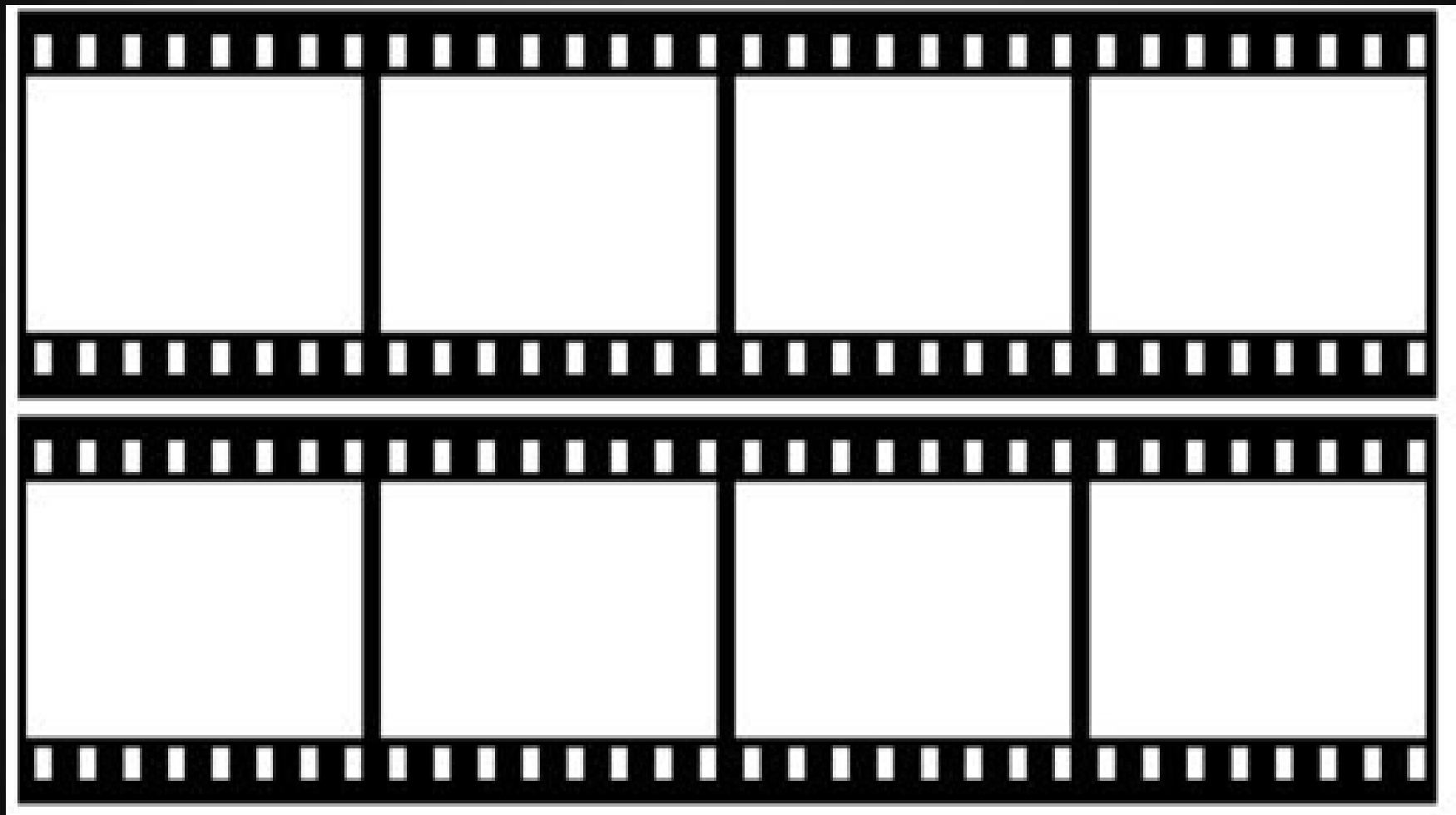
The role of practitioners in creative interventions

Ella Simpson
PhD Candidate
Bath Spa University

- The need for more methodological rigour (e.g. Burrowes et al., 2013; Hughes, 2005)
- The use of written texts as source data (e.g. Sandberg, 2013; Colvin, 2011) and the integration of written and visual texts (Sandberg & Ugelvik, 2016: 132)

‘research and evaluation in the sector has tended to be short-term, lacking in conceptual and methodological rigour, **over-reliant on anecdotal evidence**, unable to adequately specify, quantify or explain outcomes, or to demonstrate clear causal connections between participation in the arts and a positive outcome’

(Miles, 2004 cited in Hughes, 2005: 13)



‘Narrative is generally coproduced by the research participant and the researcher, if not during the interview then certainly in the process of analysing the data’

(Presser and Sandberg, 2015: 14)

‘A subtle narratological analysis...temporarily brackets both ends of the embedding reality, the reality of events ‘out there’ and the reality of the ethnocentric reporter’

(Bal, 1997: 179)

‘phenomena are the ontological
inseparability/entanglement of intra-acting
agencies’

(Barad, 2007: 139)

Research Participants:

- 20 creative writing practitioners/facilitators
- Minimum 1 year experience in prisons
- Aged 32 - 70

‘research and evaluation in the sector has tended to be short-term, lacking in conceptual and methodological rigour, over-reliant on anecdotal evidence, unable to adequately specify, quantify or explain outcomes, or to demonstrate clear causal connections between participation in the arts and a positive outcome’

(Miles, 2004 cited in Hughes, 2005: 13)

‘Felicitous statements *successfully* bring into effect what they name’

(Lawler, 2008: 113)

‘to move away from the emphasis on validating
‘the programme’...and towards a validation of the
deliverers’

(Johnston and Hewish, 2008: 7;
see also Anderson, 2015)

‘a series of logically and chronologically related events that are caused or experienced by actors’

(Bal, 1997: 5)

Objects - 'Fixed' elements:
Actors, Locations, Things

Processes - 'Changeable' elements:
'The changes that occur in, with,
through and among objects'

(adapted from Bal, 1997: 182)

Fabula Content: Objects

Actor/Personal Pronouns	56
Creativity/Writing	84
Durational Nouns	49
Employment/Work	34
Criminal Justice System	28
Education	22

'When I was at school...more than one teacher
thought I would end up in prison'

(Participant 1)

‘Even on the lowest estimates...it is clear that prisoners of Gypsy, Romany and Traveller backgrounds are **significantly overrepresented in the prison population**’

(HM Inspectorate of Prisons, 2014: 11)

‘Broke - flat, stony and regularly - between jobs
that were one by bloody one breaking me to bits -
bit by bit’

(Participant 2)

'Valium @ 15'

(Participant 3)

Fabula Content: Objects

Actor/Personal Pronouns	56
Creativity/Writing	84
Durational Nouns	49
Employment/Work	34
Criminal Justice System	28
Education	22

Authoring Desistance:

The role of practitioners in creative interventions

Bibliography

- Anderson, K. (2015) 'Documenting arts practitioners' practice in prisons: "What do they do in there?"', *The Howard Journal*, 54(4): 371-383.
- Bal, M. (1997) *Narratology: Introduction to the Theory of Narrative*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Barad, K. (2007) *Meeting the Universe Halfway: Quantum Physics and the Entanglement of Matter and Meaning*. Durham & London: Duke University Press.
- Carrabine, E. (2016) Picture this: 'Criminology, image and narrative', *Crime, Media, Culture*, 12(2): 253-270.
- Cheliotis, L.K. (ed.) (2012) *The Arts of Imprisonment: Control, Resistance and Empowerment*. Farnham: Ashgate
- Colvin, S. (2014) 'Why Should Criminology Care About Literary Fiction? Literature, Life Narratives and Telling Untellable Stories', *Punishment & Society* 17(2): 211–229.
- Copes, H. & Ragland, J. (2016) 'Considering the Implicit Meanings in Photographs in Narrative Criminology', *Crime, Media, Culture*, 12(2): 271.
- HM Inspectorate of Prisons (2014) People in prison: Gypsies, Romany and Travellers: A findings paper, Available at: <http://www.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/prisons/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2014/04/gypsies-romany-travellers-findings.pdf> [accessed 9th June 2017].
- Hughes, J. (2006) Doing the Arts Justice: A Review of Research Literature, Theory and Practice, DCMS: the Department for Education and Skills, and Arts Council England, UK. Available at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/D4B445EE-4BCC-4F6C-A87A-C55A0D45D205/0/Doingartsjusticefinal.pdf> [accessed 6th June 2017].
- Johnston, C. & Hewish, S. (2008) Lies, Damned Lies, Statistics - And What Works. Available at: http://www.rideout.org.uk/documents/3rd_Sector_Consultation.pdf [accessed 8th June 2017].
- Lawler, S. (2008) *Identity: Sociological Perspectives*. Cambridge: Polity.
- Presser, L. & Sandberg, S. (2015) *Narrative Criminology: Understanding the Stories of Crime*. New York & London: New York University Press.
- Sandberg, S. (2013) 'Are self-narratives strategic or determined, unified or fragmented: Reading Breivik's Manifesto in light of narrative criminology', *Acta Sociologica*, 56(1): 69-83.
- Sandberg, S. & Ugelvik, T. (2016) 'The past, present, and future of narrative criminology: A review and an invitation'. *Crime, Media, Culture*, 12(2): 129-136.
- Ugelvik, T. (2016) 'Techniques of legitimation: The narrative construction of legitimacy among immigration detention officers', *Crime, Media, Culture*, 12(2): 215-232.