



The International Centre of Art for Social Change

presents:

A Day for Creative Conversations

November 3rd, 2008

2pm To 9pm

The Dance Centre

677 Davie Street

Vancouver, British Columbia

The International Centre of Art for Social Change (ICASC) invites you to participate in a day of free public events, including a presentation and dialogue with Arlene Goldbard, a world leader in the field of community cultural development. <http://arlenegoldbard.com/>

ICASC is calling on Metro Vancouver's community-based artists and arts organizations, along with others from a variety of business, health, law, academic and civil society sectors to take part in community conversations with each other and with Ms. Goldbard. We hope to uncover and explore opportunities for alliances, partnerships, co-creations, dialogues and other shared platforms for positive social change.

2pm to 5pm:

The Field is Growing: A Regional Gathering of Show and Tell.

During the day, artists and arts organizations are invited to exhibit their materials, meet their peers, leave their mark on a "mapping" session and present to the group a concise show-and-tell of their work. This session will also include a dialogue between Arlene, ICASC Co-Director- Judith Marcuse and participants regarding how ICASC might best serve artists working in social change.

5pm to 7pm:

Matchmaking for Creative Solutions: Introductions across sectors.

Participate in a networking session with people from other sectors interested in learning about and possibly integrating arts for social change into their work.

7pm to 9pm:

Arlene Goldbard: A presentation and dialogue.

This informal gathering will be followed at 7pm by Arlene Goldbard's presentation, the premiere of a new short film, and dialogue.

For more information and/or to register your participation, please contact:

Vanessa Richards

Creative Conversations Community Liaison v.a.richards@gmail.com

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The International Centre of Art for Social Change

Details:

A provocative independent voice for our times, Arlene Goldbard is a writer, social activist, and consultant who works for justice, compassion and honor in every sphere, from the interpersonal to the transnational.

Arlene's essays have appeared in such journals as Art in America, The Independent, Theatre, High Performance and Tikkun. Her books include Crossroads: Reflections on the Politics of Culture; Creative Community: The Art of Cultural Development; Community, Culture and Globalization; and her novel Clarity.

She co-founded such activist groups as the San Francisco Artworkers' Coalition, the California Visual Artists Alliance, Bay Area Lawyers for the Arts and Draft Help. As a consultant Arlene has helped dozens of organizations to make plans and solve problems. They include nonprofits such as the Independent Television Service, the National Campaign for Freedom of Expression, and the New Museum of Contemporary Art; foundations such as the Rockefeller Foundation and the Paul Robeson Fund for Independent Media; a score of state arts agencies; and many others.

Judith Marcuse Projects and Simon Fraser University (with Continuing Studies and the Faculty of Education) have partnered to establish the International Centre of Art for Social Change (ICASC). It will be the first university centre in North America to integrate university programming, community engagement in art and social change, academic research and training, as well as professional development and international networking. ICASC will be a global nexus for collaboration among scholars, activists and artists to research, teach and share best practices aimed at advancing the growing field of art for social change. <http://www.icasc.ca>

Why art and social change? An increasing number of artists throughout the world are working in community settings and facilitating positive and profound social change. Whether through exposure to the arts or the actual process of art-making, these artists are engaging diverse populations in imaginative and creative expression, helping to develop insight, social cohesion, changed behaviour – and hope for participants.

This arts-based process is also finding its way into education, industry and government. As society aims to tackle complex and sometimes overwhelming local and global issues, individuals are recognizing the need for new, out-of-the-box approaches to problem-solving and effective strategies that engage both the head and the heart. Art practice can be central in helping people find new ways to see the world and in developing models and practices that integrate and celebrate imaginative thinking.

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