

Emergence Survey: Summary of additional responses & comments

What would you be interested in learning more about?

There is a real need for engagement with the unconvinced and concrete action to incorporate sustainability into events e.g. minimising energy use and providing recycling infrastructure.

Sustaining the arts in the education sector

Support available to me and funding to get fluent in Welsh, to be able to write about cultural/arts issues, to be able to create/be part of a business engaged in PRACTICAL elements of arts and sustainability, and its holistic integration with conservation of culture, language, landscape, environment, old/small-scale technologies, and local history

Sustainable forms of utilising energy

Waste as resource

I'd be very interested in technical detail, say about use of solar cells to power artwork.

Theory and activism stuff is ok, but available elsewhere.

Help with marketing outside of wales

Projects that have made a difference e.g <http://www.exchange-values.org/>

The link between spirituality and sustainability

List of Wales based companies and organisations promoting sustainability

Links between cultural/artistic practice and other practices in relation to sustainability

How to persuade others to live sustainably

Specifics for fashion design

What sort of content / activities would you find most useful?

People from outside the arts can be very illuminating - people IN the arts can often be quite inward looking in terms of their own community, recycling unchallenged assumptions that are longstanding within that community, but not outside it. The assumption that the Arts have a central role in driving social change, for example, is something that all Arts practitioners believe, but others outside that (small) group are less convinced about.

Open discussion and panel debates must be well chaired

Some real science input

Contact case studies (mini presentations @ 10 minutes ea?)

with companies manufacturing sustainable products and organisations/venues promoting sustainability. eg Centre for Alternative Technology and Sharps (manufacturer of Solar panels) Wrexham

contacts with organisations/companies promoting/utilising sustainability

Practical workshops would be useful

Somewhere where actions is made not a talking shop

Financial backing package to ensure my attendance as my buisness cannot sustain my training needs. If i take a day to attend i cat earn any money its as simple as that

Funding opportunities/initiatives for artistic projects promoting sustainability

Structured workshop sessions to explore specific objectives

Good local organic sustainable food

Local ones

Are there any people that you would be particularly interested in hearing speak?

George Mobiot

Lional Fanthorpe, professor ronald Hutton

A representative from the New Economics Foundation - I think they do fascinating work in terms of envisaging practical models for social change. Someone from the Rowntree foundation (they held a GREAT seminar earlier this year in Cardiff about some research they'd done in to attitudes towards social inequality. It was well attended, but not ONE person from the Arts came.) Someone who can talk about popular media/mass audience behaviour knowledgeable and without being patronising.

George Monbiot

Those who have a direct link between their creative practice/background and sustainability credentials

Satish Kumar

Please not Steve Garret! Lovely as he is, he always seems to be there. Someone new, from outside Wales/UK maybe? Important to look at what has already gone on, like Jenny Savage's Arcades last yr.

Julies Bicycle A Greener Festival

George Monbiot

Maja and Reuben Fowkes

George Monbiot - artists , painters - practising not just in education or other institutions personally i would like to hear Michael Borremans , but i imagine that he has very little to do with your agenda

Peter Lord, Cynog Davis, Eric Hobsbaum, Nigel Calder, Terence Hawkes

Someone who is working in area of the world where Climate change is having real and damaging impact.

Contact with companies manufacturing sustainable products and organisations/venues promoting sustainability. eg Centre for Alternative Technology and Sharps (manufacturer of Solar panels) Wrexham

Do you have any other comments you would like to make?

Cynnal should talk to the arts organisations in Wales who are funded and who might already promote such activity, to avoid duplication and to properly understand their roles and activity. In particular, Safle.

IMHO, artists should be independent of political movements in the creation of their art. I have no intention of being pigeonholed by any movement

As a professional artist painter I don't believe sustainable development has anything to do with making a living from my art

I would like to be involved in this project very much and am a local actress/dancer. I have many ideas and would love to talk to like minded people. My main area of interest is food sustainability and the impact of factory farming on the animals and the planet.

Sustainability is a life long issue - how do we as artists, continue to make art in a social environment that doesn't necessarily value the arts? How do we make a sustainable practice in a rural area where public transport is rare? How do we afford to keep making work and what do we do with the work? I have a studio full of framed work that has been exhibited widely yet I can't afford to give it away and it hasn't sold, despite being well received. How is that sustainable?

It is easy to feel that nobody out there is listening or taking climate change and sustainability at all seriously. I live in a rural area where there are few 'Guardian readers' and no real community of alternative voices. Events like these will be

supportive to the individuals who would like to make a contribution through their artistic practice.

Since I do not drive a car, all the suggested venues are quite far away for me!

I feel the challenge is more to make the production of art itself sustainable by looking into 'eco' options e.g. using renewable materials, print on demand books, music events that run on sustainable energy etc rather than communicating the message to the public through yet more booklets and recycled art shows. Perhaps it's because I work in the environmental sector but I feel we are saturated with this information and run the risk of people 'switching off'. Innovation and practical solutions are the way forward!

Just in terms of this survey, refining or expanding what is meant by 'sustainable development' for the purposes of this survey might have been helpful (i.e do you mean personal, national, global?). If it's all three, well ok... but that's kind of vague. I'm also not clear if this discusses the Arts as an instrument for social change, and promoting sustainable development, or if it's more about individual practice. In fact, now I've typed that, I wonder if I've misunderstood a lot of this survey. I hope not. Glad to see this is being addressed, I have long thought the arts needs bringing closer to this issue/debate. Good luck.

I think that lots of people would have attended an event in Aberystwyth (Arts Centre) as there is a large community of eco/art people in the area and a large population. CAT in Corris (nr Machynlleth) is in the middle of nowhere really, I imagine that the only people that would turn up are people that make art with recycled materials and don't really engage people.

I work as a graphic designer, and am interested in successful sustainability in that profession, but am also an artist/printmaker as an individual and am experimenting with sustainable practice

Theatre and the area I work in set design is very poor re recycling, waste etc. Sets are often constructed then thrown away to landfill, more should be done to resolve these issues.

I specialise in online video content. I frequently film events, in a documentary style, for news content on websites. Video is being viewed at an exponential rate online, and is often a first port of call for web browsers and so serves as an excellent way to capture an audience and engage them with its content. Would you be interested in some video content for a website, or for the event, or even coverage of the events to be broadcast online? I am more than happy to visit you for a friendly chat and to see how I could help you with your message of sustainability and the arts.

Talking is all well and good, doing is what counts. Artists can indoctrinate, producers can sustain.

I'm running a series of arts events on the theme of climate change in the Amman and Swansea Valley areas with Awel Aman Tawe, so it would be good to collaborate or at least talk.

The Arts are extremely important in Wales, it's relationship with the rest of the UK and beyond. Sustainability issues have been discussed for several years and after the forthcoming General Election the artists and the Arts industry in Wales may have to come to terms with radical funding changes that may be crucial to any future developments. If the current situation cannot be sustained by funding or match funding then the arts in Wales will need to have solutions and acceptable strategies to sustain itself or the nation will witness the demise of an important aspect of society. My feeling is that the issues are so urgent and few artists have science backgrounds, it might be useful to have something in the program that encourages artists to engage

with the basic science behind sustainability so their works can communicate/ explore the subject at a deeper level.

As an artist interested in creating work influenced and inspired by energy and sustainability, I am keen to establish links with key companies and organisations that can support the creation of sustainable art in order to pursue creative lines of enquiry and promote sustainability in Wales

I could also get to Swansea, the survey would not allow me to make 2 choices. There are lots of artists involved in Transition Llantwit so I think Transition groups would be useful to contact. I am also interested in the work done by the transition artists in Stroud, if you have a contact there it would be interesting to here how they worked with local businesses. We have tried to get local business people involved here with no luck.

Its important to educate arts practitioners about how their work can be more sustainable as well as how they can promote sustainability through their work. Theatre producers really need a lesson in sustainability and budgeting - maybe this can apply to other 'producers' in the arts world too?

Perfect timing, Thank you! :)

Are you recording the event? Would you like help to document the event?

It is difficult to answer these questions without a clear understanding of what you mean by sustainability.

Probably we in Wales could look at forms of artistic expression other than conceptual and installation (the majority of which is navel gazing, unimaginative and unchallenging)

In order for events such as the ones suggested to be of use, I really think that follow up activities and real actions as consequence are vital. It is all too easy for people to attend, be inspired, and then be left without the tools, means, support to activate change. So it is the potential subsequent activities which interests me, rather than the prospect of these events themselves.

A venue in Carmarthen or cardigan would be much closer than Swansea or Machynlleth(and I couldn't select more than one anyway)

I am very interested, please keep me informed!

In general I think that artists are fairly clued into sustainability issues - they very often have to get by on very little resource so they're well practiced. As such I'm not sure that they need to be convinced of the need for their practice to be more sustainable, but could well be interested in very practical ways to go about doing this - so much more workshop type stuff than lecture/presentation.

Having organised these sorts of events before, and with a strong track record in cutting edge radio and TV work in sustainability, I would love to be help out with the project, if you need anyone. I attend Tipping Point events, and am currently working with the Co-operative group on a short film called SPOILT which brings together a group of young Welsh people with a group of young indigenous campaigners in Canada, who are affected by the tar sands - as part of the Co-operative's Toxic Fuels Campaign. I am also developing a theatre event called MY LAST CAR about the end of the petrol engine, with Warwick Arts Centre and Coventry Transport Museum.

We wouldn't so much be interested in "how to make cellos from petrol tanks" sort of work. More about how an Arts-receptive culture should be nurtured in communities based on communities' own resources, making visits by artists 'from away' more of a value-addition proposition.

Make the Brecon Beacons national park a better area for the arts to set up as its a very hard place to set up any company to much red tape!! to deal with

Excellent idea to be addressing this issue. You have not referred to a privacy policy: I am expecting that this data will only be used for the specific purposes of the survey, and that my email will not be passed to any other organisations.

In brief, a Marketing led arts culture doesn't encourage diversity which is a key element in a sustainable system. This is something I'd like to hear discussed.

I only use public transport (often visiting Caerdydd can do many things with one train journey) so your venues for planned events not particularly easy for me.

Regarding question 13, there should be a bi-lingual option, this is incredibly important when it comes to sustainability! The acknowledgement of a place and respect for its culture and history must be understood to be at the root of sustainability. Of course, people may not have the Welsh language in the south, but bilingual information and presentation give them the opportunity to get closer to it. Sustainability means so many things to so many people, but it has to be rooted in the environment and the place where it is happening, or it becomes another way of making everywhere the same. An option for 'either' is only useful to people who use both languages, an option for bilingual may provide stimulus for those who'd like to hear the language of their environment around them, even if they don't understand it. If you are serious about helping to maintain the development of sustainable arts and sustainability in Wales then you really must consider those individuals who are trying to make it on their own and often go unaccounted for on any accountability studies which usually only include artists working for and with local government departments and organisations and the voluntary sectors who have financial funding from ACW and lottery which they gain as voluntary organisations. The private sector often goes unnoticed, unfunded and under highlighted because we are outside this circle. The only way we can move forward is if we are looked upon as equals and accounted for with any overview of the work we do as individuals and the private sector work in the arts which often gets unnoticed by any member of parliament or other organisations calculations. We need to be working together to get some joined up writing about all sectors and aspects of sustainability.

Very interested in how this survey will impact on the arts sector in Wales. information on an interdisciplinary collaborative arts project in Swansea that responds to the depleting honey bee population. Sponsored by Safle.

www.weareworriedaboutthebees.wordpress.com

No - I hope to come to the Chapter event

I am most interested in the opportunity to develop and share my own work and research ideas in relation to the arts and sustainability and also, in meeting others engaged in these issues to see how we might work together. I would be unhappy with too many didactic/'talking' events as part of this and happy with more options for artists and those pursuing projects in sustainability in Wales to meet, share approaches and make work together, i.e. to practice and reflect together.

Just that i am very rural and work in village environment not urban

Please keep me informed about sustainable development in the arts and any opportunities to participate in lectures or exhibitions relating to sustainability. My artistic practice crosses the boundaries between art and science, exploring energy related subject matter which has led me to create sculpture and installations using geological materials such as coal and low energy/alternative lighting technologies which have included light reflective materials, LED's and bicycle powered sculptures. A very interesting development and delighted that wales again seems to be leading the UK in action of this sort.

This sounds exciting, I'm very interested in collaborative creative projects!

I would like to know if this initiative is being developed in order to feed into the Welsh Assembly Government's policy on sustainability. Will there be a strategic document that can be used and tested against to measure the levels of sustainability in arts practice?