

Call for Contributions

Papers, Streams and Events (exhibitions, workshops, projects, special performances)

The Sixth *Art of Management and Organization* Conference

Creativity and Critique

September 4-7th 2012,
University of York UK

Hosted by the *Centre for the Study of Working Lives* and *The York Management School*

Convenors: Stephen Linstead and Jenna Ward **Administrator:** Helen Geddes

Creativity has always been synonymous with the arts, but not with management. Indeed, managing creativity has been constructed as a perennial problem for organizations, creatives not being seen as comfortable with bureaucracy, nor willing to sacrifice autonomy. But recently, the entrepreneurial spirit of creatives has been mythologised and the creative industries have been elevated to the status of role model for the knowledge economy. Everyone is supposed to be creative now. The world of work is equally one of play and invention, we are told ó if, in the current context we are lucky enough to have work, if not *create* it. Is it really such a problem if weære not *creative*? Do we all have to be *leaders/managers/entrepreneurs* too?

Management and organization, in theory and practice, has in the past tended to neglect the affective dimensions of work, and has often produced, as a by product of organizing, effective ways of *killing* creativity ó whether that characteristic of people working in creative roles, or that more generally distributed in ways that organizations only reluctantly recognised, and delimited, through such efforts as quality initiatives. But creativity also kills - the moral and ethical dimensions, and even the dark side, of creativity, from the human genome project to genocide, remain relatively under-explored. And art as kitsch produces a generalised deadening effect that leaves the world culturally safe for capitalism, or totalitarianism. We look on, as Barbara Ehrenreich puts it, öbright-sidedö, sentimentally reaffirmed as social beings with our humanity safely in wraps. Can *critique* be a creative response?

We particularly invite contributions of all types that explore the diverse and paradoxical relationships between the arts and humanities, creations, creative practices, creative systems (workshops, organizations, industries, economies), creative individuals, creative conflicts, creating change, creative continuities, the politics of creativity and the consequences of these relationships ó both public and private. Weære interested in new sources and approaches to theorising these relationships as well as new ways of organising and living them. Weære interested in the release and realisation of human potential, but not at the expense of foreclosing a critical gaze. Weære interested in the light and the dark sides. We might even accept contributions that are *not creative*, just to be even handed.

Open Submissions

The conference is a forum for presentation, dialogue and exploration to reflect what is currently happening in the field, so **submissions need not be limited to the conference theme**. We welcome your contributions of work that you wish to share, discuss and develop, whatever its focus within the broad art of management remit.

As demonstrated in the diversity of streams, papers, events, exhibitions and performances of our previous conferences, we would like to continue to see a variety of presentation techniques and content, to celebrate the *Art of Management and Organization*'s tenth anniversary.

Furthermore, we seek proposals that will facilitate formal scholarly presentations (artful inquiry into organisational life), exhibitions and performances (artful presentations of organisational life) and undiscovered, developmental and even challenging forms of inquiry and representation. As part of the inclusive and creative space the *Art of Management and Organization Conference* we encourage and welcome participation from artists, practitioners, students and colleagues from disciplines beyond management and organisation. We hope to be able to offer artist/doctoral student bursaries but we need sponsorship ó watch this website for more information.

Submission Details

Proposals for **streams, workshops, performances, presentations, exhibitions, events etc** should be summarised in up to 500 words and emailed to: artofman@events.york.ac.uk by **August 31st 2011**. Accepted streams events etc will be notified by September 31st and posted on the website.

Abstracts for scholarly papers (up to 500 words) should be emailed to: artofman@events.york.ac.uk by **November 30th 2011**. All abstracts will be refereed.

Full papers (up to 7000 words) may also be submitted for double-blind review by the same date. This will be indicated in the programme.

Papers and *abstracts* should have 16 margins, double-spaced, in Times Roman 12 point font.

All decisions will be communicated by **mid-January 2012**.

For further information see

http://www.york.ac.uk/management/research/research-areas/organisation-theory/art_of_management/

or call Dr. Helen Geddes 01904 325025, Dr. Jenna Ward 01904 325061 or Prof. Stephen Linstead 01904 325036