

Bringing the arts into socio-ecological research: An analysis of the barriers and opportunities to collaboration across the divide

Natural scientist interview transcript

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:02.100

Interviewer

OK, it's recording great.

00:00:03.660 --> 00:00:05.160

Interviewer

So, uhm.

00:00:07.290 --> 00:00:27.050

Interviewer

So last week we were talking a little bit about, uhm, I think projects that you tried to, you know we. We tried to collaborate on one together. UM, and I know from xxxx also that you've tried to collaborate on a project together before as well. So have you any experience actually?

00:00:27.830 --> 00:00:34.410

Interviewer

Doing that and collaborating with artists on on a project? Or are you in the phase of just trying to get that to work?

00:00:35.170 --> 00:00:41.040

Natural scientist

No, so I I haven't had a successful collaboration. Well, I haven't had a funding.

00:00:42.000 --> 00:00:48.410

Natural scientist

Proposal I proposal funded. Basically that would involved sort of collaboration between scientists and artists.

00:00:49.800 --> 00:00:51.440

Interviewer

And I can start again.

00:00:49.890 --> 00:00:50.180

Natural scientist

So.

00:00:51.740 --> 00:00:55.780

Natural scientist

Yeah, so it's all being proposal stage thinking about ideas.

00:00:56.380 --> 00:00:57.560

Natural scientist

Thinking how it would work.

00:00:59.150 --> 00:01:10.310

Interviewer

Could you talk a bit about that process and how how that evolved for you? And maybe some of the challenges that you think that might have come up?

00:01:11.320 --> 00:01:11.850

Interviewer

With that

00:01:12.020 --> 00:01:16.120

Natural scientist

Yeah, so I mean last last year was the first time that.

00:01:16.740 --> 00:01:20.340

Natural scientist

When with the Treescapes, the big Treescapes funding call that came out.

00:01:21.050 --> 00:01:31.230

Natural scientist

That was the first time when Xxx collaborator and I kind of worked together on ideas and a big proposal. The first time I'd really seriously tried to.

00:01:32.130 --> 00:01:38.700

Natural scientist

Do something with artists and so on. I thought about it before and I've always kind of kept.

00:01:39.540 --> 00:01:47.280

Natural scientist

Loosely in touch with things that are going on in the background just out of interest, but that was the yeah the the first time I've done it, seriously.

00:01:48.290 --> 00:01:57.560

Interviewer

when you when you say sorry when you say a man in the background, do you mean like keeping in touch with the arts world and understanding what's going on there or, UM?

00:01:57.770 --> 00:02:07.440

Natural scientist

Yes, so just, you know, networks and events that are going on in the local area or in the in the region. Trying either attend them or.

00:02:08.700 --> 00:02:13.870

Natural scientist

If you gotta go to galleries and things like this and just see stuff that's going on.

00:02:12.220 --> 00:02:12.630

Interviewer

2.

00:02:14.250 --> 00:02:14.610

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:02:14.960 --> 00:02:18.010

Natural scientist

Being aware of other people in that kind of.

00:02:19.070 --> 00:02:21.970

Natural scientist

Landscape art and outdoor stuff.

00:02:23.020 --> 00:02:23.390

Interviewer

Yep.

00:02:26.420 --> 00:02:28.710

Natural scientist

So yeah, the the treescapes thing.

00:02:30.260 --> 00:02:38.510

Natural scientist

So I can't remember the exact time we started thinking about it seriously, but there's maybe about October last year.

00:02:39.620 --> 00:02:44.320

Natural scientist

And the call, but reached the the main treescapes caller was specific.

00:02:45.420 --> 00:02:46.580

Natural scientist

Text in the call.

00:02:47.310 --> 00:02:52.930

Natural scientist

That stated, you had to bring together and it wasn't just about environmental science or economics or.

00:02:53.730 --> 00:02:57.170

Natural scientist

Social science yet can bring together all the different aspects.

00:02:57.820 --> 00:02:58.510

Natural scientist

Including.

00:03:00.030 --> 00:03:06.550

Natural scientist

You know artistic approaches. So in the proposal we really tried, I. I think we tried and obviously.

00:03:07.230 --> 00:03:08.430

Natural scientist

Had a lot of UM.

00:03:09.110 --> 00:03:14.100

Natural scientist

Help and and contribution from xxxx. 'cause it it's not my background.

00:03:15.410 --> 00:03:19.850

Natural scientist

So we really tried to integrate it throughout the whole project and for it, not just to be.

00:03:21.520 --> 00:03:32.520

Natural scientist

A bit part, a separate work package or a bit on the end that gets kind of tagged on. We really tried to get it to go through the project so it was a good opportunity to.

00:03:34.390 --> 00:03:38.060

Natural scientist

Get the arts and the science or the ideas behind those.

00:03:38.670 --> 00:03:41.490

Natural scientist

Properly integrated in a project.

00:03:42.260 --> 00:03:49.470

Natural scientist

And I think you know other other projects that have gone on might have had mentioned. I probably wouldn't even call it an art component, but.

00:03:50.280 --> 00:03:52.480

Natural scientist

Would be more of a communications component.

00:03:53.400 --> 00:03:53.760

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:03:55.500 --> 00:04:01.250

Interviewer

And and how did that collaboration come to be then? How did you get to know Xxx collaborator? And how did Xxx collaborator get to know you?

00:04:02.650 --> 00:04:07.700

Natural scientist

So there was a webinar for the funding call.

00:04:08.650 --> 00:04:13.810

Natural scientist

I attended that and I whole heap of other people attended that.

00:04:15.500 --> 00:04:25.900

Natural scientist

And there was somebody else that was involved in our bid initially and they poop carrying myself in touch with each other, although they didn't end up being on the bid themselves.

00:04:26.590 --> 00:04:27.740

Interviewer

OK, cool.

00:04:28.180 --> 00:04:33.920

Natural scientist

Yeah, I don't know. I'm not sure if they met or they knew each other through the webinar or if they knew each other before, but.

00:04:28.760 --> 00:04:29.410

Interviewer

That's great.

00:04:35.350 --> 00:04:37.430

Interviewer

It's sort of a bit of a gatekeeper for you, I guess.

00:04:38.010 --> 00:04:38.480

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:04:38.640 --> 00:04:40.130

Interviewer

Yeah OK, great.

00:04:40.500 --> 00:04:41.020

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:04:41.910 --> 00:04:42.660

Natural scientist

So it I mean it.

00:04:42.090 --> 00:04:43.400

Interviewer

So yeah.

00:04:43.710 --> 00:04:48.740

Natural scientist

In that particular proposals, or that particular scheme because it wasn't.

00:04:49.640 --> 00:04:52.060

Natural scientist

You know and and integral part of the call.

00:04:53.160 --> 00:04:53.790

Natural scientist

And.

00:04:55.670 --> 00:04:58.600

Natural scientist

There wasn't any funding challenges.

00:04:59.550 --> 00:05:05.810

Natural scientist

Behind that we were able to sort of explore different things that we could do without any real massive constraints.

00:05:07.230 --> 00:05:08.140

Natural scientist

And.

00:05:10.640 --> 00:05:11.080

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:05:11.730 --> 00:05:13.570

Natural scientist

I think, yeah, that was all about ad there.

00:05:13.930 --> 00:05:16.320

Interviewer

OK, that's good. So uhm.

00:05:17.320 --> 00:05:30.950

Interviewer

So you obviously I guess, want to carry on trying to work with arts, and So what? What does art mean to you and I guess having put these funding proposals together?

00:05:32.750 --> 00:05:38.960

Interviewer

I guess that your view of it might have changed, but I don't know. I mean it has it changed since working with Xxx collaborator.

00:05:40.060 --> 00:05:40.880

Natural scientist

Umm?

00:05:43.150 --> 00:05:45.970

Natural scientist

I don't think my view of it's changed. I think my.

00:05:47.140 --> 00:05:49.450

Natural scientist

Awareness of the different things that goes on.

00:05:50.460 --> 00:05:56.960

Natural scientist

If you want to say in in the sort of art world or in the art side of things has increased.

00:05:58.390 --> 00:05:58.960

Natural scientist

Uhm?

00:06:01.360 --> 00:06:07.690

Natural scientist

Quote, I mean the kind of what his art question I. I don't really know what art is from honest.

00:06:10.170 --> 00:06:10.840

Interviewer

Who does?

00:06:13.080 --> 00:06:17.450

Natural scientist

Yeah, I like to ask artists that question as well. Probably get a better answer.

00:06:18.140 --> 00:06:19.620

Natural scientist

So they've had time to think about it.

00:06:20.300 --> 00:06:22.970

Natural scientist

I mean thinking, thinking about as a scientist.

00:06:20.380 --> 00:06:20.800

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:06:25.120 --> 00:06:34.230

Natural scientist

We come across a while. Sometimes you might observe a system or a habitat or something, and we might come up with questions about that system about why it works, how it works.

00:06:35.210 --> 00:06:37.750

Natural scientist

And we probably approach it in a very quantitative.

00:06:39.050 --> 00:06:41.560

Natural scientist

And maybe overlay systematic way.

00:06:43.060 --> 00:06:43.550

Natural scientist

Uh.

00:06:45.360 --> 00:06:49.030

Natural scientist

Which had many risk problem, you need it for a lot of things.

00:06:49.830 --> 00:06:53.570

Natural scientist

But I guess for a lot of people that could be quite dry and is quite dry.

00:06:55.700 --> 00:07:02.110

Natural scientist

So one one thing that I think I mean, it's not. It's not answering the question what is art, but I suppose.

00:07:02.730 --> 00:07:05.530

Natural scientist

What is art relative to science? In these projects? I think it.

00:07:06.620 --> 00:07:11.330

Natural scientist

It's just looking at these ecological situations from different point of view.

00:07:12.300 --> 00:07:14.230

Natural scientist

And looking at it from a.

00:07:16.110 --> 00:07:18.540

Natural scientist

Maybe like a different worldview even.

00:07:19.820 --> 00:07:22.340

Natural scientist

Just see and maybe seeing things or.

00:07:23.530 --> 00:07:28.600

Natural scientist

Interpreting for what's seen in a very different way from a a sort of.

00:07:31.700 --> 00:07:33.960

Natural scientist

Traditional science perspective.

00:07:34.550 --> 00:07:38.490

Interviewer

Yeah, and so you see it as more than a month.

00:07:39.990 --> 00:07:41.650

Interviewer

The visual arts in the sense.

00:07:42.870 --> 00:07:45.300

Interviewer

In the Stration and sculpture and things like that.

00:07:48.840 --> 00:07:49.830

Natural scientist

No no no no.

00:07:53.800 --> 00:07:56.850

Natural scientist

Do you mean do I do I see the arts as the visual arts?

00:07:57.520 --> 00:08:17.270

Interviewer

I'm well, yeah. I I, I think what you're explaining is that you're you're seeing it as more than the visual arts. I think alot alot that's from the other interviews we've done. I think the

scientists are offering started at that point of of thinking it's that and then done a collaboration and and realized it's so much more.

00:08:04.610 --> 00:08:05.200

Natural scientist

Yes.

00:08:17.700 --> 00:08:18.210

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:08:19.240 --> 00:08:21.040

Natural scientist

Yeah, I mean I've I've got a.

00:08:22.200 --> 00:08:25.650

Natural scientist

A bit of a background in art coming through from school.

00:08:26.070 --> 00:08:26.540

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:08:26.760 --> 00:08:27.880

Natural scientist

So I have I have.

00:08:28.520 --> 00:08:31.160

Natural scientist

Some knowledge of like stuff other than.

00:08:31.890 --> 00:08:33.740

Natural scientist

Visual arts and painting that's going on.

00:08:35.850 --> 00:08:42.020

Interviewer

Yeah, and I think last week you were discussing a little bit about projects you'd like to do yourself so.

00:08:44.340 --> 00:08:57.060

Interviewer

Yeah, I guess I don't know if you see that it's definitely to your scientist self, but you want to have time and opportunity to explore being an artist in the environment yourself.

00:08:57.590 --> 00:08:58.230

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:08:59.200 --> 00:09:01.780

Natural scientist

Uh, I don't know whether you can.

00:09:03.400 --> 00:09:09.030

Natural scientist

Whether you do as a scientist and then try out, or whether you just try something completely separate.

00:09:11.240 --> 00:09:16.350

Natural scientist

I think it's difficult to distinguish how, if I if I go out there as an ecologist.

00:09:17.160 --> 00:09:19.440

Natural scientist

I'm trying to think about certain questions that are not.

00:09:20.350 --> 00:09:21.450

Natural scientist

I think I'm maybe.

00:09:22.600 --> 00:09:23.950

Natural scientist

Constraining my thinking.

00:09:25.620 --> 00:09:26.250

Natural scientist

Uhm?

00:09:27.200 --> 00:09:31.000

Natural scientist

I might have to go out somewhere without any.

00:09:31.760 --> 00:09:33.660

Natural scientist

Scientific baggage if you like.

00:09:33.890 --> 00:09:34.460

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:09:35.410 --> 00:09:44.680

Natural scientist

I'm just trying to think a bit more freely and openly about stuff. I think that and that's what one thing when you when you're working on science.

00:09:46.020 --> 00:09:46.800

Natural scientist

Generally.

00:09:48.060 --> 00:09:49.260

Natural scientist

You've got your project.

00:09:50.090 --> 00:09:56.380

Natural scientist

You've got your questions you've already in in the proposal that you've written. You've said what kind of method you're going to use.

00:09:57.080 --> 00:09:59.970

Natural scientist

And you've probably said what you expect to find.

00:10:01.270 --> 00:10:01.820

Interviewer

Yep.

00:10:02.060 --> 00:10:05.900

Natural scientist

Or whether there's like hypotheses and ternative hypotheses.

00:10:08.320 --> 00:10:09.550

Natural scientist

And so there's no real.

00:10:10.740 --> 00:10:12.050

Natural scientist

There's not a lot of room.

00:10:12.950 --> 00:10:15.610

Natural scientist

For just kind of thinking about stuff anymore, I don't think.

00:10:16.130 --> 00:10:17.260

Interviewer

Uh, yeah.

00:10:17.030 --> 00:10:23.770

Natural scientist

You know you've got to try and keep up with literature on lots of different topics. You've got to plan, things you've got to.

00:10:25.080 --> 00:10:27.410

Natural scientist

Right the papers 'cause you've got to get your papers out.

00:10:29.550 --> 00:10:33.590

Natural scientist

So I think one one thing that is difficult to find, it's just.

00:10:34.470 --> 00:10:36.610

Natural scientist

Chunks of time where you're able to.

00:10:38.270 --> 00:10:43.610

Natural scientist

Either not have anything planned for those chunks of time and you're just able to think about things are going visit somewhere.

00:10:44.340 --> 00:10:44.820

Natural scientist

And.

00:10:46.260 --> 00:10:46.680

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:10:47.290 --> 00:10:48.180

Natural scientist

Let things happen.

00:10:49.360 --> 00:10:56.020

Natural scientist

And see what happens. And it's a bit like the discussion we had in some of the the groups at the event last week.

00:10:49.640 --> 00:10:50.070

Interviewer

Yep.

00:10:57.610 --> 00:11:02.660

Natural scientist

In in the funding proposals, people are, or reviewers tend to look for very definite outcomes.

00:11:03.960 --> 00:11:04.590

Natural scientist

And.

00:11:06.020 --> 00:11:14.600

Natural scientist

Quite often as we chatted about was there might not be any definite or specific outcomes from some creative art practice that you know about yet and.

00:11:16.230 --> 00:11:22.080

Natural scientist

I suppose that leads on to funding challenges. It's trying to get that across to.

00:11:23.420 --> 00:11:27.830

Natural scientist

Science scientific traditional sort of science funders or science funding councils.

00:11:29.200 --> 00:11:32.290

Natural scientist

The that is, yeah, that's OK.

00:11:34.370 --> 00:11:35.920

Natural scientist

And it's it's kind of part of the.

00:11:37.360 --> 00:11:38.780

Natural scientist

Part of the package of trying to.

00:11:39.460 --> 00:11:43.230

Natural scientist

Do better linking up between the arts and ecology or science.

00:11:44.240 --> 00:11:52.290

Interviewer

Yeah, and they actually adds value as well as a whole a whole level of richness and another dimension.

00:11:53.270 --> 00:11:55.020

Interviewer

Yeah, and so do you.

00:11:55.070 --> 00:12:02.620

Interviewer

Do envisage any challenges working with artists if you wrote of collaborate and on a project in the future.

00:12:13.090 --> 00:12:15.440

Interviewer

It's a hard one to anticipate, really, isn't it?

00:12:16.170 --> 00:12:16.780

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:12:16.990 --> 00:12:18.010

Interviewer

Unfair question.

00:12:19.110 --> 00:12:20.270

Interviewer

So she in the background.

00:12:20.990 --> 00:12:22.020

Interviewer

Yeah, I mean.

00:12:25.430 --> 00:12:27.930

Interviewer

Don't worry if you if you if you don't envisage any.

00:12:29.260 --> 00:12:30.800

Natural scientist

I am personally nothing.

00:12:31.940 --> 00:12:34.590

Natural scientist

Comes to mind as being a challenge.

00:12:35.300 --> 00:12:39.220

Natural scientist

Some some things might be useful, like in the first instance.

00:12:40.500 --> 00:12:44.180

Natural scientist

It would be good at the onset of a collaboration to kind of.

00:12:45.010 --> 00:12:52.750

Natural scientist

No, for each person sits on certain things, whether that's within the project or topics outside the project that might be relevant.

00:12:53.260 --> 00:12:53.690

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:12:53.880 --> 00:12:55.580

Natural scientist

So you you could you kind of.

00:12:56.320 --> 00:12:56.980

Natural scientist

Nowhere.

00:12:58.220 --> 00:13:01.630

Natural scientist

Each person is in in their heads as you go forward.

00:13:02.830 --> 00:13:03.900

Natural scientist

Think that's useful?

00:13:04.660 --> 00:13:14.270

Interviewer

Yeah, clarity on that. Certain things like that. So I was just if he can kind of sort of said it more about that is that to do with personality politics?

00:13:14.860 --> 00:13:15.470

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:13:17.120 --> 00:13:18.780

Interviewer

Socializing habits.

00:13:21.440 --> 00:13:31.670

Natural scientist

I think it's more just to have time to sort of digest things and and understand other peoples positions and views and opinions and thoughts more.

00:13:32.840 --> 00:13:35.510

Natural scientist

Uhm proper. Then come to the point where.

00:13:33.090 --> 00:13:33.480

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:13:36.150 --> 00:13:36.860

Natural scientist

You start.

00:13:37.480 --> 00:13:39.780

Natural scientist

Collaborating maybe in a sort of physical or.

00:13:42.230 --> 00:13:43.920

Natural scientist

Working remotely together or something.

00:13:44.730 --> 00:13:46.540

Natural scientist

And only then you kind of realize.

00:13:47.240 --> 00:13:48.500

Natural scientist

But wait a minute, what's?

00:13:49.310 --> 00:13:51.010

Natural scientist

So there's this other person thinks this.

00:13:51.650 --> 00:13:56.800

Natural scientist

And you've got to maybe react very quickly and you don't have. You haven't had the time to process.

00:13:58.420 --> 00:14:05.100

Natural scientist

What the other person is thinking or how they might approach something I I suppose it's more of just a.

00:14:06.780 --> 00:14:09.000

Natural scientist

A planet tree fees.

00:14:10.820 --> 00:14:11.300

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:14:11.590 --> 00:14:16.410

Natural scientist

I think it's OK. Yeah, if they've got conflicts of opinion in the think different things, that's fine.

00:14:17.810 --> 00:14:18.800

Natural scientist

That's not a problem.

00:14:20.730 --> 00:14:47.750

Interviewer

Yeah, I mean and some of the things that people have said is that it is about expectations and understanding and and use of language in different ways. So you might think that you're talking about the same thing, but actually you're not. And then when that you know that can become problematic if it's not, if the if the communication isn't there and and you're not having that time to.

00:14:47.800 --> 00:14:50.590

Interviewer

Understand each other and develop the relationship.

00:14:50.810 --> 00:14:51.270

Natural scientist

Stream

00:14:52.310 --> 00:14:55.310

Natural scientist

and along the same lines is understanding.

00:14:52.440 --> 00:14:52.840

Interviewer

App.

00:14:56.690 --> 00:14:58.560

Natural scientist

Each others challenges within there.

00:14:59.370 --> 00:15:00.670

Natural scientist

But in their work within there.

00:15:02.040 --> 00:15:03.540

Natural scientist

They're sector within.

00:15:04.840 --> 00:15:08.380

Natural scientist

So that you can appreciate what constraints that are, which challenges there are for.

00:15:09.600 --> 00:15:10.820

Natural scientist

For people that able to do.

00:15:12.850 --> 00:15:13.170

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:15:13.230 --> 00:15:15.880

Interviewer

Definitely yeah, having a broader background.

00:15:16.970 --> 00:15:19.740

Interviewer

Yeah, UM, I do you feel like you?

00:15:20.930 --> 00:15:22.480

Interviewer

We have

00:15:23.840 --> 00:15:41.590

Interviewer

a good understanding of what has been done in the past, and you said that you sort of kept up to date with things that are happening and have you ever done like a a review yourself of of different artworks in your field? Or you know, environmental science and artistic work in that field.

00:15:42.310 --> 00:15:42.850

Natural scientist

No.

00:15:44.150 --> 00:15:48.370

Interviewer

Would you know how to go about doing that? Or you know, is it something you've ever considered?

00:15:48.800 --> 00:15:50.650

Natural scientist

I wouldn't have a clue if I'm honest.

00:15:52.010 --> 00:15:54.800

Interviewer

This is what I hope it's to do with the guides.

00:15:57.390 --> 00:16:03.340

Interviewer

I'm writing a paper on it as well, so hopefully that'll that'll help, UM.

00:15:57.410 --> 00:15:57.780

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:16:04.480 --> 00:16:05.970

Natural scientist

Part of that comes from.

00:16:06.970 --> 00:16:08.300

Natural scientist

No, I haven't been involved.

00:16:09.230 --> 00:16:10.190

Natural scientist

In the art world.

00:16:12.330 --> 00:16:16.880

Natural scientist

For most people, for most of my life I don't, I don't. I don't really know the in's and outs of it.

00:16:18.380 --> 00:16:20.730

Natural scientist

I don't know. I don't know how things are done. I don't know.

00:16:18.410 --> 00:16:18.800

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:16:22.960 --> 00:16:26.160

Natural scientist

Yeah, I don't know the details. The nitty gritty.

00:16:26.490 --> 00:16:30.650

Interviewer

Yeah yeah, definitely. I'm I'm the same I'm learning.

00:16:31.760 --> 00:16:39.760

Interviewer

Sorry writing and when you are writing your collaborations a project called Collaborations.

00:16:40.390 --> 00:16:52.180

Interviewer

How was it around funding and, UM, knowing how to pay the artist? Or was that something you were familiar with and was that easy to negotiate?

00:16:53.020 --> 00:16:57.130

Natural scientist

So that was another that was another thing I had no idea about and I.

00:16:59.110 --> 00:17:00.090

Natural scientist

obviously.

00:17:01.120 --> 00:17:02.970

Natural scientist

Knew what was going on there so.

00:17:04.440 --> 00:17:09.540

Natural scientist

Yeah, I didn't know about that before. I didn't know how people kind of.

00:17:10.770 --> 00:17:14.750

Natural scientist

Or how artists would budget for certain works or practices.

00:17:16.240 --> 00:17:20.830

Natural scientist

And and that in itself is a nice learning experience to see how that that side of things works.

00:17:21.200 --> 00:17:21.870

Interviewer

Yep.

00:17:24.250 --> 00:17:25.660

Interviewer

Great, UM.

00:17:29.590 --> 00:17:37.810

Interviewer

And is there anything you would want to know about the way that the artist works in order to work with them? Is there any specific sort of?

00:17:38.990 --> 00:17:41.330

Interviewer

So things that you would you would look for.

00:17:43.800 --> 00:17:45.180

Natural scientist

Uh, yeah, I mean like.

00:17:46.340 --> 00:17:47.860

Natural scientist

I might be interested in.

00:17:49.660 --> 00:17:52.210

Natural scientist

For practices they've done in the past.

00:17:53.080 --> 00:17:54.720

Natural scientist

If they you know some of them might work with.

00:17:55.610 --> 00:17:58.670

Natural scientist

Digital media some might do more visual stuff.

00:17:59.420 --> 00:18:01.650

Natural scientist

So might do some more experiential stuff and.

00:18:03.320 --> 00:18:08.580

Natural scientist

I wouldn't. I wouldn't want to constrain what's going to take place, but I think it's good to know.

00:18:09.220 --> 00:18:11.090

Natural scientist

For might come down the line.

00:18:11.770 --> 00:18:12.110

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:18:12.470 --> 00:18:14.230

Natural scientist

Or whether that's going to be something that's.

00:18:16.870 --> 00:18:17.450

Natural scientist

Maybe?

00:18:18.130 --> 00:18:23.290

Natural scientist

Not limited strong word, but whether it's focused on one of those kind of things, or whether it's somebody who does a bit of.

00:18:24.720 --> 00:18:25.650

Natural scientist

A bit of everything.

00:18:26.980 --> 00:18:27.360

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:18:28.440 --> 00:18:30.520

Interviewer

Cousin Sunbro yeah uhm.

00:18:31.580 --> 00:18:48.290

Interviewer

OK, I think we've we've gone through most the questions, actually, uh, which is great. I don't know if you want to add anything else or if it is. There's anything else you want to say. In terms of what you'd like to do. Or, you know, I have got a question.

00:18:49.580 --> 00:18:59.080

Interviewer

Uh, actually? Firstly, I'll I'll tell you something that that that webinar. I can't remember the name of the woman who connected us because I've never met her before.

00:18:59.420 --> 00:18:59.890

Natural scientist

This is.

00:19:00.130 --> 00:19:06.170

Interviewer

So she was she was in the webinar as well and I think we might have been in a breakout room together.

00:19:06.780 --> 00:19:12.310

Interviewer

Uh, so that must be where she kind of got an understanding of a bit about me anyway.

00:19:12.850 --> 00:19:18.870

Interviewer

It's really cool, so I was surprised. Probably, you know, I was surprised that she did sort of passed my name on to you.

00:19:19.610 --> 00:19:35.180

Interviewer

But I'm kind of wondering if, uh, if that happened have happened, so if she hadn't have said, oh maybe you should make Xxx collaborator, you know, might be a good match, whatever. Whatever would you have pursued arts within that bid? And how might you have done it?

00:19:37.040 --> 00:19:39.890

Natural scientist

Yeah, I mean I would definitely have still pursued it.

00:19:40.560 --> 00:19:42.530

Natural scientist

Uh, how would I have done it?

00:19:44.010 --> 00:19:47.590

Natural scientist

You have probably tried to do some detective work online.

00:19:48.660 --> 00:19:52.030

Natural scientist

And there was also the the sound.

00:19:52.810 --> 00:19:55.230

Natural scientist

Soundscapes person from Goldsmiths.

00:19:56.730 --> 00:20:04.440

Natural scientist

What was on the bid as well, and so I initially got to him via the common line project, which I found out about.

00:20:05.560 --> 00:20:06.380

Natural scientist

So I was trying to.

00:20:07.300 --> 00:20:09.670

Natural scientist

That was, that was kind of my inroad into.

00:20:11.760 --> 00:20:13.700

Natural scientist

They just have to stick our specs.

00:20:13.980 --> 00:20:19.630

Interviewer

Can you explain what the common line projects is and how it came to have an artist in it?

00:20:20.170 --> 00:20:27.280

Natural scientist

Yeah, so the the common line project it was. I think it was funded by AHRC.

00:20:28.800 --> 00:20:29.370

Natural scientist

And.

00:20:30.060 --> 00:20:31.820

Natural scientist

It was a collaboration between.

00:20:33.060 --> 00:20:34.490

Natural scientist

And arts collective.

00:20:35.400 --> 00:20:40.840

Natural scientist

This sound soundscapes person and some geographers from a University.

00:20:42.590 --> 00:20:46.620

Natural scientist

And and they have a website which is where I got a lot of the information.

00:20:48.300 --> 00:20:52.700

Natural scientist

The concept was defined the shortest line across the.

00:20:53.340 --> 00:20:55.520

Natural scientist

Mainlands of GB.

00:20:57.750 --> 00:20:59.700

Natural scientist

And which kind of roughly goes from?

00:21:00.350 --> 00:21:03.140

Natural scientist

Central South East England up to the northwest.

00:21:03.590 --> 00:21:04.060

Interviewer

OK.

00:21:05.200 --> 00:21:06.850

Natural scientist

And the idea behind that was.

00:21:08.250 --> 00:21:14.190

Natural scientist

This would be a. It's a conceptual line obviously, and the idea was that every 20 meters they would plant a tree.

00:21:14.850 --> 00:21:24.800

Natural scientist

And it could be a digital tree, or they might actually find this pot and plant some real trees and then around this this kind of framework of the common line, there was a whole range of.

00:21:25.650 --> 00:21:28.940

Natural scientist

And public events went on and and.

00:21:30.400 --> 00:21:35.070

Natural scientist

Virtual reality, digital development and things like this.

00:21:37.120 --> 00:21:38.800

Natural scientist

And I I started looking into it a bit more.

00:21:38.850 --> 00:21:40.240

Natural scientist

Or and.

00:21:41.350 --> 00:21:43.340

Natural scientist

Because I've been thinking about different.

00:21:44.070 --> 00:21:52.760

Natural scientist

Woodland expansion projects going on around the UK and found that actually the common line falls quite close to some of the really important ones.

00:21:53.930 --> 00:22:02.800

Natural scientist

And so one of my initial ideas was to try and use this common line framework, and some of these woodland expansion locations as the basis for.

00:22:04.370 --> 00:22:07.100

Natural scientist

The the project and the end that didn't.

00:22:08.720 --> 00:22:11.230

Natural scientist

That didn't come about and it became something else.

00:22:12.830 --> 00:22:13.470

Natural scientist

Uh.

00:22:14.480 --> 00:22:25.770

Interviewer

Yes, I suppose it's it's. It's kind of all about networks and projects that you've heard of already in terms of finding someone to engage with.

00:22:26.170 --> 00:22:32.450

Natural scientist

Yeah, but in situ were involved in the common line, which is, so there's a nice sort of circularity there.

00:22:32.690 --> 00:22:34.790

Interviewer

Yeah, I see.

00:22:35.190 --> 00:22:39.680

Interviewer

Definitely is about network goes straight through, like this territory.

00:22:40.750 --> 00:22:54.840

Interviewer

We've been trying since he's been doing work in one of the sets in the Far East of the Pendle borough. OK, nice, but yeah, all nice connections. I mean, the art world is very small actually.

Yeah, it's like the soil world.

00:22:54.970 --> 00:22:55.370

Interviewer

The soil.

00:22:55.940 --> 00:22:56.370

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:22:57.050 --> 00:23:10.780

Natural scientist

And it well, one of the other nice things, and it's another idea of God is we do I think I mentioned it to you. We do some work with a farmer cluster in just the sort of north North East Lake District near Sharp.

00:23:11.330 --> 00:23:11.690

Interviewer

I.

00:23:12.560 --> 00:23:15.230

Natural scientist

Under the line goes through that cluster as well.

00:23:16.420 --> 00:23:22.800

Natural scientist

So yeah, fate is leading me back to this. Close this common line every every time.

00:23:23.270 --> 00:23:24.470

Interviewer

They're getting eventually.

00:23:27.410 --> 00:23:32.770

Interviewer

Brilliant and once that you looked before like you were going to say something.

00:23:32.820 --> 00:23:33.100

Interviewer

Thing.

00:23:35.490 --> 00:23:37.540

Interviewer

Just extra in terms of.

00:23:37.600 --> 00:23:39.220

Interviewer

Yeah, yeah.

00:23:39.870 --> 00:23:40.710

Natural scientist

And.

00:23:42.690 --> 00:23:43.870

Natural scientist

What was the question again?

00:23:44.360 --> 00:23:53.750

Interviewer

It was just whether you wanted to add anything extra to what. What we've been saying and about your experience trying to do arts collaborations and.

00:23:54.190 --> 00:23:57.610

Natural scientist

Yeah, I mean I suppose one thing we haven't really touched on is.

00:23:58.820 --> 00:24:01.120

Natural scientist

So I guess something more science organizations.

00:24:01.810 --> 00:24:03.170

Natural scientist

Aren't really set up.

00:24:04.450 --> 00:24:08.450

Natural scientist

With with these kind of things as part of their, you know core business.

00:24:08.730 --> 00:24:09.320

Interviewer

Umm?

00:24:09.850 --> 00:24:17.950

Natural scientist

Uh, and and so if it does take place, it's kind of on the fringes and more towards the communication aspects of of projects.

00:24:20.090 --> 00:24:22.520

Natural scientist

And yeah, maybe that's a sort of.

00:24:23.960 --> 00:24:26.130

Natural scientist

Cultural thing that's shifting a bit now.

00:24:27.700 --> 00:24:28.310

Natural scientist

Uhm?

00:24:29.540 --> 00:24:33.680

Natural scientist

But yeah, yeah, I guess the bottom line is they they have to focus on.

00:24:34.390 --> 00:24:35.800

Natural scientist

I'm generalizing by seeing the.

00:24:37.180 --> 00:24:41.480

Natural scientist

But yeah, they have to focus on what their their core strengths are and.

00:24:43.880 --> 00:24:49.980

Natural scientist

To yeah to have their scientists spend time on what might not be considered as.

00:24:50.770 --> 00:24:52.510

Natural scientist

Their expertise or.

00:24:53.720 --> 00:24:57.680

Natural scientist

The traditional way to to look at to look at ecology and so on.

00:24:58.760 --> 00:24:59.980

Natural scientist

Is a bit of a risk for them.

00:25:04.290 --> 00:25:06.080

Interviewer

Yeah, definitely yeah it's it.

00:25:06.780 --> 00:25:08.560

Natural scientist

The map got that kind of presents.

00:25:09.890 --> 00:25:15.040

Natural scientist

I suppose you could call it a bit of resistance and institutional level, or an organizational level.

00:25:19.010 --> 00:25:30.570

Interviewer

Yeah, so it can be hard to convince them to to go for funding or you know, especially I mean, I suppose there's a bit about the amount of funding as well, isn't it? You know.

00:25:32.300 --> 00:25:46.450

Interviewer

You can, I think they can take risks at different levels depending on how much funding is involved, so we wanted to apply for the one that was 30K, but that wasn't necessarily seen as enough to risk.

00:25:48.000 --> 00:25:53.150

Natural scientist

Yeah, well, the main problem there was the the funding didn't cover overheads.

00:25:54.770 --> 00:25:56.040

Natural scientist

And I'm not sure.

00:25:57.610 --> 00:25:58.900

Natural scientist

I'm not sure why that was.

00:26:00.270 --> 00:26:03.220

Natural scientist

And most grants would be at least 80%.

00:26:04.000 --> 00:26:05.440

Natural scientist

Through economic costs.

00:26:05.690 --> 00:26:06.260

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:26:06.590 --> 00:26:10.820

Natural scientist

And normally if you drop it through 80% full economic costs, the.

00:26:11.960 --> 00:26:15.610

Natural scientist

Any sort of 20% shortfall is deemed as acceptable.

00:26:16.890 --> 00:26:22.200

Natural scientist

So with that I mean that might have been more too, because they would basically have to match fund.

00:26:23.290 --> 00:26:26.770

Natural scientist

Forever Forever came from the project for me for my contribution.

00:26:26.050 --> 00:26:26.400

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:26:27.980 --> 00:26:29.270

Natural scientist

And I'm not sure if that was.

00:26:30.620 --> 00:26:33.680

Natural scientist

I mean, it's still quite small amount in the grand scheme of things.

00:26:35.010 --> 00:26:36.940

Natural scientist

And I think what they would have got out of it is.

00:26:37.640 --> 00:26:38.620

Natural scientist

A lot more than.

00:26:39.330 --> 00:26:40.720

Natural scientist

Paul, you would be putting into it.

00:26:42.920 --> 00:26:54.350

Interviewer

Yeah, I suppose it's it's perhaps about them understanding what what those smaller grants can lead to. You know? And I I don't know how often smaller grants are.

00:26:56.350 --> 00:27:07.520

Interviewer

8% or not, and I get the sense with that that it was a bit of money that any else had left over and you know they divided up.

00:27:04.590 --> 00:27:05.020

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:27:07.910 --> 00:27:08.460

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:27:10.000 --> 00:27:10.540

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:27:11.290 --> 00:27:18.760

Interviewer

But yeah, I suppose it's it's. It's understanding that a research collaboration and artist scientist research collaboration could.

00:27:19.400 --> 00:27:22.440

Interviewer

Continue into the future and have much more fruitful.

00:27:22.770 --> 00:27:23.310

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:27:25.220 --> 00:27:30.110

Natural scientist

Not, I mean, not partly comes back to where we were speaking about with understanding each other's.

00:27:31.570 --> 00:27:35.430

Natural scientist

Backgrounds and and the constraints basically sit under.

00:27:37.200 --> 00:27:38.630

Interviewer

Yeah, yeah, definitely.

00:27:40.280 --> 00:27:43.090

Interviewer

Yeah, and and then setting the value of each I think as well.

00:27:45.140 --> 00:27:49.480

Interviewer

That's great, thank you for highlighting that we haven't covered that. So that's that's really good. Thank you.

00:27:50.220 --> 00:27:58.220

Interviewer

And he got anymore. Yes, I'm just with you saying that. I'm just wondering if.

00:27:59.970 --> 00:28:08.270

Interviewer

If we can think of any ways of how to overcome these, you know these barriers or or what are the kind of first steps. Maybe to overcoming these barriers.

00:28:10.570 --> 00:28:12.520

Interviewer

I mean specifically about, you know?

00:28:13.310 --> 00:28:14.490

Interviewer

You're saying that?

00:28:15.430 --> 00:28:16.060

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:28:17.190 --> 00:28:20.830

Interviewer

That science organisations or institutions aren't set up.

00:28:21.610 --> 00:28:37.760

Interviewer

Uh, without scissor court business, so it's something that's put on, you know, sort of either for engaging or you know, So what? What could what could I mean in a, you know, blue sky thinking what could be put in place that might support more of this integrated work?

00:28:39.630 --> 00:28:41.980

Natural scientist

I mean, the easiest thing to do would be to put out.

00:28:44.530 --> 00:28:50.260

Natural scientist

Examples of good, not good practice, but examples where these things have been very successful.

00:28:53.120 --> 00:28:55.080

Natural scientist

To show what can't actually come from them.

00:28:57.520 --> 00:29:00.720

Natural scientist

And the impact? Well, sort of. Different impact they might generate.

00:29:05.410 --> 00:29:10.070

Natural scientist

Which maybe this, maybe along the lines of what you're going to put together, I'm not sure.

00:29:12.100 --> 00:29:13.750

Interviewer

Yeah, hopefully I mean what?

00:29:15.060 --> 00:29:19.530

Interviewer

I guess what's something else we thought would be helpful is.

00:29:20.970 --> 00:29:38.520

Interviewer

More more introductions between arts and science and and spaces and facilitation for them to discuss and talk and and just get to know each other a bit and how they can work together alongside those examples.

00:29:36.970 --> 00:29:37.480

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:29:39.690 --> 00:29:45.520

Natural scientist

Or the other? The other thing that would be good is to have residencies in the in the institutes or their organizations.

00:29:47.130 --> 00:29:48.010

Interviewer

Yeah, that would be fine.

00:29:49.760 --> 00:29:56.540

Interviewer

Yeah, yeah we were talking to another artist through the day. They've done that actually with some engineers, UM.

00:29:59.010 --> 00:30:08.300

Interviewer

Yeah, I mean I don't know. I think it's it's yeah something that would be facilitated as well so that those you know it was quite inactive.

00:30:09.370 --> 00:30:10.260

Interviewer

Yeah, yeah.

00:30:10.580 --> 00:30:36.750

Interviewer

You better watch out what you're saying. You might find someone knocking on your door actually exist. Came out one of the other interests of recruits. Who was she? Was there on Wednesday. She was doing the zoom bits upstairs and and she started working with engineers and what she did was basically means the engineering department at a University and said hey, I really like to hang out with you guys to figure out what it is that you do and and so they said yeah sure we can do it.

00:30:37.770 --> 00:30:39.490

Interviewer

She just ended up being there.

00:30:41.420 --> 00:30:46.080

Natural scientist

And how how did she like fund that what was that way?

00:30:45.160 --> 00:30:45.580

Interviewer

Well.

00:30:46.180 --> 00:30:46.840

Interviewer

She didn't.

00:30:47.450 --> 00:30:48.560

Natural scientist

OK, OK.

00:30:47.630 --> 00:31:05.890

Interviewer

She did so. She has a practice. At that time she had a practice as a as a professional photographer, so she was quote doing for websites or she would photograph people, products and that provided her an income. So that was for her and easy job because she

was, you know could do that almost blindfolded, which he obviously can't. If you have dog but you know what I mean.

00:31:06.320 --> 00:31:20.890

Interviewer

Uh, so yeah, she had a job that could actually pay the bills and then she spent like a couple of days a week or whatever it was in the engineering department. And then that's actually a theme you found is that artist will.

00:31:21.570 --> 00:31:50.110

Interviewer

Do a job that they don't necessarily want to do in order to do the practice that they really want to do that is never paid, but you could you say this is where it gets interesting, and this is where the the the not understanding the system, how it works in the art world. But as xxx could put in a bid to the Arts Council to say we would like an artist in residence to work in the in the organization for a six month period.

00:31:50.170 --> 00:32:06.350

Interviewer

It UM, and just to see what comes out of that and that. Something like that would actually be a strong bid for the Arts Council because it's coming from someone that isn't an arts organization looking to bring arts into it. So that's how it could be funded, and that would be simple and straightforward.

00:32:07.450 --> 00:32:18.990

Interviewer

Want to go back though to the bit you said about the best practice guide. 'cause that's not the first time I've that's been mentioned when we did the xxx project, which is one of the valuing nature UKRI projects.

00:32:19.830 --> 00:32:34.080

Interviewer

At the end of that, we had a number of discussions and it was brought up that you know it be really, really useful to have this kind of deck best practice guide so people can see the impact the arts has and everyone agreed it would be great, and then it was like, well who's gonna write that?

00:32:35.750 --> 00:32:37.070

Interviewer

Who's going to pull that together?

00:32:37.790 --> 00:32:46.820

Interviewer

And it soon became clear that it would probably be best done by an artist or somebody in the arts, but there would be no money for them.

00:32:48.460 --> 00:32:52.380

Interviewer

So then it became really clear that although this is a really good idea.

00:32:53.050 --> 00:33:08.870

Interviewer

Bringing that into the world is actually quite complicated, because unless you've got the funding to pay for someone to sit down and collate all that information, it's really tricky. But I take your point, it you know it's it. It is something that people feel that would be really helpful.

00:33:01.430 --> 00:33:01.870

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:33:05.880 --> 00:33:06.250

Natural scientist

Maybe?

00:33:09.360 --> 00:33:13.370

Natural scientist

I'm not, I'm now looking thinking about it. I'm not sure if best practices.

00:33:14.340 --> 00:33:15.820

Natural scientist

Exactly what I meant 'cause.

00:33:16.760 --> 00:33:18.160

Natural scientist

I think maybe lessons learned.

00:33:18.800 --> 00:33:19.670

Natural scientist

Is more appropriate.

00:33:19.700 --> 00:33:19.960

Interviewer

Hi.

00:33:20.700 --> 00:33:23.560

Natural scientist

'cause best practice sounds like there's one way to do something.

00:33:25.040 --> 00:33:25.500

Natural scientist

Or

00:33:26.320 --> 00:33:29.500

Natural scientist

yeah, kind of optimal way to do something. It might not be the case.

00:33:30.650 --> 00:33:31.830

Interviewer

Yeah, that's very true.

00:33:32.520 --> 00:33:33.060

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:33:34.330 --> 00:33:48.820

Interviewer

Yeah, we were talking to someone else who's who's part of the Treescapes project program and he he thought that there will be actually a whole range of case studies that you could look into coming out of that. That would be useful to put in something like that.

00:33:49.480 --> 00:33:56.850

Interviewer

Uhm, so maybe through through the treescapes program you know there will be money at the end or or.

00:33:57.550 --> 00:33:59.380

Interviewer

Something like that to bring.

00:34:00.100 --> 00:34:01.960

Interviewer

Case studies and learnings together.

00:34:02.630 --> 00:34:10.900

Interviewer

And I guess that's already in his his head or already, so maybe he's thinking of trying to do that, but that would be brilliant.

00:34:12.110 --> 00:34:16.190

Natural scientist

Yeah, I. I think in in our proposal we are. We had some sort of element of.

00:34:17.990 --> 00:34:19.030

Natural scientist

Lessons learned.

00:34:19.770 --> 00:34:20.970

Natural scientist

Pulling together for.

00:34:22.040 --> 00:34:23.830

Natural scientist

Alright, science collaborations?

00:34:24.820 --> 00:34:27.420

Natural scientist

But probably ended up being like one sentence somewhere.

00:34:29.200 --> 00:34:30.300

Natural scientist

Within the constraints.

00:34:30.980 --> 00:34:31.490

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:34:36.210 --> 00:34:38.190

Interviewer

Great and I think.

00:34:39.600 --> 00:34:45.500

Interviewer

Tickets sold goods in less. There's anything else Ki like Xxx collaborator finish typing.

00:34:45.790 --> 00:34:46.260

Natural scientist

You know?

00:34:46.930 --> 00:34:49.750

Natural scientist

I mean, I'm interested to hear more.

00:34:51.460 --> 00:34:58.980

Natural scientist

If totally, you know, flipping the coin and hearing about from the other side, but I don't know if that's part of the part of the interview or the information you need.

00:34:53.450 --> 00:34:53.950

Interviewer

Yes.

00:34:59.840 --> 00:35:08.220

Interviewer

Well, I think to be honest we've gone through all the questions, so we've probably got all the information so we can flip the coin. If you're like, yeah, yeah.

00:35:09.550 --> 00:35:12.600

Interviewer

Which means I'm I'm free, you know not to be typing in the background.

00:35:14.600 --> 00:35:16.480

Natural scientist

'cause you've you've obviously been involved in other.

00:35:17.370 --> 00:35:18.700

Natural scientist

Ecology projects.

00:35:19.910 --> 00:35:20.580

Natural scientist

Uhm?

00:35:21.710 --> 00:35:23.440

Natural scientist

And then there was the treescapes thing.

00:35:25.250 --> 00:35:27.900

Natural scientist

So I I was interested to see how.

00:35:29.010 --> 00:35:32.070

Natural scientist

They kind of arts science, collaboration in treescapes.

00:35:34.020 --> 00:35:39.370

Natural scientist

Sot within your previous projects within so the experience we have previous projects.

00:35:41.660 --> 00:35:45.370

Interviewer

It's an interesting one, and it's a good question because.

00:35:46.300 --> 00:35:49.940

Interviewer

So there's certain you know you can as an artist you can follow the funding.

00:35:50.670 --> 00:36:22.590

Interviewer

And just have separate kind of projects that fit particular funding. Or you can make all of your sort of life by particular enquiries. So for me I've been working in and with trees for donkeys years and and things just sort of stay and become more intriguing so they don't sort of fall off the edge. They sort of still there still there and keep coming back up. And if your practice so it's an artist. My practice is about the environment.

00:36:22.660 --> 00:36:23.870

Interviewer

In quite broad sense.

00:36:24.400 --> 00:36:25.770

Interviewer

Uh, so.

00:36:26.430 --> 00:36:53.220

Interviewer

And it's usually about things that are saying to, yeah, early. It's usually about things that are less attractive that people don't like or don't see or don't really think about it. Like mosquitoes like brownfield sites like soil like Sitka plantations. So these are the kind of things that I'm sort of drawn to. So yeah, I mean for me the treescapes bid fitted in perfectly to a lot of stuff I'd already been doing.

00:36:54.000 --> 00:37:06.170

Interviewer

And then having worked, I mean I did the PhD in environmental science as well, so I was used to kind of like an academic language and and and and, uh, environmental science, way of doing things. So like your methodologies.

00:37:06.850 --> 00:37:19.040

Interviewer

Your hypothesis, and you know the whole things that you were saying, like this set of things you supposed to do. But I went into that pH D. As a as an agitator. If you like to see if I could disrupt it.

00:37:19.970 --> 00:37:26.180

Interviewer

So it was. It was a challenge in at times. It was great fun and at times it was just a bloody nightmare.

00:37:26.770 --> 00:37:32.830

Interviewer

But it was to see how far I could push, you know, being an artist doing an environmental science course.

00:37:33.500 --> 00:37:40.420

Interviewer

Uhm, and there were things that were quite easy to do and then other things that were completely no. No. So I wasn't allowed to do any teaching.

00:37:41.190 --> 00:37:57.300

Interviewer

It's all, UM, so most PhD students are allowed to do or encouraged to do some teaching, but I wasn't allowed to do anything, and it was also difficult when it came to like if my professor wanted to write a paper, then I I wasn't a good fit for him.

00:37:59.150 --> 00:38:09.340

Interviewer

So it was. It was interesting, but I so I guess working with scientists and trying to push it, I think that's probably why I asked the question. What could we do and why it would be so exciting to have?

00:38:09.950 --> 00:38:25.030

Interviewer

Are residents in an arts institute in a science institution? Because, again, it's kind of like pushing at the edges and pushing the boundaries and and actually seeing if we can expand rather than forever kind of blink. Ring ourselves and focus in in, in, in, in, in.

00:38:31.050 --> 00:38:31.530

Natural scientist

OK.

00:38:35.620 --> 00:38:38.730

Interviewer

I've also interviewed xxxx so so with that.

00:38:35.690 --> 00:38:36.240

Natural scientist

Did you?

00:38:40.010 --> 00:38:43.900

Interviewer

So again, it'll be different next time I say it's still recording very.

00:38:45.410 --> 00:38:52.300

Natural scientist

Was it? Was it frustrating in terms of maybe not the TREESCAPES, but other issues? Was it frustrating having to deal with?

00:38:53.440 --> 00:38:54.130

Natural scientist

And.

00:38:55.010 --> 00:38:57.400

Natural scientist

Their organizational constraints on the science side.

00:38:58.710 --> 00:39:00.310

Natural scientist

In terms of funding and.

00:39:01.060 --> 00:39:02.670

Natural scientist

Overheads and all these sort of things.

00:39:04.650 --> 00:39:05.030

Interviewer

Uh.

00:39:05.320 --> 00:39:07.890

Interviewer

Well, I was involved in two as you know.

00:39:08.850 --> 00:39:14.420

Interviewer

Uh, if the those writing those projects, UM, those bids, and.

00:39:15.040 --> 00:39:24.160

Interviewer

The one that one I worked with her on with you was was a joy to do because you were so open and.

00:39:24.950 --> 00:39:39.840

Interviewer

You know, quite excited about you know what? What art could bring to the research and the rest of the team also seemed very open, and we're offering other things that could feed into that. So other thoughts of collaboration kind of came about through that whole process of writing it.

00:39:40.500 --> 00:39:48.090

Interviewer

And you were also really open about my, you know the fee and you actually added extra in because you thought all you might need extra time for this.

00:39:48.730 --> 00:40:20.630

Interviewer

So you know, so gutted when we didn't get it, 'cause somebody that was good have been like a perfect project, but the other one I was working on was was difficult and in the end I stepped right back from that because it was a real challenge. They didn't really see what the arts could do, they just wanted the arts to either illustrate or do the community engagement bits and they didn't understand why. Why the budget for the arts seemed so high even though they had three artists working on it, they couldn't get their heads around why it was so high, but in the broad scheme of things.

00:40:21.080 --> 00:40:25.830

Interviewer

It was a tiny percentage of the overall bid, but for them it seemed like a lot.

00:40:26.540 --> 00:40:37.030

Interviewer

They couldn't understand why we wanted things in like, you know, uh, materials budget for things that may or may not happen. So what was that, you know, why? Why couldn't we be more specific on that?

00:40:37.910 --> 00:40:38.560

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:40:39.480 --> 00:40:46.980

Interviewer

Yeah, and it really felt like it was a tag on. It really felt like to to answer the brief fully they needed arts in there.

00:40:48.290 --> 00:40:50.840

Interviewer

But they didn't actually want arts in there.

00:40:52.750 --> 00:40:53.820

Interviewer

They weren't embracing it.

00:40:54.460 --> 00:40:54.910

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:40:55.720 --> 00:41:00.910

Interviewer

I see that's that's when it comes back to personality, isn't it? Because it it really matters.

00:41:01.600 --> 00:41:05.130

Interviewer

Here you're working with on a personal relationship level.

00:41:05.890 --> 00:41:10.720

Interviewer

And how you connect. But I also think that had a lot to do with UM.

00:41:11.560 --> 00:41:41.070

Interviewer

'cause they were lot older. The other team we're a lot older so I was like the youngest in the other team and I think in your team I was the eldest but, but so I think that has something to do with it when people have done things in a certain way for a long period of time they become slightly set in their ways and they become that that sort of like almost like the guardians of the discipline in effect. So they they want to make sure that the discipline holds true and I and I just felt that there was no. So I felt it was more to do with that with the academic structures.

00:41:41.890 --> 00:41:43.770

Interviewer

Then the personality.

00:41:44.960 --> 00:41:49.440

Interviewer

You know they they might have like really welcomed me into the fold if we were at for a drink.

00:41:51.040 --> 00:41:58.120

Interviewer

But welcome into this sort of scientific fold for a research project was more complicated for them.

00:41:58.970 --> 00:41:59.420

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:42:00.820 --> 00:42:03.380

Natural scientist

One one thing I really liked her treescapes thing was.

00:42:04.800 --> 00:42:10.590

Natural scientist

The idea of this event where you have a feast and you use that and have different.

00:42:11.400 --> 00:42:13.300

Natural scientist

Visualization things going on and.

00:42:13.990 --> 00:42:17.220

Natural scientist

Events within the event. That was one thing that really appealed.

00:42:19.350 --> 00:42:19.610

Interviewer

Right?

00:42:20.340 --> 00:42:25.210

Natural scientist

And yeah, food foods are great. Like the pie, food is just a little more.

00:42:23.730 --> 00:42:25.150

Interviewer

But people were left made.

00:42:28.850 --> 00:42:29.510

Interviewer

Definitely.

00:42:31.040 --> 00:42:35.270

Natural scientist

Am I suppose? Yeah, if I if I asked the same question about.

00:42:36.390 --> 00:42:38.560

Natural scientist

Like put his art then puts.

00:42:39.610 --> 00:42:40.460

Natural scientist

What is art?

00:42:42.390 --> 00:42:48.350

Interviewer

I've thought about this one long and hard 'cause it's one of those questions that nobody actually knows the answer to, and it's a bit like saying what is nature?

00:42:48.960 --> 00:42:49.420

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:42:49.640 --> 00:43:14.850

Interviewer

That's the nearest comparison that I can think because people will have so many different views on what nature is up, and it's the same with art, but one of the things I will say is that contemporary art practice. This is where it gets easier to discern. Contemporary art practice is cutting edge, so it's at the forefront. It's the ones that are pushing the edges and creating new knowledge and creating new things so that.

00:43:15.650 --> 00:43:36.210

Interviewer

That's what contemporary arts practice isn't, but it can be anything, so it can be anything from film. It can still be painting, even though paintings are very traditional medium. But as long as you know like your enquiry is really going where no one else has really been before. And in that sense, it's very much, I think, like science.

00:43:37.190 --> 00:43:42.830

Interviewer

So that's why it's quite or can be quite insulting when somebody wants to push you to illustrate stuff.

00:43:43.530 --> 00:43:55.300

Interviewer

Because you're not pushing anything forward, you're not. You know, the brain is not being used at the brain of the artist. The imagination that the artist is not being utilized. It's literally the skill.

00:43:56.670 --> 00:43:58.240

Interviewer

And there's a big difference in.

00:43:59.190 --> 00:44:13.240

Interviewer

You know the skill has been able to, you know, do something and how to unpick to question to inquire to reimagine to reform to represent is is something that you need this for.

00:44:15.580 --> 00:44:18.200

Natural scientist

When you, when you've got a new idea or a new.

00:44:19.130 --> 00:44:23.970

Natural scientist

Project or whatever deep for these. Start with you. Start with the fly or do you start with a?

00:44:25.630 --> 00:44:28.100

Natural scientist

Situation or a place or.

00:44:29.920 --> 00:44:31.350

Natural scientist

I'm asking that because.

00:44:32.240 --> 00:44:34.100

Natural scientist

Thinking when we chatted at the event.

00:44:34.770 --> 00:44:35.830

Natural scientist

OK, there's things.

00:44:36.760 --> 00:44:38.490

Natural scientist

I'm thinking about I'd like to do.

00:44:39.710 --> 00:44:42.220

Natural scientist

Uhm, there's less about why.

00:44:43.150 --> 00:44:50.050

Natural scientist

I'm not quite sure if it's if it's coming from science or if it's coming from just something that's more artistic and creative.

00:44:51.210 --> 00:44:53.190

Natural scientist

And things will come from it.

00:44:54.010 --> 00:44:57.110

Natural scientist

Eventually, if it happened, if they happened.

00:44:58.580 --> 00:45:00.170

Natural scientist

So I mean, I'm intrigued to see.

00:45:01.810 --> 00:45:04.050

Natural scientist

Yeah, where things come from words it star.

00:45:05.940 --> 00:45:14.830

Interviewer

Husband I have talked about this and and for us it's because he's an artist as well. For us it's it often is the OR.

00:45:16.120 --> 00:45:31.740

Interviewer

And we find that a lot with working with different scientists as well, there's like an or of

something like and it can be wow, you know, look at that or what is that or how is that doing that so it can. It can be any of those things, but it's just awesome.

00:45:32.380 --> 00:45:32.880

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:45:33.580 --> 00:45:59.470

Interviewer

And then you might have all the other questions so you know why is it awesome? But I've also found that I'm not much of a why I don't think I'm much of a why person, but I did work with the botanist for a long time. Who who always ask them why, so should say so. And why are you doing it like that? I'm why is it like this? So she kept asking why's, which I found quite interesting 'cause until working with her, I don't think I'd ever really bothered with the why's.

00:46:03.540 --> 00:46:04.690

Natural scientist

What were you interviewer?

00:46:06.550 --> 00:46:11.240

Interviewer

in terms of being an artist.

00:46:12.020 --> 00:46:12.540

Interviewer

Or

00:46:14.110 --> 00:46:15.780

Natural scientist

And yeah, I guess so.

00:46:15.830 --> 00:46:16.190

Natural scientist

Cool.

00:46:16.880 --> 00:46:20.770

Interviewer

so? Well OK so.

00:46:22.010 --> 00:46:40.750

Interviewer

I went to study science and then have I feel like I've been clawing my way back to art because I think I'm really not a scientist and and then I learned I learned storytelling to be able to talk to people about soil, because soil is one of those. Well, things where you just like Oh my God.

00:46:41.870 --> 00:46:54.830

Interviewer

It's not at all just brown stuff like there's just so much going on in there that's incomprehensible and wanting to know more about that and then wanting to share that passion. I think with people, UM.

00:46:55.480 --> 00:46:59.140

Interviewer

And I and I and I think, actually storytelling was like.

00:47:00.090 --> 00:47:19.630

Interviewer

Is it weird? It's I think it's something that I could understand how it worked, but like as an artist? Because I've not had time to develop. That is, I've not had time to develop a process. I don't know what to do like. I know I can. I can draw and I can draw quite fine detail.

00:47:20.260 --> 00:47:25.570

Interviewer

But I want it to be like so much more than that, but I just don't even know.

00:47:26.220 --> 00:47:31.360

Interviewer

Where to start. So storytelling was kind of like oh, it's an art form and.

00:47:32.230 --> 00:47:38.120

Interviewer

It was exciting and you know, it's a way of connecting with people and creating a conversation.

00:47:38.780 --> 00:47:43.290

Interviewer

That I didn't really feel like my drawings could do.

00:47:44.540 --> 00:47:46.240

Interviewer

Sorry it's a bit waffly.

00:47:47.750 --> 00:47:49.690

Interviewer

But yeah, so.

00:47:50.450 --> 00:48:07.190

Interviewer

I think I've I've just. I feel like I've just been lucky and falling into the treescapes project with Xxx collaborator who's just like like totally opened up my perspective of what art is and how you can do it in a completely different way that is very engaging and.

00:48:08.270 --> 00:48:08.740

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:48:10.260 --> 00:48:13.680

Interviewer

Yeah, so I'm on the fringe of that now and then I've.

00:48:14.290 --> 00:48:30.230

Interviewer

'cause I've got this fellowship, I'm lucky enough to kind of build some of that way of working into the fellowship, but it's all. Yeah, it's all untested, so I guess that you know it'll be interesting to see how it it comes out in practice.

00:48:29.820 --> 00:48:30.240

Natural scientist

Yes.

00:48:31.830 --> 00:48:35.840

Natural scientist

I, I guess I'm asking for myself. Personal point of view, thinking about.

00:48:37.340 --> 00:48:40.050

Natural scientist

How I can start to embark on some of these things?

00:48:41.110 --> 00:48:46.850

Natural scientist

And whether there's a good starting point or whether you just do something and then see what happens.

00:48:48.060 --> 00:48:57.270

Interviewer

I feel like they're doing something is is what I'm hearing a lot. I'm just try it. Just do it and actually, yeah, like we were saying last week.

00:48:57.860 --> 00:49:03.560

Interviewer

Taking a day off from work, dropping a day is really helped me just to.

00:49:04.500 --> 00:49:22.840

Interviewer

To like, expand a bit into that because I can just. I mean it's still I do a bit of storytelling practice and I do a bit of an illustration stuff, but even with the illustration, it's like I've always wanted to do really big pieces because I think they grab people, UM.

00:49:23.940 --> 00:49:34.990

Interviewer

And I do like doing detailed work so it was a way for me to like just play with that. Just combine it with different materials and different. You know it's like rubbing soil into paper and.

00:49:36.400 --> 00:49:50.170

Interviewer

It's yeah, it's really just I've just thought so I don't. I'm just gonna do it even if it even if it looks rubbish I don't care I'm just gonna do it and I think giving yourself that freedom to not care what something in the end like looks like or is.

00:49:50.780 --> 00:49:51.200

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:49:50.860 --> 00:49:54.220

Interviewer

Really helps, yeah, did the.

00:49:55.220 --> 00:49:57.400

Interviewer

To being in the park. Impact on that.

00:49:59.020 --> 00:50:17.260

Interviewer

Yeah, I guess it did, but maybe like an unconscious way. Yeah, I think. I think storytelling is help with it because you have to. I mean, it's not necessarily have to go down this line of doing it, but you have to face people you know and you have to perform and it's really terrifying.

00:50:18.660 --> 00:50:31.000

Interviewer

So you have to, you know you have to be in a space where you're interacting with people, even if I guess you're putting on a mask and you're being something other than yourself, potentially, UM.

00:50:31.920 --> 00:50:45.560

Interviewer

Yeah, it's still a way of like breaking things open and and maybe like pushing yourself out of your comfort zone is a, you know it's a good thing really? Because it it does open you up to what you can do.

00:50:46.440 --> 00:50:49.740

Interviewer

Even if you know, yeah, I think that's just quite a.

00:50:50.670 --> 00:50:55.270

Interviewer

Being out of your comfort zone is a good way of developing herself in general, I think.

00:50:55.560 --> 00:50:56.000

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:50:57.340 --> 00:50:59.000

Natural scientist

In some ways, and I like to.

00:50:59.890 --> 00:51:02.970

Natural scientist

Like I said, I like to try and see what else is going on out there.

00:51:04.400 --> 00:51:10.760

Natural scientist

But in in another in another way I'd quite like to firm up, if I come up with ideas.

00:51:11.820 --> 00:51:16.640

Natural scientist

I'd like it not to be too influenced by what out what other people are also doing.

00:51:17.780 --> 00:51:29.680

Natural scientist

'cause I I don't know to what extent. Subconsciously you're just copying ideas or or. I guess we're all kind of stealing little bits of ideas from all over the place, but I'd quite like ideas to come from.

00:51:31.720 --> 00:51:32.120

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:51:33.000 --> 00:51:35.670

Interviewer

When I graduated UM.

00:51:36.500 --> 00:51:40.190

Interviewer

From university for my undergraduate, maybe a which was in Creative Arts.

00:51:40.800 --> 00:51:43.080

Interviewer

And took up a studio I.

00:51:43.730 --> 00:51:47.900

Interviewer

I took a conscious decision not to go to any art gallery's.

00:51:48.480 --> 00:52:11.270

Interviewer

Not to read any art books and not to engage at all in the art scene because of that very reason, I knew that I'd been influenced throughout my undergraduate and my, you know, foundation, and I wanted to find out what Xxx collaborator's art was and what Xxx collaborator would do without looking at others. And so I spent. I think it's about 18 months.

00:52:12.080 --> 00:52:12.720

Interviewer

Just.

00:52:13.450 --> 00:52:15.150

Interviewer

Doing stuff in my studio.

00:52:17.870 --> 00:52:20.430

Interviewer

So I understand where you're coming from with that.

00:52:21.460 --> 00:52:23.910

Natural scientist

It's an especially not, especially because.

00:52:25.390 --> 00:52:26.360

Natural scientist

It's quite new.

00:52:27.010 --> 00:52:29.530

Natural scientist

I think there's the danger of being influenced.

00:52:30.130 --> 00:52:32.630

Natural scientist

A lot by what's what, what else is going on?

00:52:35.500 --> 00:52:39.510

Interviewer

Yeah, that's true. Do you have artist friends like?

00:52:40.810 --> 00:52:41.720

Natural scientist

No.

00:52:43.120 --> 00:52:43.490

Natural scientist

No.

00:52:45.090 --> 00:52:46.380

Natural scientist

I know, I know, some artists.

00:52:46.430 --> 00:52:46.690

Natural scientist

So.

00:52:47.850 --> 00:52:51.790

Natural scientist

I wouldn't. The group Associates, maybe not friends.

00:52:53.480 --> 00:53:13.230

Interviewer

Uh, yeah, I see. Like that's good point because I think so I moved to xxxx, UM, which is quite an arty place to be, is full of artists actually and UM, and that coincided with this job. And then, you know, going going part time and, UM.

00:53:14.490 --> 00:53:34.640

Interviewer

Yeah, I've got artist friends through living there. Well, that I've collaborated with, you know, mostly doing storytelling, but uhm, that did really provide like a real motivation to want to do it. See, you know, seeing them doing their work, and even though it's quite different to mine, I was just like, oh, you know.

00:53:35.640 --> 00:53:37.600

Interviewer

It provided a post, I think.

00:53:38.290 --> 00:53:40.830

Interviewer

Yeah, I would imagine in isolation.

00:53:41.630 --> 00:53:43.860

Interviewer

It's really tough, UM.

00:53:44.570 --> 00:54:09.880

Interviewer

And there's a lot you know there's so much to be gained and throughout life, from peer learning, from learning from your peers and with your peers and being around other artists and creatives, you you know you can have conversations about what you're doing. And you can support each other. You can show your work to different, you know to them, and know that you get a good critique on it or your ideas. And I think that that's really, really helpful.

00:54:09.930 --> 00:54:24.380

Interviewer

So, uhm and likewise mentors, I think can be really, really useful as well, but I think being in isolation with it is it? It could be like that could be really tough. Where do you live ?

00:54:24.780 --> 00:54:25.880

Natural scientist

Yeah, yeah.

00:54:25.600 --> 00:54:29.320

Interviewer

There's quite. There's quite a thriving art scene in xxxx, isn't there?

00:54:29.660 --> 00:54:32.520

Natural scientist

It is quite good. Yeah, yeah does.

00:54:34.670 --> 00:54:38.160

Natural scientist

There's a few gallery's there's lot Lords of events that go on.

00:54:39.740 --> 00:54:40.770

Natural scientist

All throughout the year.

00:54:42.740 --> 00:54:44.240

Natural scientist

Certainly in terms of visual stuff.

00:54:45.440 --> 00:54:45.840

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:54:46.750 --> 00:54:48.670

Natural scientist

It's good music festival as well.

00:54:52.310 --> 00:54:59.910

Interviewer

Maybe, maybe if they have like an open studios you could go along and and get chatting to to some artists and just say look this is my position and.

00:55:01.060 --> 00:55:21.080

Interviewer

Yeah, I don't know. I mean like I, I find I find the question of are meant to actually just like in the in the world in general, like it's it's something that I feel that society everyone like really needs a mentor for life in general and it's just something that our structure of society isn't set up 'cause it's difficult to ask her mentor like.

00:55:21.820 --> 00:55:31.240

Interviewer

I was I was thinking you could go along and talk to people and see if there's someone that could meant to you, but it it's very difficult to ask for that and it's difficult to provide that, I think.

00:55:32.010 --> 00:55:32.620

Interviewer

Uhm?

00:55:33.820 --> 00:55:48.810

Interviewer

Sorry, that doesn't help, but I just I. I feel like there's this 'cause it, you know it's it's the same with anything like my brother stuck stuck in an engineering job that he doesn't really want to do, but he's got no way out, you know? And and and there's no one to meant to him to.

00:55:36.750 --> 00:55:37.480

Natural scientist

This person.

00:55:49.410 --> 00:55:55.340

Interviewer

Help him get out of that, you know or like before he even made that decision, you know.

00:55:56.050 --> 00:56:04.220

Interviewer

We don't really have. We've got like teachers and parents, but they don't really equal mentor, so the tricky one.

00:56:02.710 --> 00:56:03.100

Natural scientist

Yeah.

00:56:05.900 --> 00:56:06.540

Natural scientist

They don't get.

00:56:06.030 --> 00:56:06.770

Interviewer

Maybe not.

00:56:07.400 --> 00:56:08.330

Interviewer

I'm sorry I didn't go on.

00:56:08.490 --> 00:56:10.880

Natural scientist

Don't don't get me wrong, I love doing science.

00:56:11.510 --> 00:56:12.080

Natural scientist

Uhm?

00:56:13.240 --> 00:56:16.250

Natural scientist

In this of creative side of science and.

00:56:17.550 --> 00:56:18.670

Natural scientist

Thinking about how to.

00:56:19.360 --> 00:56:31.010

Natural scientist

Ask questions and answer questions and come up with experiments or sampling designs and then the other side of it is like playing about with lots of data and trying to visualize it. Really enjoy that side of things.

00:56:32.690 --> 00:56:34.100

Natural scientist

But as you kind of move up.

00:56:35.840 --> 00:56:40.850

Natural scientist

in the organization you just end up becoming more of a a manager than.

00:56:41.770 --> 00:56:43.290

Natural scientist

Then a scientist I guess.

00:56:44.230 --> 00:56:48.650

Natural scientist

So I'm trying to stay away from that if I can.

00:56:48.470 --> 00:56:49.750

Interviewer

Yeah, give me a promotion.

00:56:53.150 --> 00:56:56.210

Natural scientist

Give me the money but not the management responsibility.

00:56:56.770 --> 00:56:57.040

Interviewer

Yeah.

00:57:01.180 --> 00:57:08.630

Interviewer

And I just wanna eat, move it on a bit 'cause you wanted. You sent me the email saying you wanted to talk a bit about this idea of a cooperative.

00:57:08.820 --> 00:57:09.910

Natural scientist

Oh yeah, yeah.

00:57:11.930 --> 00:57:12.730

Interviewer

So I mean.

00:57:13.650 --> 00:57:21.450

Interviewer

So the idea. So I haven't really got an idea. I've just got this. The beginnings of I bits of threads of things that might happen.

00:57:22.400 --> 00:57:44.240

Interviewer

Uhm, but one of the things that's kind of making me think that this is a good way forward is is that I know people and and now you're in that people bit who who are wanting to pursue things or do things. But there's certain obstacles in the way or certain things that could be could be better.

00:57:44.430 --> 00:58:08.540

Interviewer

I'm I'm so the idea of having a cooperative is to bring together a core of people around six to eight people who have all got a similar passion for something. So environment, you know, within the environment and within creativity and collaborating. So it's very much about the collaboration they are, you know Arts and Sciences, kind of collaborative ways of working.

00:58:09.200 --> 00:58:13.540

Interviewer

Uhm, and again I get that idea of pushing boundaries and changing systems.

00:58:14.990 --> 00:58:20.780

Interviewer

And then this this cooperative of these individuals. So this cohort of individuals.

00:58:21.470 --> 00:58:29.080

Interviewer

Would then be kind of connected through practice through passion through ethos and stuff like that and be able to kind of develop ideas or project.

00:58:29.740 --> 00:58:45.570

Interviewer

What's really difficult about being an independent artist? There are several things that complicated about being an independent, independent artists, but one of the things is we're we're really constrained by by funding, so there's there's not a lot of funding open to individual artists.

00:58:46.490 --> 00:59:07.190

Interviewer

Uhm, there's like really tiny small pots aren't worth bothering going for or there's Arts Council, which is like super super competitive because too many people are going for two little money. But if you're an organization you've got way, way, way more funding opportunities that you can go for. So I was looking at one recently which was from the British Council.

00:59:07.870 --> 00:59:37.480

Interviewer

Ummm, but you had to be, you know, uh constituted organization with a bank account, blah blah, blah. So there's there's things that stand in the way of an individual artist developing things in an exciting way. Or a scientist developing things in an exciting way. So the idea of the coop is that we could actually pull the knowledge and resources that we have. So as you know, working cooperative and and that my past.

00:59:38.000 --> 00:59:59.670

Interviewer

Work and experiences then becomes part of the co-ops. So as a as a collective of six or eight people, we can say when we put in a funding bid together, we've had. We've done this, that, and the other. We just had the XY and Z impact, so actually multiplying the impact because the organization is all of those people.

01:00:01.000 --> 01:00:26.470

Interviewer

And then also everything that we get from the work we do. So when we write the evaluations at the end. So I'm being positive here, we're going to get the money. You're right, you're valuations at the end. You do your audience numbers, your visitor numbers, or whatever. You know statue going to do for your funding. That also goes into the co-ops Bank of data for the next bid, so you could actually get the coop to be quite productive, but not.

01:00:27.120 --> 01:00:47.700

Interviewer

Not Commission not necessary. Not like an organization like in situ where we'd Commission other artists, but as people who are self driven and self initiated and want to make things happen and will make those things happen and that we could be supportive of one another to make sure that things are happening. So that's the nub of the idea of the coop.

01:00:48.890 --> 01:01:19.500

Interviewer

And then the other thing about a coop. Any organization is you need somebody to do the admin staff. So who's going to do the books? Who's going to be the Treasurer and all that kind of crap? So the idea I've got for that is that when people join the Co-op, they pay a day rate to join. So we've decided what the day rate was. Let's say it's £350.00, so everyone pays £350.00. So then you've got an amount of money in the bank that either can be used as.

01:01:20.020 --> 01:01:43.860

Interviewer

Funding so we could use that as much funding for something, or that money would then be used and and that money would also be used to pay an accountant and somebody to keep the books so that the the pressure doesn't fall on the you know, an individual in the coop, but and then right from the start you kind of have that kind of financial resource and then from every job that we do. So let's say you get a project.

01:01:45.800 --> 01:01:48.000

Interviewer

And you're paid 350 a day.

01:01:49.130 --> 01:02:14.500

Interviewer

Then from that day rate you would put a percentage into the coop and everybody would would all put percentage into the coop. UM, and that that money that's then there again

connectors match funding for another bid. You have to put the match funding back or you know they have to work. Work out how that works, but and and it would continue to pay for somebody to do all of the admin which will get bigger. The more work that the individuals in the coop are doing.

01:02:15.700 --> 01:02:16.150

Natural scientist

OK.

01:02:17.370 --> 01:02:18.180

Natural scientist

Sounds interesting.

01:02:19.370 --> 01:02:21.910

Natural scientist

Yeah yeah, I mean to me that sounds good.

01:02:22.710 --> 01:02:25.030

Natural scientist

It's quite exciting and like.

01:02:24.140 --> 01:02:29.150

Interviewer

It is quite exciting. It is quite exciting and I think, UM.

01:02:30.480 --> 01:02:38.390

Interviewer

The other thing about being an artist that isn't that is negative is that we're in a hierarchical system. The artist is at the bottom.

01:02:39.060 --> 01:03:09.360

Interviewer

So there's like the big funders, who then pay the organisations, the organisations who then decide they want to Commission an artist who put out a brief all of the artists supply and one of them will get it. But what they're getting is like what's left of the funding after it's come through the system. And and I get really annoyed with that because that none of you know the the organisations wouldn't exist without the artists. If every artist went on strike for a year, then those organisations would fold because they haven't, they can't do it themselves, they are dependent on the artists.

01:02:54.450 --> 01:02:54.840

Natural scientist

Yeah.

01:03:09.890 --> 01:03:39.630

Interviewer

But the artists are right at the bottom of that hierarchy and were kept there because of the system that's in place in the system that's in place is so strong. And that's why I think by creating a coop and I, my vision would be that lots of artists do this, and that lots of Co-op start emerging. But by creating a Co-op you're cutting out that middle layer, or you're making that middle layer work in a way that's far more for the arts and less about the feeding of the organization. So there's a political kind of drive in that as well.

01:03:39.950 --> 01:03:41.460

Interviewer

And it's actually for artists.

01:03:42.320 --> 01:03:52.490

Interviewer

Uhm, to reclaim some of, you know, it's actually not even to reclaim it, but to see it to understand how much, how much power we've got.

01:03:53.180 --> 01:03:54.870

Interviewer

And how necessary we are.

01:03:56.270 --> 01:03:57.060

Interviewer

So that's another.

01:03:56.400 --> 01:03:56.810

Natural scientist

So.

01:03:57.480 --> 01:04:01.260

Natural scientist

Yeah, or the other quite low of organizations out there that.

01:04:02.940 --> 01:04:07.900

Natural scientist

Take a bigger slice than they need to before passing it on in commissions.

01:04:08.500 --> 01:04:09.110

Interviewer

Most.

01:04:10.670 --> 01:04:14.760

Interviewer

Most so most of them have got regular funding.

01:04:16.140 --> 01:04:25.540

Interviewer

Yeah, the balance that there's a complete imbalance, so you could pay an organization anything from £130,000 a year to £300,000 a year, just for the staff.

01:04:26.790 --> 01:04:43.240

Interviewer

Just for the staffing costs and the young costs and the PR costs and the marketing costs and hospitality and and this that and the other and arts budget is usually a very small fraction of that overall budget. So you've got this big machine that needs to be fed.

01:04:45.960 --> 01:04:46.440

Natural scientist

Yep.

01:04:48.330 --> 01:04:49.610

Natural scientist

It's the same in science.

01:04:49.810 --> 01:05:00.020

Interviewer

Yeah, it it. It most likely is yeah. I mean exactly anything like that. I mean, this is yeah, it be the same in in education as well, but it's like.

01:05:01.210 --> 01:05:02.900

Interviewer

Uh, yeah.

01:05:04.160 --> 01:05:20.690

Interviewer

So it is. It's kind of like how do you actually hide? You actually shift that? And how do you actually make it work for you? I mean the irony is like that's why in situ started 'cause they you know that was three people going right. Let's get that, you know, let's claim that back. Let's you know, make things happen and it was brilliant.

01:05:21.380 --> 01:05:21.990

Interviewer

Uhm?

01:05:23.100 --> 01:05:43.120

Interviewer

Up to a point when we realized that we needed other, you know when we started to Commission people or we brought other people in and became more of an organization and then the energy went on paint. You know, finding money to pay the salary of somebody rather than how we initially started, which was find the money to pay for.

01:05:43.790 --> 01:05:45.790

Interviewer

Made my colleagues to do some art.

01:05:46.070 --> 01:05:46.540

Natural scientist

Miller

01:05:46.990 --> 01:05:52.030

Interviewer

And so it is a coop like a second round of. Or how can we do this differently?

01:05:52.100 --> 01:05:54.970

Interviewer

Umm yeah that's pretty interesting, yeah.

01:05:56.550 --> 01:06:28.020

Interviewer

Yeah, 'cause I kind of know I know how xxxx ended up going down that particular route. UM, and now it's completely different 'cause they get core funding and it and it is an organization there it's it's operating as an organization. You're like. No, that's not what was supposed to happen, but it's completely understandable how that's happened and probably completely right for wearing, you know, four in section where they are, but for me as an artist, it's like just created another bloody organization that wasn't the plan.

01:05:57.110 --> 01:05:57.430

Natural scientist

this.

01:06:28.320 --> 01:06:28.640

Interviewer

Yeah.

01:06:29.980 --> 01:06:33.370

Natural scientist

So a cooperative is that I kind of defined.

01:06:34.320 --> 01:06:39.150

Natural scientist

Structure that's somewhere between a business and A and a charity or something like this.

01:06:35.650 --> 01:06:36.060

Interviewer

Yeah.

01:06:40.540 --> 01:06:56.530

Interviewer

Yes, a cooperative. Yes. That's probably a very good way of putting it. So it is a business, so it has to report to Companies House and and it acts. It's it's non for profit, usually nonprofit. So all of the money goes back into the cooperative.

01:06:57.180 --> 01:07:18.150

Interviewer

And and it's one of these where everybody is an equal. So in a cooperative you have to figure out ways of of working collectively. You have to work out ways of addressing conflict, because there is no leader. There is no hierarchy. There isn't a line manager, so you've got no one to go to. You have to work that out together. So I think laying the foundations of a Co-op.

01:07:18.840 --> 01:07:26.470

Interviewer

Uhm, is potentially more work than just setting up a business 'cause those those people in the coop haft.

01:07:27.510 --> 01:07:28.990

Interviewer

I got somebody walking.

01:07:30.620 --> 01:07:31.580

Interviewer

Very far away.

01:07:32.490 --> 01:07:35.470

Interviewer

I was trying to distract us and thanks for being too much work.

01:07:37.660 --> 01:07:44.190

Interviewer

So yeah, you have to you have to sort all of those things out and then and then you kind of just, you know, everyone gets paid the same, UM.

01:07:45.250 --> 01:07:59.220

Interviewer

And Euro supposed to have the same kind of input into the cooperative as in like you know, everyone was supposed to sort of. What is the word is it? Does it carry young waiting it? Brothers likes brushing his shoulder responsibility? Yeah, yeah.

01:08:00.190 --> 01:08:09.920

Interviewer

Something like carrying anything, so that's that's kind of how that works. Yeah, you could have other structures like MCI CS, Community Interest Corporation and.

01:08:09.850 --> 01:08:10.290

Natural scientist

Yeah.

01:08:10.840 --> 01:08:25.390

Interviewer

Yeah, I know I know a few growers who are setting up that kind of either CICR community

benefit society. I think they're all just slightly different and then the funding you can apply for is all slightly different depending on what structure you.

01:08:26.270 --> 01:08:36.060

Interviewer

You take but things like see I see you have to report to another body. So with a coop it's just Companies House that's just basically making sure your taxes are done.

01:08:36.810 --> 01:08:53.590

Interviewer

Uh, you tax returns, but I see I see you there, you don't have support reports or Commission who then make sure that you're doing something that is off community interest or as a Co-op. As long as the cooperative is acting like I guess in a sort of socialist sort of away then.

01:08:55.020 --> 01:08:56.100

Interviewer

Yeah no nobody.

01:08:56.870 --> 01:08:58.690

Interviewer

Nope, nobody kind of police, is it?

01:08:59.510 --> 01:08:59.920

Natural scientist

Yeah.

01:09:01.420 --> 01:09:05.580

Natural scientist

Yeah, there's some. There's some CCS in xxxx to do with.

01:09:06.390 --> 01:09:08.110

Natural scientist

Food growing in food networks.

01:09:11.090 --> 01:09:13.540

Interviewer

Yeah, I think it's a good way for them to get some funding.

01:09:11.340 --> 01:09:11.740

Natural scientist

Awesome.

01:09:15.040 --> 01:09:20.450

Natural scientist

So I had assumed that was to do with it. Kind of had to be localized in some way.

01:09:21.970 --> 01:09:23.450

Natural scientist

You have to define the community.

01:09:23.830 --> 01:09:34.770

Interviewer

Yeah they have to define the community and and prove that they are of benefit to the community and that's why they've got back this kind of you know board that they have to report to.

01:09:35.050 --> 01:09:35.430

Natural scientist

Yeah.

01:09:36.970 --> 01:09:44.890

Interviewer

But I mean like xxxx organisation. It's just set up as a business and we've only ever been set up as a business, so we're not a charity, and we're not see, I see.

01:09:45.580 --> 01:09:46.210

Interviewer

Uhm?

01:09:47.250 --> 01:09:53.590

Interviewer

But we are a nonprofit organization and that's written into the articles, which means we can apply for.

01:09:54.240 --> 01:10:08.920

Interviewer

All the other funding anyone else can apply for, apart from funding that is specifically aimed at charities. And when we've looked at it and we've looked at it with a business manager, they've always said it's not worth your while becoming a charity because you end up with more work.

01:10:09.510 --> 01:10:12.800

Interviewer

Uhm, and you know there's always a risk you're not going to get the funding or.

01:10:14.430 --> 01:10:22.240

Interviewer

You doing OK as you are? Why do you need to change the structure to get funding that you don't actually need and might not get anyway?

01:10:23.110 --> 01:10:23.720

Interviewer

Interesting.

01:10:27.460 --> 01:10:28.480

Natural scientist

Yeah, not saying.

01:10:29.870 --> 01:10:34.540

Natural scientist

I'd be happy, keen excited to contribute something like that.

01:10:35.890 --> 01:10:40.420

Interviewer

Excellent, I'm not going to be doing anything on it, So what I've told you is all I know.

01:10:41.230 --> 01:10:41.870

Interviewer

Pretty much.

01:10:41.920 --> 01:10:52.430

Interviewer

And I'm not going to be doing anything on it until after we've wrapped up the the Treescapes project, 'cause I want to get that out of the way and then focus on.

01:10:54.340 --> 01:11:05.450

Interviewer

Something you know, some something that is, is something that I'm driven by my own kind

of like internal mechanism to do so. That's probably going to be in March when I start to really.

01:11:06.470 --> 01:11:07.780

Interviewer

Drill down into it.

01:11:09.750 --> 01:11:11.370

Natural scientist

So it seems fine for me.

01:11:12.620 --> 01:11:16.160

Natural scientist

Give me give me a chance to think about stuff for a few months and.

01:11:16.840 --> 01:11:21.300

Natural scientist

Maybe think about how we can develop some ideas and put them into practice.

01:11:22.900 --> 01:11:23.550

Natural scientist

To people.

01:11:23.220 --> 01:11:28.910

Interviewer

I mean you know that that 'cause you you've made me think as well about it so and and I think this is the thing about.

01:11:29.890 --> 01:12:00.950

Interviewer

So think about cults. The dynamic of the coop and it might be really interesting that part of the dynamic of the coop is that you know there are so many meetings a year where we do crits on each others practice or we do peer learning or we do this and that's something that's actually written into the structure of the cooperative, so it becomes less about 6 individuals who can use each others stats to develop their, you know, to get funding for their practice and more about a group who of people who are actually learning from one another.

01:12:01.580 --> 01:12:03.620

Interviewer

And sharing and developing.

01:12:05.500 --> 01:12:06.470

Interviewer

That sounds nice.

01:12:07.990 --> 01:12:08.370

Interviewer

Yeah.

01:12:09.550 --> 01:12:13.090

Interviewer

Well, hopefully from Japan I'll be involved when you get back.

01:12:13.140 --> 01:12:17.120

Interviewer

If you could apply to join the cooperative.

01:12:17.850 --> 01:12:20.520

Interviewer

I could I could be apart from afar.

01:12:22.070 --> 01:12:36.240

Interviewer

But I've spoken to somebody who, a man who is a professional in setting up cooperative. So she's worked at my NCIC is actually a man. And and she she's given me like a load of stuff to look at. But she was also saying.

01:12:37.330 --> 01:12:41.810

Interviewer

6 to 8 as you know you don't want any more than eight, because then it can get complicated.

01:12:43.330 --> 01:12:45.240

Interviewer

So she said, six is a good number.

01:12:45.580 --> 01:12:49.700

Natural scientist

Yeah, how do you deal with turnover in a Co-op stuff?

01:12:50.930 --> 01:12:51.780

Interviewer

Turn over.

01:12:51.970 --> 01:12:53.950

Natural scientist

Yeah, if so, if somebody chooses to.

01:12:54.740 --> 01:13:00.480

Natural scientist

To leave when you want to do you replace them with somebody else, or do you? Do you just leave it at that reduced number?

01:13:01.980 --> 01:13:09.180

Interviewer

Decoart would decide. So if somebody wanted to go, they can go. No one has to stay there.

You know you're not finding anything in blood.

01:13:08.670 --> 01:13:08.940

Natural scientist

Yeah.

01:13:09.710 --> 01:13:11.730

Natural scientist

I'm not, I'm not leaving already, but.

01:13:11.350 --> 01:13:21.240

Interviewer

You don't even know, right? You know, decided to go before you start and and then the coordi side 'cause it would depend how why people less so somebody left because there was some conflict that couldn't be resolved.

01:13:21.870 --> 01:13:29.310

Interviewer

Then you know those are left. Might breathe a sigh of relief, thinking. I thank goodness that conflicts not in the room anymore.

01:13:29.840 --> 01:13:57.130

Interviewer

Uhm, and stay at 5 because the five might be working really really well together. And if somebody leaves because they're going to Japan and you thinking actually God sixes, we really gonna miss them. We need something but so it within a coop. Everybody decides things together. So you need to work at a system of decision making and then kind of like so yeah, so that that's why it's more complicated 'cause nobody tells you what to do. You have to figure it all out.

01:14:00.700 --> 01:14:02.470

Interviewer

But I've done a lot of training in that.

01:14:04.210 --> 01:14:05.440

Natural scientist

But figuring stuff out.

01:14:05.920 --> 01:14:06.420

Interviewer

No.

01:14:07.530 --> 01:14:10.550

Interviewer

'cause in situ is a non hierarchical flat structure.

01:14:11.140 --> 01:14:28.090

Interviewer

And we've had to have lots and lots of trainings. He can have the idea, but yeah, bringing the idea into reality means that as a as a as a collective, we've done a lot of training. We've had people come in and it, you know, help us through decision making and

01:14:29.450 --> 01:14:29.870

Natural scientist

Yeah.

01:14:29.670 --> 01:14:47.270

Interviewer

yeah I think like if we said yeah I can see now why you think lots of little ones should start up because if it's just a small number but yeah I guess each one would have to have someone who's quite experienced and there's all sorts of different forms of.

01:14:48.310 --> 01:15:00.930

Interviewer

Learning to work as a group I think aren't there as well. They're all different kinds of methods to make sure that you're all holding responsibility equally, and that that yeah, there's there's many different forms I've heard of so.

01:15:02.070 --> 01:15:07.720

Interviewer

Even that in itself is. Yeah, I guess a bit of ground work to do to set up.

01:15:08.620 --> 01:15:09.360

Interviewer

But the ones?

01:15:12.040 --> 01:15:13.610

Interviewer

The Quakers are a great model.

01:15:14.750 --> 01:15:19.520

Interviewer

They only had the crank cut the quick 'cause the Quaker movement that's got a really yes, it's.

01:15:21.060 --> 01:15:25.680

Interviewer

Quick friends after ask her about they have this thing within decision making which is.

01:15:26.640 --> 01:15:42.880

Interviewer

If not everybody agrees, so if you can't get that full consensus on an idea, then the next step is to say has. Does anybody have grounds for disagreement and grains has to be an actual reason for not wanting it. Can't be. I don't like it.

01:15:43.960 --> 01:16:13.240

Interviewer

Oh, you know this. I feel there's something wrong with it. You've got to be able to have a particular ground as why not to do it? And those grains have to be in line with your articles or your, you know codes of practice or your ethos. And if somebody can say we we, that's that's not a great idea because it goes against our environmental ethics, for example. Then the whole group come back together again and go OK. That's great for not doing it. Let's come up with another idea so you know it's kind of, you know.

01:16:13.330 --> 01:16:26.070

Interviewer

And and the one that doesn't like it if it given that kind of opportunity to sort of state why it can't happen if they can't do that, except that the idea will go ahead.

01:16:28.390 --> 01:16:29.750

Interviewer

Anyway, there are many.

01:16:29.810 --> 01:16:31.640

Interviewer

There's a nice one I like that one, yeah.

01:16:32.350 --> 01:16:32.790

Natural scientist

Yeah.

01:16:33.440 --> 01:16:34.690

Natural scientist

I'll probably have a look into.

01:16:35.600 --> 01:16:36.810

Natural scientist

Coop steps myself.

01:16:37.700 --> 01:16:41.920

Interviewer

Do that would be really helpful because a cop can't start with one person.

01:16:43.710 --> 01:16:45.670

Natural scientist

No, by definition.

01:16:43.890 --> 01:16:44.320

Interviewer

Kiss

01:16:46.370 --> 01:17:14.600

Interviewer

yeah, I do have a little. If you got any time have a little look into it and see what you can find. The front. The woman I was talking to were saying that this one, that the idea that I've got is a little bit different because very often artists will set up a cooperative to run a studio group and everybody pays in a certain amount of months that then pays for the overheads of the of the building. So she said this is a bit different, but it's more in line with a workers Co-op.

01:17:16.880 --> 01:17:23.330

Interviewer

I don't know what that is, that's where I've still got to do my homework, but she said what I was suggesting was definitely possible.

01:17:18.350 --> 01:17:18.740

Natural scientist

Thank you.

01:17:27.670 --> 01:17:28.990

Interviewer

Lots of food for thought.

01:17:30.440 --> 01:17:36.650

Interviewer

I'm glad that we could. Oh maybe xxx collaborator could answer some of your questions as well. Thanks, (other interviewer).

01:17:38.230 --> 01:17:38.770

Interviewer

Uhm?

01:17:40.130 --> 01:17:42.540

Interviewer

They should go walk the dog. Yes, what time is it?

01:17:43.330 --> 01:17:50.100

Interviewer

It's 20 past three we've been. We've kept you in our inner I know in 1/2 almost thanks. It's been really, really helpful.

01:17:51.360 --> 01:17:53.630

Interviewer

I will keep you in touch with.

01:17:54.500 --> 01:17:57.460

Interviewer

The progress and what comes out of this?

01:17:58.550 --> 01:17:59.310

Interviewer

If you'd like.

01:18:01.150 --> 01:18:06.190

Natural scientist

Yeah, I mean I've got loads more questions, but I think I'll save them for another another session.

01:18:09.040 --> 01:18:09.420

Interviewer

Do.

01:18:09.480 --> 01:18:12.610

Interviewer

To do 'cause we need stuff to talk about another session.

01:18:15.770 --> 01:18:16.290

Interviewer

Good

01:18:17.210 --> 01:18:24.020

Natural scientist

Alright, then no, that's been enjoyable and thanks for thanks for your advice and input and other stuff as well.

01:18:20.080 --> 01:18:20.650

Interviewer

yeah great.

01:18:24.970 --> 01:18:32.860

Interviewer

No, thanks and thanks for feeding 'cause you said some stuff that's that's really, really relevant and helpful. Yeah, definitely.

01:18:34.100 --> 01:18:34.590

Natural scientist

Great

01:18:35.230 --> 01:18:36.850

Interviewer

Thanks brilliant.

01:18:36.400 --> 01:18:38.770

Natural scientist

right speech like yeah.

01:18:37.080 --> 01:18:41.430

Interviewer

Thank you, take care. Bye bye bye.

01:18:40.880 --> 01:18:41.350

Natural scientist

Bye.