Feedback from Leicester

Steve Allbutt and Yuka Namekawa Directors, StudionAme, Leicester

"We were surprised by how useful we found the overall Res Artis conference. How inspiring it was to meet other people from around the world, find out what they are doing and also reflect upon what we as an organisation have achieved in a relatively short period.

We could have done with more time but as this trip was using our own unpaid holiday from our day jobs we simply could not afford to stay longer. Perhaps next time, with more warning we can build a longer conference into our schedule.

The res arts speakers gave a broad range of expertise and most of it was helpful in answering some of the wider questions we have been thinking about and in resolving some of the questions we have been struggling with.

Not being there for the extra two days of the micro residencies sessions meant that we felt frustrated by this part of the conference. We prepared a presentation but there simply was not the time to deliver it. We wanted to see other people present also but they suffered from the same problems. We have been lucky enough to connect to people since the conference and share some of that information.

"What are Micro residencies?" well I think there was genuinely something in the throw away comment about "married couples" or "Partners" although this did not entirely account for all of the great participants. Perhaps Micro residencies are simple a more bespoke and direct form of residency rather than institutional process lead exchanges. What micro residence seem able to do that institutions can not is form quick partnerships and be the glue that brings institutions together and allows co-operation by contracting out the administration and decision making (in the main) to these very flexible, smaller organisations.

We would be very interested in attending another conference again in the future."

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