

Arts Education Semester 2, 2015 Colloquium Series presents:

Nigel Meager

Filmmaking as method in art education research

Date: Wednesday 12th August
Time: 5.45 – 7.15 pm
Venue: Frank Tate Room, Level 9, 100 Leicester Street, Carlton

Abstract

In recent times there has been a great deal published about the use of video in social science research. In anthropology there is a long tradition of ethnographic filmmaking as research method. A style of observational documentary making has been a part of television programming since the advent of more portable equipment. Each tradition suggests sets of values, methodologies and methods.

This presentation will reference each tradition to introduce my research project, which is investigating filmmaking as method to explore, describe, analyse and interpret children's experience as they make art in school. I will: confront challenges presented to research by aesthetic and ineffable experience; briefly suggest a radical empiricist methodological foundation; describe specific contexts and practicalities in my research; address issues of reflexivity and ethics.

In practical terms there will be emphasis on how I am adapting filmmaking methods developed by Australian ethnographic filmmaker David MacDougall. I will illustrate his work with examples. I will also demonstrate the potential use of professional digital video editing software, Final Cut Pro X, as a research tool. This will include clips and sequences from my own research. I will also briefly compare this highly intuitive visual data base driven software with other software used for qualitative analysis in education research that has been recently recommended for analysing video in the UK by our ESRC.

The session will conclude with a discussion about what I am learning from this research in progress and where it might lead.



Nigel Meager is currently a full-time doctoral candidate in the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, where he has a full scholarship from the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council. Nigel is currently on a three month visit to ANU where he has been invited to work with anthropologist Professor David MacDougall.

Nigel has many years' experience as an artist, teacher and teacher educator in the UK. From 1993 to 2005 he published a number of books which support generalist teachers who teach art in UK primary schools. Nigel is a member of the Expert Subject Advisory Group for art education in England. He is also editor of the Pedagogy Volume of the International Encyclopedia of Art and Design Education to be published by Wiley-Blackwell in 2017. Find out more about Nigel's background and research interests at

<https://cambridge.academia.edu/nigelmeager>

RSVP:

Please RSVP by Friday 7th August

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