

## The Eighth Exeter Arts & Therapies Conference

Friday 29th May 2009. 10.00 am - 4.30pm



### Histories

We were pleased to have permission to use the Exeter Guildhall: a beautiful space, and said to be the oldest continuously used municipal building in England for our annual conference. Our theme, 'Histories' was in keeping with this setting.

EATc events provide a space where areas of common interest between the arts and therapy are explored, bringing thinkers and practitioners who are interested in 'joining the dots' together. Nowhere is this more relevant than in relation to images and the narratives we bring to them. Our stories are, in a very real sense, ourselves. Our theme explored this.

[For PDF: Conference Report click here](#) (5 page document)  
[For PDF: Pictures from the day click here](#) (2 page document)  
[For PDF: Full delegate feedback click here](#) (13 page document)  
[For PDF: Mystery Shopper report click here](#) (3 page document)

Our speakers were:

Neil Springham, Art Psychotherapist and chair of The British Association of Art Therapists ([baat.org](http://baat.org)), he will share some of the work made in association with Tate Britain curators and carers of mental health service users.

Karen Brett, ([karenbrett.com](http://karenbrett.com)), Artist, whose extraordinary photographic and video work goes into often avoided areas of health, loss and resilience.

Camilla Carr, ([camillacarr.org](http://camillacarr.org)), Dramatherapist and author - with Jon James - of The Sky is Always There: Surviving a Kidnapping in Chechnya. Camilla and Jon published a book about their experiences last year, 'The Sky is Always There' Canterbury Press. It was featured on Radio 4 'Book of the Week'. Signed copies will be available to buy at £14.99.

Vanessa Newcombe, Jungian Psychotherapist, Exeter City & Devon County Councillor  
Alise Ojay, led the singing.

Working with Exeter PHEW Centre, near the Guildhall, we are bringing the BAAT organised exhibition 'The Healing Mind' to Exeter to coincide with the conference. This shows art work by art therapists and people who have used art therapy in the contexts of physical illness, life threatening or life changing events. Further information and a video search the web for 'Healing Mind' and 'Daily Telegraph' or see link in events box on home page. Some of David Massiels' ([davidmaisel.com](http://davidmaisel.com)) extraordinary Library of Dust images will also be shown at Wonford House Hospital.

Further speakers and aspects of the event are to be added.

Chair: Malcolm Learmonth, Lead Art Psychotherapist and Arts & Environment Development Lead, Devon Partnership NHS Trust, and BAAT Arts and Health Lead.

EATc conferences are organised by 'Insider Art' who are an Arts and Health organisation providing a range of services and events to artists, health professionals, counsellors, arts therapists, care workers, the voluntary sector, education and social services and to students of many disciplines.

Sponsored by the Self Heal Association (reg. charity) and Devon Partnership NHS Trust.



The image on the left is of the NEW internal oak entrance door to the Guildhall which was installed in 1594 and is still in daily use. The image on the right shows the building exterior on High Street. The Guildhall is opposite Lush Cosmetics, near the Cathedral.