

INTERWEAVE— THE NEWSLETTER FOR

INTERWOVEN PRODUCTIONS CIC



PLACE-MAKING AND THE *SQUILOMETRE*!

Interwoven have been invited to address the Exeter City Council Scrutiny Committee for Place this month and are, of course, very pleased to do so. **Interwoven Productions CIC, has recently been accepted onto the international PLACEMAKING LEADERSHIP COUNCIL** and is benefiting from those global conversations. But what does “place-making” mean in the context of participatory arts and how does the *Squilometre* technique facilitate this?

Place-making is **cross-disciplinary**, taking inspirations from urban planning, design, architecture, cultural and heritage curators and artists of all kinds. It is emerging, more as a movement than a single discipline, with international projects finding each other across social networks to share best practice and inspire innovation. It is therefore constantly changing.

Place-making is also **participatory** and plugs into the strong current global surge towards community-driven change; local residents

reclaiming public spaces as important to their own well-being and quality of life.

Place-making is **place-led**. It allows the fundamental characteristics of the place itself to tell its own story. Its bedrock, soils, built and cultural heritage; its environment including air quality, vegetation and waterways - plus, of course, the people who live and work there.

Place-led, community commissioned arts manifest themselves in a myriad of ways.



The *Squilometre* technique was designed to capture all of these elements – one square kilometre at a time. By asking the people who live there to nominate their own projects, to vote for their favourite ideas and then to form the now well established ***Squilometre* “Pod”**, or steering group, they can design their own creative celebrations of their very own place.

We're very proud now to be developing a programme of development and support for community arts practitioners who want to work in this way. If this might be you, then get in touch!

In recognition of the work JoJo Spinks of Interwoven has been doing in the Heavitree *Squilometre* as its Community Animator, she has been nominated as a Devon County Council “Outstanding Woman in the Community 2018”!

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MONT LE GRAND – OPULENT HEAVITREE!

On Tuesday evening, 5th March 2018, the **Mont le Pod**, the community steering group for the Mont le Grand – Opuent Heavitree nomination, will be presenting the final event in their celebration of one of the grandest streets in their *Squillometre*.

In a joint presentation with the Heavitree Local History Society different members of the Pod will present the occupation history of one house – showing how it reveals the social history of their place. The Pod were also blessed by the collaboration with a student from the University of Exeter's Global Lives Module, who took up the fascinating history of the Rowe family, who lived on Mont le Grand, returning to live in this country after the abolition of slavery and giving up their plantations in Jamaica. Lydia Edwards will be presenting a fascinating look at how these "returning" families were, in their way, place-makers too.

The local history talk provides another way to engage with the rich history of the street, after the more creative interpretation that was shared with 100 local residents in three separate performances at the house itself last November.

The talk will be held at the **Rifford Road, St Michael's parish church, Heavitree, 7.30-9.00 Tuesday 5th March 2019**. There is no need to book but there will be a £3 entry fee for non Heavitree Local History Society members.



WONFORD VILLAGE AND THE GREAT HOUSE!

As one Pod closes, another springs into life. We're thrilled to say that the Wonford Pod is launched! We'll be working alongside local residents, the Wonford and St Pauls Youth and Community group and the Wonford Community Centre to celebrate 800 years of history in Wonford Village. The Pod were particularly inspired by the fact that, now buried beneath council flats, lie the remains of an extraordinary Manor House that boasted its very own moat! It's fascinating Plantagenet history – we're talking the time of King John, crusades and ladies with pointy hats! The Wonford Pod also boasts no less than three Wellbeing Community Builders and two local councillors. We can't wait to see how they all choose to celebrate this extraordinary place!



The Wonford Pod

Participatory Quality Framework

As ArtWorks Alliance partners, Interwoven Productions CIC will be working with the Wonford Pod, using a Quality Framework developed by [ArtWorks Cymru](http://ArtWorksCymru.com). The evaluation will be published as a case study to inform further participatory practice.

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