



QUARTERLY EVENT

Using the Arts in Evaluation: Opportunities and Challenges

"Fireside Chat" with Helen Simons

5-7pm, Thursday 31st October 2019

Vox Liminis, 217 Gallowgate, G1 5DX (opposite the gate to the Barras)



At very short notice we have the opportunity to meet with Helen Simons (Professor of Evaluation and Education, University of Southampton) who is guest lecturing at Glasgow University on 31st October. Helen has kindly offered to have a **fireside chat** and Q&A session with us on the use of the arts, a passionate interest of hers, in evaluation.

5pm – 5.30pm: As usual, we will start our forum with the opportunity to network.

5.30pm – 7pm: Helen will open the session by exploring the potential of the arts for understanding the quality of what people experience in evaluation both through data generated by different art forms - written and visual - and their use in interpretation and reporting. This is not without its challenges. Some of our audiences may not value artistic forms of data; evaluators sometimes question their skill set; and ethical issues of privacy and identity often arise. Yet the arts are a powerful and democratic way of generating and communicating understanding open to all.

So please bring your questions, experience and thoughts about the use of the arts and ethics in evaluation to share and discuss. It promises to be an engaging session!

All are welcome – UKES member or not. The event is free, but if you plan to attend please let Colleen know by Tuesday 29th October colleen@voxliminis.co.uk. Spaces will be limited.

Join the Evaluation Network Scotland group on [LinkedIn](#) or visit the [UKES website](#)

Evaluation Network Scotland is a regional network of UK Evaluation Society (UKES) coordinated by a small group of volunteers. We aim to provide opportunities for discussion, learning and networking with colleagues working in evaluation across Scotland.

To join or leave the mailing list, contact Helen Helen.Alexander@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk. The mailing list is used to share events and other evaluation information, including tenders or training opportunities.

Biopic



Helen is a past President of the UK Evaluation Society, a member of Council and convener of professionalization and ethics, a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, UK and the Royal Society of Arts.

She has been a theorist and practitioner of evaluation for over 30 years conducting many external case study evaluations in education, the health sciences and more recently in the arts. She has run workshops in evaluation for art organizations, arts projects and artists working in galleries and museums in Scotland. She has also written widely about the theory and practice of evaluation and directed case study evaluation training, nationally and internationally.

Relevant publications for this session

Simons, H. (2007) 'Integrating arts-based inquiry in evaluation methodology, Qualitative Inquiry 13(2) (with B McCormack)

Simons H (2007) Whose Data are they anyway? Ethical Issues in Qualitative Research, Malaysian Journal of Qualitative Research, Vol. 1, no 1.

Simons, H (1996) 'The paradox of case study', Cambridge journal of Education 26 (2). [has a useful argument for the power of the arts to generate universal understanding]

More recent publications on case study which might also be useful include:

Simons H (2015) 'Interpret in context: Generalizing from the single case in evaluation', in Evaluation, Vol 21(2) London: Sage

Simons, H. (2014) In-depth understanding in context: Case study research. In Leavy, P (ed) The International Handbook of Qualitative Research. New York: Oxford University Press, Ch. 22

Simons, H. (2009) Study Research in Practice London: Sage Publications.