

Collaborative Poetics (CP) Manifesto

Our CP network is inclusive* innovative* an ever-evolving community of practice* crossing multiple-disciplines and fields* learning as it grows* **Our CP work is** framed by a commitment to social justice* about social change* committed to collaboration* focused on experimentation* about intercultural dialogue* promoting leadership through innovative action* embedded in freedom and playfulness* impactful in intention* **We are** passionate* activists with social consciences* concerned with protecting creative thought* not afraid of risk* **For us CP practices are about** working with others to explore lived experiences* tackling discrimination* addressing difficult questions * utilising the visual, the written or spoken word* collective wisdom* experimentation without judgement* robust practices, theoretically informed* creative contemplation* **But above all CP is about** promoting and supporting open dialogues* the creative process* valuing difference* showcasing the value of the arts* enchanting our worlds*

Voices of the authors – Polly Blake



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Our CP network is a network of artists, academics and community sector workers interested in finding ways of improving mental health and wellbeing through creative expression, striving for social change and social justice

Our work in CP is experimental, and through practical creative activities as well as dialogue, we aim to break away from traditional patterns of thinking and preserve the importance of original thought...

Everything we aim to do is done through a process of experimentation and by *practicing what we preach* first and foremost. We explore questions through creative problem solving, as well as by using empirical evidence

We do not believe in creating a method to help make employees be more productive and cost effective. We are activists with social consciences concerned with protecting creative thought as a valuable human characteristic and essential for the nurture of a healthy society

We have been using creative activities as a way to find solutions/resolve/ investigate and reach our own goals

For us CP practices are about doing rather than talking, experimenting without judgement and fear of failure, applying creative activities to investigate our own questions

But above all CP is about bringing play back play, making creative activities available to everyone demonstrating how to access one's own hidden creative expression. Helping people to free up their own unique voice in order to improve self-esteem, promote a sense of wellbeing

Voices of the authors – Carol Rivas



Voices of the authors – Carol Rivas

Our CP network is friendly, welcoming and facilitative, encompassing people with all kinds of expertise and experience but with a common aim

Our work in CP is intended to produce thought-provoking and sometimes challenging depictions of the lived experience of people, and particularly to highlight instances of social injustice

Everything we aim to do is intended to inform positive social change

For us CP practices are about working with others to help them to explore their lived experiences – including experiences of discrimination - through the written or spoken word

But above all CP is about helping others to find their voice through creative play with poetry

Voices of the authors – Helen Johnson



Voices of the authors – Helen Johnson

Our CP network is an inclusive, innovative and ever-evolving community of practice, which crosses multiple-disciplines and fields

Our work in CP is framed by a commitment to social justice and social change

Everything we aim to do is creative, collaborative, and impactful in intention

We do not believe in restricting the ability to create, access or apply knowledge

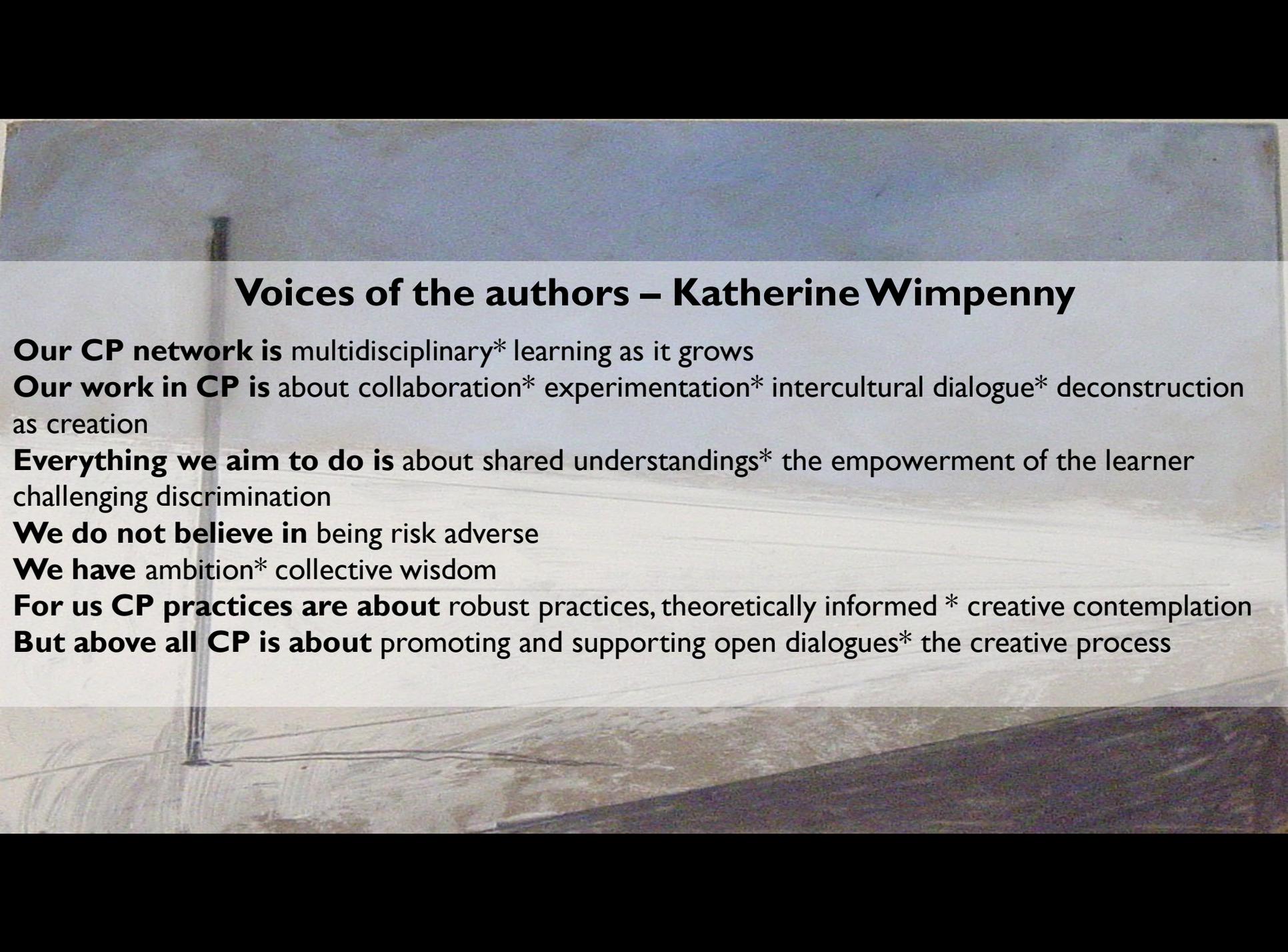
We have a plethora of expertise from academia, the arts, business and community organisations, and the passion to put this into practice

For us CP practices are about foregrounding the lived experiences of communities through research and the arts

But above all CP is about breaking the rules to rewrite our worlds

Voices of the authors – Katherine Wimpenny





Voices of the authors – Katherine Wimpenny

Our CP network is multidisciplinary* learning as it grows

Our work in CP is about collaboration* experimentation* intercultural dialogue* deconstruction
as creation

Everything we aim to do is about shared understandings* the empowerment of the learner
challenging discrimination

We do not believe in being risk adverse

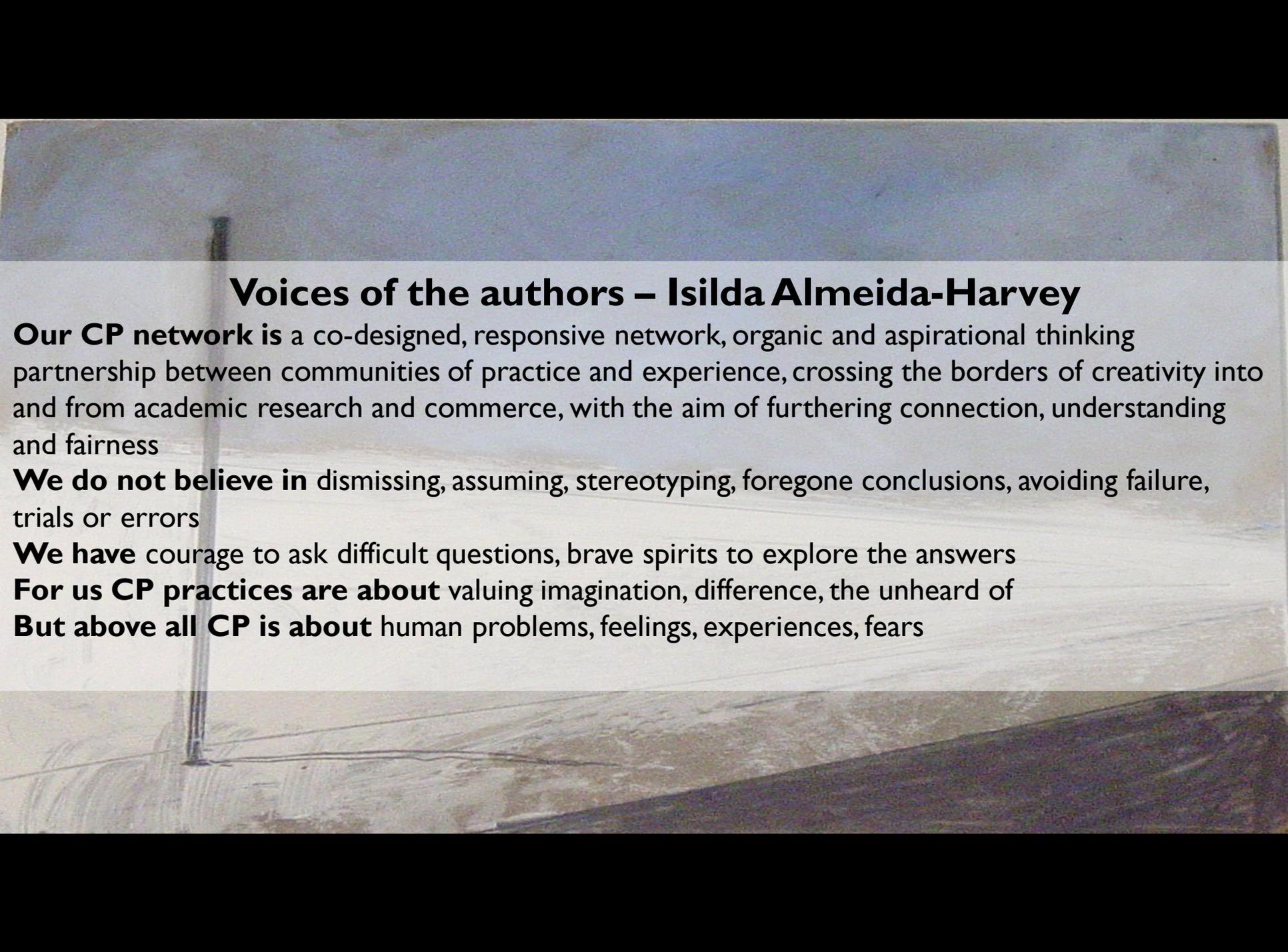
We have ambition* collective wisdom

For us CP practices are about robust practices, theoretically informed * creative contemplation

But above all CP is about promoting and supporting open dialogues* the creative process

Voices of the authors – Isilda Almeida-Harvey





Voices of the authors – Isilda Almeida-Harvey

Our CP network is a co-designed, responsive network, organic and aspirational thinking partnership between communities of practice and experience, crossing the borders of creativity into and from academic research and commerce, with the aim of furthering connection, understanding and fairness

We do not believe in dismissing, assuming, stereotyping, foregone conclusions, avoiding failure, trials or errors

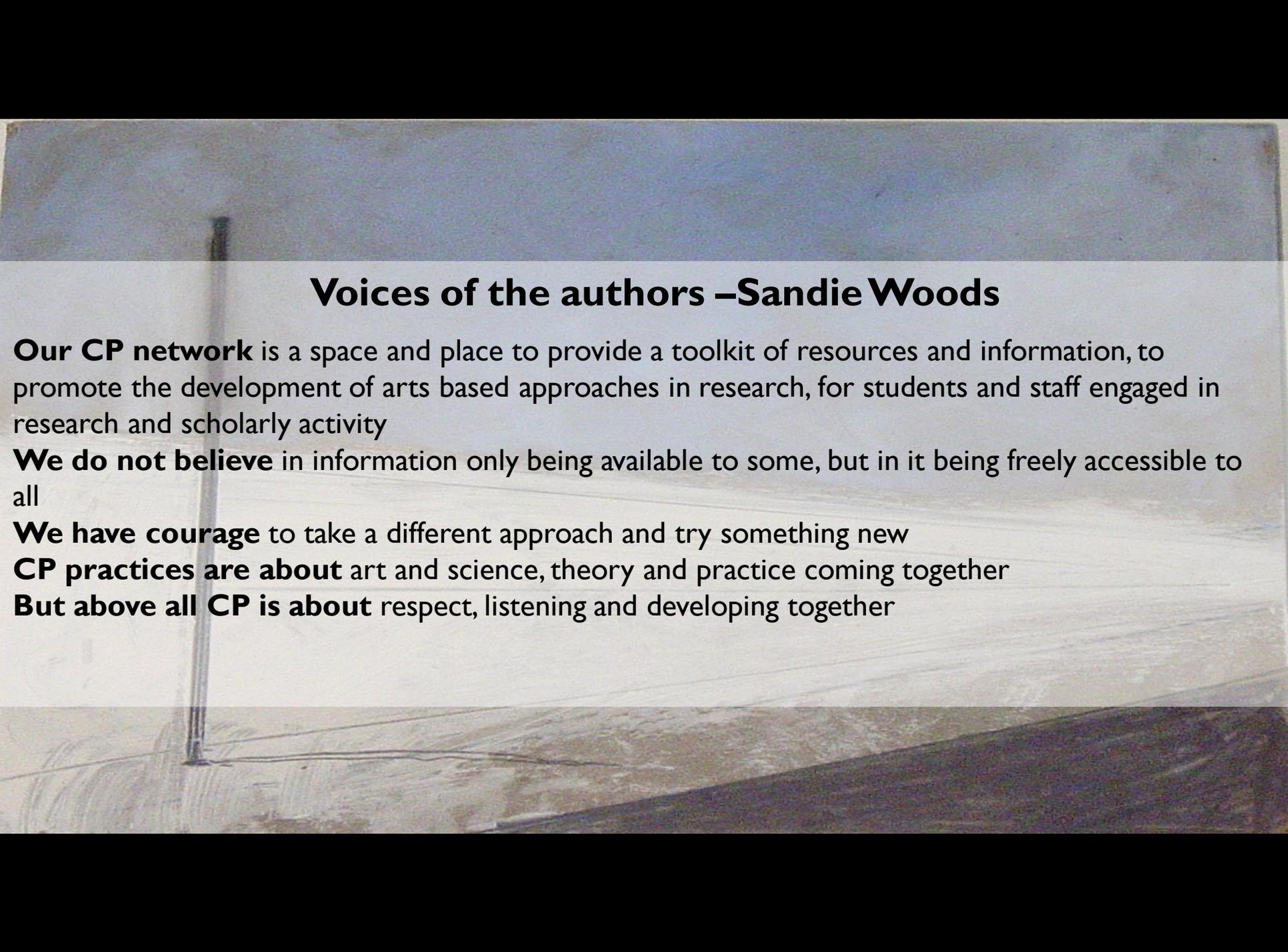
We have courage to ask difficult questions, brave spirits to explore the answers

For us CP practices are about valuing imagination, difference, the unheard of

But above all CP is about human problems, feelings, experiences, fears

Voices of the authors – Sandie Woods





Voices of the authors –Sandie Woods

Our CP network is a space and place to provide a toolkit of resources and information, to promote the development of arts based approaches in research, for students and staff engaged in research and scholarly activity

We do not believe in information only being available to some, but in it being freely accessible to all

We have courage to take a different approach and try something new

CP practices are about art and science, theory and practice coming together

But above all CP is about respect, listening and developing together

Voices of the authors – David Norbury



Voices of the authors – David Norbury

Our CP network is a co-designed, organic and aspirational thinking partnership between communities of practice and experience, crossing the borders of creativity into and from academic research and commerce

Our work in CP is about nurturing leadership through being innovative, aspirational and inspiring, embedded in freedom and playfulness

Everything we aim to do is about influencing the vitality and organisational life through holistic being

We have a plethora of expertise from academia, the arts, business and community organisations, and the passion to put this into practice

For us CP practices are about foregrounding the lived experiences of communities through research and the arts

But above all CP is about enchanting our worlds



Artwork by Polly Blake