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THE ARTS FARING WELL



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- Concerns
 - Faring well

Concerns - Arts

- Arts Council cuts: 1% in 13/14; 2% in 14/15.
50% admin cuts: a third of the workforce ...
- Council cuts to arts provision – Somerset and possibly Newcastle
- E-Bacc (arts not represented)
- Loss of PGCE numbers (teacher training and apprenticeship?)

Concerns - Drama (by any other name)

- 'Ministers do not consider drama itself to be core knowledge as it is more a question of pedagogy, and therefore outside the remit of the curriculum review. As you know, where drama features in the primary English programme of study it is in relation to pupils studying great works of great dramatists, including Shakespeare.'

'Letter to Birmingham Rep from DfE', Nov 2012

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- 'Ministers want to ensure every child has the chance to perform and appreciate great music; the opportunity to paint, draw and sculpt; enjoy dance, and master the principles of design and craftsmanship.
 - '...[T]he style of assessment envisaged for EBCs - with a particular emphasis on end-of-course examinations - is not obviously suitable for subjects such as dance, design, art and music where the display of practical accomplishment, a portfolio of work assembled over time, or live performance are central to demonstrating success.'
 - (Response to SCUDD and Dance HE, January 2013.)

Concerns - Drama

- Letter from SCUDD and DanceHE to DfE.
- <http://www.scudd.org.uk/2012/11/13/letter-to-michael-gove/>
- Response from DfE:
<http://www.scudd.org.uk/2013/01/31/government-response-to-the-scudddance-he-letter-re-gcse-reform/>
- Being alert: e.g. School Space Standards.
(Cutting space in schools...)

Drama Faring well... the growth and establishment of the subject field Drama

- Subject growth at universities:

Conservatoires (e.g. Central – 1906: acting and outreach)

Bristol University Drama Department 1947.

Now: 'Drama' in UCAS and 678 (many will be repetitive: 'Drama and [multiple others']')

- University entrants (1st year)

Mid-1970s – around 200 1st years entering.

Now – nearer 12,000? (figures can only be approximate)

Drama faring well...

- A level numbers (stats from Edecxel but includes all boards):

1997: 1,729

2012: 15,164

41% apply for university Drama courses. (English – 10%)

- Depth of level and range of study

Central has 215 3rd year undergraduates across 16 specialisms. In a survey, approx 88% had taken Drama (or equivalent) at KS3 and KS4 (11-16).

94% had taken at post-16 (Btec, A level ...)

- Books! (Critical Drama texts, not plays.)

Mid 1970s – I remember 3 or 4! Now: 132 on Palgrave Macmillan's current list alone. Central's library has 38,000 items.

- Connections



Drama faring well... notable
increase of connections (across
levels and types of organisation e.g. HE and
'industry'):

- The bridging NPOs supported by Arts Council (including to schools: Artsmark, Arts award).
 - Arts Council Touring agenda - new people and places
 - Impact agenda from AHRC (Arts and Humanities Research Council) and REF (Research Excellence Framework: 2013 auditing of research in universities). Encouraging partnerships and collaborations – and dissemination of research.
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Example of research connection

- AHRC Grant awarded to 'investigate ways in which specific communities experience and relate to the concept of 'place' by testing new models of performance practices' (Mackey 2010)
- Three projects, one of which was with Half Moon, London.







Research Questions for Half Moon/Central project

- How might the performance project at Half Moon identify and 'ease' a fear of place?
- How is everyday place 'performed'? How does expressing everyday place through performance shift the quotidian?
- Are extra-ordinary e.g. 'special' places important? How do performance practices help demonstrate 'special places'? How does performance help enhance a relationship with a special or extraordinary place?

(I didn't have time to go into this but this is to be rolled out further. Please contact me – Sally - if interested!)

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- Examples of further encouragement for connections between HE and industry:
 - Charitable Trusts e.g. The Leverhulme's Arts Scholarships
 - CreativeWorks
 - ...
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Drama faring well ...

- Positioning in the creative economy.
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- 'The UK has the largest cultural economy in the world as a share of its GDP employing more than 678,000 people and contributing almost £25 billion to the UK economy each year' (*The Performing Arts Blueprint*, CCSkills, 2010).
- The Creative Industry's 'Gross Value Added' within the UK economy has continued to grow throughout the recession. DCMS statistics (8/12/2011^[1]) show Music & Visual / Performing Arts to be the largest employers in the Creative Industries with 300,000 employed in 2009 (1% of the UK). Music & Visual / Performing Arts make the largest contribution to the number of businesses (1.46% of the UK for enterprises and 1.21% of the UK for local units in 2011). TV & Radio are the second highest exporters of services (2.6% of the UK's exports respectively). Music & Visual / Performing Arts make the largest contribution to the number of businesses (1.46% of the UK for enterprises and 1.21% of the UK for local units in 2011)

^[1] <http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/research/Creative-Industries-Economic-Estimates-Report-2011-update.pdf>, accessed 7/10/2012 by Prof Ross Brown, RCSSD

Drama faring well ... support and lobbying in the current climate

- CBI
- 'What Next?'
- Cross-party enquiry 'Support for the Creative Economy'
- Creative and Cultural Skills
- Creative Industries Council
- The Edge Foundation (champion of technical, practical and vocational learning)
- 'Heavyweight' conservatives such as Kenneth Baker
- ...



In an article for *The Independent*, Lord Kenneth Baker argued that his Conservative successor Michael Gove had made "a huge mistake" with his plans for an English Baccalaureate at 16, as it would lead to thousands of pupils switching off schooling in their last two years of compulsory education.

Mr Gove's proposals for EBacc certificates would squeeze non-core subjects, such as vocational qualifications, out of the curriculum, he argued, adding: "I think that's a huge mistake. There will be a lot of disgruntled youngsters at 13 or 14 who are fed up with the English Baccalaureate because it's not their cup of tea. A lot of youngsters aren't turned on by it."

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/tory-grandee-attacks-goves-huge-mistake-on-new-exams-8431683.html>

(accessed 25.1.13)



See too:

- In defence of school drama: don't let arts fall off the curriculum

