

# Transformative Spaces for Re-Imagining Dementia

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Gutted

**VICTIM**

A social death

demented

**Robbed of Mind**

disruptive

**a shell**

**TOTALLY DEPENDENT**

challenging

burden

sufferer

Blank

living death/the living dead

doomed

**Loss of Self**

a never ending funeral

**AGGRESSIVE**

**A Baby**

# Arts and Community-Based Research





# Connecting through the Cracks

*I think there was a great bond created just through the process of creativity. It was felt it shouldn't end!... Some very significant bonds. We were so good **altogether**. (Artist)*



# Mutual Storying

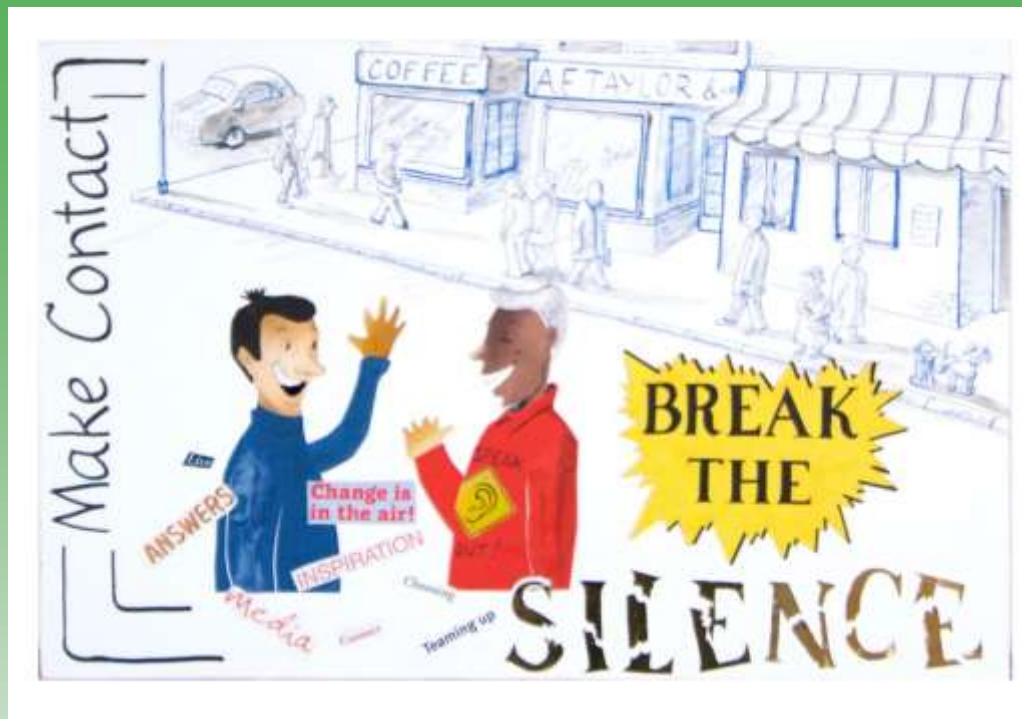
*[N]ow that I know that there's people just like me who have it and they can go on with their [life] I can still go on with my life. (Person with Dementia)*





# Letting Go Amid Vulnerability

*It makes me even less afraid of getting dementia because [persons with dementia] talked not only about things that we've heard before but they talked to us – at least one man in particular, about even becoming better. (Researcher)*



# Inspiring Relational Possibilities

*Artistically, just seeing the kind of courage and freedom that people brought to the creative process has opened up my own creative process, and just loosened some of my inhibitions that you get as your kind of setting standards for your work and stuff. (Artist)*

# Co-Transformational Emergence



*Art programs can be life changing. (Family Member)*

*Reinforced me in my efforts to teach everyone that there is life after diagnosis...the workshop has given me a real boost in knowing that we can make a difference. (Person with Dementia)*





*It just makes your heart beat quicker, or skip a beat. Some of these placards are just - they all speak volumes without speech. I mean they're pretty amazing to look at it and it just gave you feelings of hope, and strength, and perseverance, and joy, and love of life.*  
(Actor)

# Cracked: New Light on Dementia



*Powerful! Emotional!!  
Love, amazing  
interaction, thought  
provoking. Makes you  
want to ensure that  
change isn't just  
thought about, but  
becomes a reality not  
sometime in the future.  
Starting NOW!*

*Imaginative. Unusual approach to issues. Artistic  
presentations speak more directly to the soul than  
verbal presentations.*

# Thank You!



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