

Talk Outline

"It is one of the great paradoxes of solitude, that it offers us not an escape, not a paradise, not a dwelling place..... but a way back to the world, and a new motive for being there." John Burnside

Artists Katherine Glenday and Claire Beynon will explore ways in which, through each of their respective creative practices, they seek to integrate radical self-enquiry with current social and global realities. They will speak of their involvement in various projects that demonstrate the transformative potential of simple, often non-verbal, creative processes. They will conclude their presentation with a hands-on group exercise that illustrates these themes and underlines the value of making the unconscious visible.



Claire Beynon

SIGNS WRITTEN IN DUST AFTER VULTURES
HAVE FLOWN - A WAY BACK TO THE WORLD

Speaker Profile

South African-born Claire Beynon is an artist, writer and independent researcher currently living and working in Dunedin, New Zealand. Claire completed a BAFA at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg in 1982, held her first solo exhibition at the Karen McKerron Gallery in Johannesburg in 1985 and has exhibited nationally and internationally in the thirty years since then.

Two research seasons in Antarctica (2005 & 2008) led to a period of intensive interdisciplinary work and the establishment of valued collaborative partnerships with scientists, filmmakers, musicians, peace educators, fellow artists and writers in her home country and abroad. In addition to her writing and personal studio practice, Claire offers creative play workshops and is a regular speaker at interdisciplinary conferences, literary events, museums and galleries. Together with NZ writer/publisher Mary McCallum, she co-curates the international poetry collective, Tuesday Poem – www.tuesdaypoem.blogspot.co.nz.

Claire considers the Arts as having a vital role to play in our global arena, particularly in the areas of social activism, environmental advocacy and peace-building.

"Every one of us is an artist. Processes of making offer a much-needed counterbalance in a time and world all too often hell-bent on breaking and taking. Shared creative activity engenders a sense of hope, inclusivity and connection."

Claire is the founder-curator of MANY as ONE, an Arts and Peace initiative whose purpose is to celebrate diversity and create meeting places for connection. The MANY as ONE website – www.manyasoneoam.com - serves as a 'lighted house' for the circulation of stories, the exchange of on- and offline resources and collective inspiration.

CONTACT INFO:

+64 27 222 4881

clarab@earthlight.co.nz

www.clairebeynon.com

www.manyasonemao.com



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Speaker Profile

Katherine is one of South Africa's leading ceramic artists with works in major public and corporate art collections in the country. She has exhibited internationally for the past ten years, and has work in the Museum of Art and Design in New York. Aside from her professional life as an artist, she has had many years of teaching private classes. She has also curated and promoted exhibitions and collaborations, which involve a multi disciplinary emphasis.

In 2006 she established 'The Forge', a studio space for creative workshops, music concerts and exhibitions. Her interest and emphasis for the venue is largely to do with creative interplay and the 'cross pollination' which occurs in the unexpected juxtaposition of various disciplines.

Katherine's creative practice has been shaped through engagements with psychotherapy and a study of personal symbols and dreams. Her interest in the wider social field lead her to experience Process work and Family Constellation work which amplified her appreciation of group dynamics.

Many conversations and a longstanding friendship with Helene Smit resulted in her illustrating Helene's text for **Depth Leadership** (published in 2014.) Her pen and ink illustrations provide an added insight for the reader.

She challenges herself to be a leader, promoting courage and the clarity to operate as a force for change in a challenging world. She believes that all humans are creative and contain many solutions within themselves to overcome obstacles and to move positively towards transformation and growth.



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CONTACT INFO:

+27 (0)83 666 9699

glenday@telkomsa.net

www.katherineglenday.com

