



# R3CONNECT

R3CONNECT.CO.UK

## EVALUATION REPORT

20

Animation course participants

4

Live events

66

Live event audience members

8

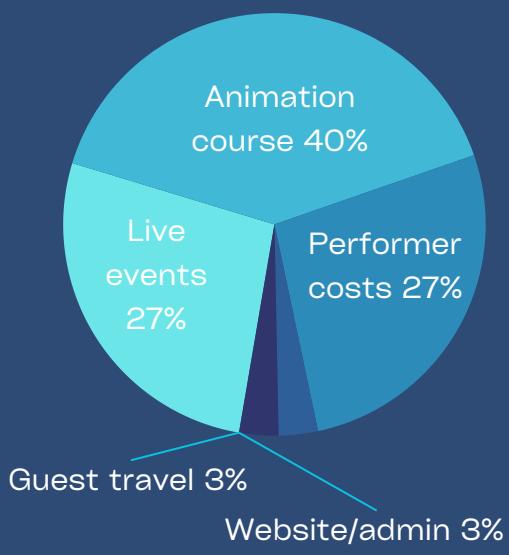
New artworks:  
7 animations  
1 music commission

## FUNDING SUMMARY

**£5,250** Total funding received

**£3,580** National Lottery Community Fund

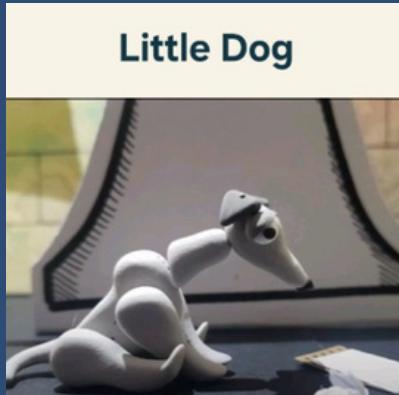
**£1,670** Creative Minds



## PROJECT SUMMARY

The R3connect project stems from research by Dr Louisa Peters who explored how and why community arts activities helped people to live well with mental illness (aka recovery). The aim of the project was to develop accessible and creative explanations of the research that found community arts helped people to reconnect to themselves, others and a community. The diversity of community arts reflects the diversity of the ways people can reconnect. This project was run through community group ArtAnon. See below for a full list of our funders and supporters.

The project involved a free 10-week animation course designed and delivered by creative producer Doll for people with lived experience. Participants used animations to reflect their own journeys of reconnection. A piece of music was also commissioned by composer Nicholas Peters to translate findings into music.



In 2024, the animations and music were toured across the North of England and online, including performances from Yorkshire-based Clothworkers String Quartet. Reconnect Live brought artworks into community settings for free, to promote the important role of community arts in living well.



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### COURSE FEEDBACK

"The sessions were very supportive and accessible - it really made a difference to my ability to feel comfortable whilst doing this course. Thank you!"

"I'd never done something like this before... exploring creativity and learning about process, rather than result, really helped me to see something new."

"I really enjoyed the course and got a lot from it. I felt it was very relaxed and non-pressured, but I learnt a lot."

### AUDIENCE FEEDBACK



"I learnt that I'd like to reconnect with literature - unexpected"

"Beautiful community event... we need more events like this, fabulous!"



"Loved the mix of art, music and animation, and the accessibility"

## CREATIVE COMMUNITIES FRAMEWORK\* EVALUATION

The framework\* provides a tool to demonstrate how community-based projects for people living with mental health conditions creates safe spaces through specific contexts.

### CONTEXT

### EVIDENCED BY (PROJECT CONTENT & FEEDBACK)

#### Compassionate workers

Project run by experts by experience who are experienced facilitators.

#### Creative activity

10-week animation course.  
4 live arts events.

#### Community setting

Run in partnership with volunteer group Art Anon.  
Live events in community venues, free to public.

#### Shared lived experience

Course participants had shared lived experience of mental health conditions.

#### Choice over engagement

All events and courses free of charge.  
No obligation to attend or make an animation.



\*The Creative Communities Framework was developed by Peters (2024): <https://louisapeters.co.uk/about-me/>



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