

Blue Mountains Workshops, Australia

Featuring David E. Gussak

HURRY!
PLACES ARE LIMITED.

20th November, 2024

9:00 am–12:00pm:

Understanding the Frenzied Dance of Art and Violence

There seems to exist a natural interrelationship between art and violence—while creativity often emerges from aggressive impulses, art-making, in turn, helps mitigate aggressive and violent energy.

This workshop will explore this frenzied dance by clarifying this interrelationship—and indeed, how messy and complex it can become—with the ultimate aim of providing mechanisms from which art therapists can benefit when working with volatile populations. To do so, it will draw from historical examples of well-known artists who have violent tendencies, those whose works emerged from violent experiences and the expressions of the most notorious offenders whose works perpetuated their psychopathic cycles.

In addition, it will provide narratives that emerged in working with artists who are incarcerated for their heinous crimes, as well as reflect on personal experiences as an art therapist with violent offenders and aggressive clients. These discussions will be followed by simple yet powerful art directives that the facilitator has often used to explore and mitigate aggressive and impulsive tendencies. Ultimately, this workshop will emphasize and underscore through these vignettes how art emerges from - and how art therapy techniques may assuage - aggression and violence.

1:00pm–4:00pm:

Re-Creating Identity: Arts and Art Therapy with the Imprisoned

Prisons are known for being therapeutically impoverished where security is instituted through the systematic objectification of the inmates. Identity is stripped away - inmates are given a number and uniform, reinforcing their loss of self, ultimately disempowering and dehumanizing them for control. This is clearly detrimental to success. Inmates may often rebel against such control, even becoming violent, manipulative, or simply apathetic. They might also acquire or maintain debilitating mental health symptoms such as depression and various levels of psychoses.

Art therapy has been demonstrably valuable in mitigating this. The first part of this workshop will consist of a brief presentation and discussion that will rely on the perspectives of Social Interaction and Labelling Theory to explore the benefits of art and art therapy in corrections through: illustrations from established arts and art therapy programs; perspectives from inmates and correctional art therapists; and results of several published and ongoing research studies. Ultimately, it will emphasize how art therapy overcomes personal and institutional barriers to mitigate mental illness, facilitate wellness and re-create new identities for those in prison. This will be followed by a simple yet powerful art directive that the facilitator has often used to begin the process of exploring sense of identity with many of the men and women he has worked with inside. Ultimately, those who attend this workshop will begin to recognize the power of art in demarginalizing the marginalized and rehumanizing the dehumanized.

David E. Gussak, PhD, ATR-BC, HLM is Professor for the Florida State University's Graduate Art Therapy Program and Project Consultant for the FSU/FL Dept of Correction's Art Therapy in Prisons program.

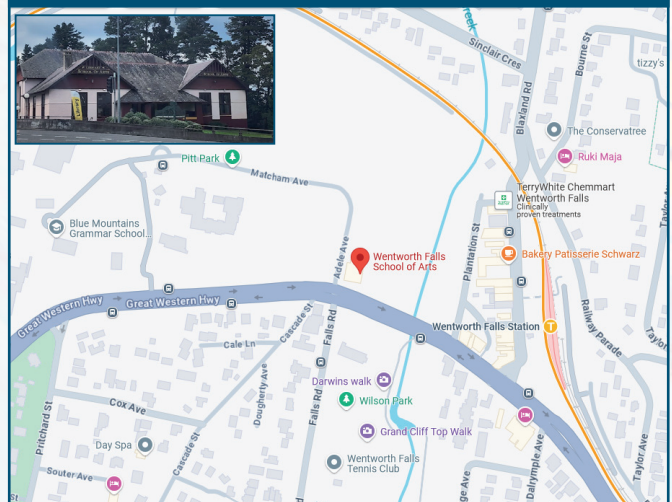


He has presented and published extensively internationally and nationally on forensic art therapy and art therapy in forensic and carceral settings. These include, amongst others, *Art on Trial:*

Art Therapy for Capital Murder Cases (2013), *Art and Art Therapy with the Imprisoned: Re-Creating Identity* (2019), and *The Frenzied Dance of Art and Violence* (2022). He is also the co-editor [with Dr. Marcia Rosal] and contributing author for *The Wiley Handbook of Art Therapy*. He currently serves on the editorial board for several publications including *Art Therapy: The Journal of the American Art Therapy Association* and *Arts in Psychotherapy*.

In 2022, Dr. Gussak was granted the American Art Therapy Association's Honorary Lifetime Member (HLM) award.

Location: Wentworth Falls School of Arts
217-219 Great Western Highway
Wentworth Falls NSW 2782



Further Information: Annette Coulter, The Centre for Art Psychotherapy (TCAP)

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www.artpsychotherapy.com.au www.interactivedrawingtherapy.org

Blue Mountains Workshops, Australia Featuring David E. Gussak

REGISTRATION FORM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR DAVID GUSSAK WORKSHOP EVENT - 20TH NOVEMBER 2024

Provision of Workshop Material

These two face-to-face workshops are delivered at:
Wentworth Falls School of Arts
217-219 Great Western Highway, Wentworth Falls NSW 2782
9:00am – 12:00pm (AEDT):
Understanding the Frenzied Dance of Art and Violence
1:00pm – 4:00pm (AEDT):
Recreating Identity: Arts and Art Therapy with the Imprisoned.

Meals

Morning and afternoon tea are provided, however it is BYO lunch. Alternatively, Wentworth Falls village is a short five minute walk, and has a wide choice of cafes and eateries.

Workshop Postponement/Cancellation

Every effort is made to keep to the advertised workshop dates, but we reserve the right to cancel or postpone workshops if minimum numbers are not reached. In that event a full refund will be made.

Certification

All participants will receive a Certificate of Attendance.

Withdrawals Transfers and Substitutions

All requests for refunds, transfers and substitutions must be made in writing.

There are limited spaces on each workshop, therefore:

Withdrawals:

A full refund (less \$50 administration fee) will be given for withdrawals received more than one week prior to the workshop start date. A 50% refund for withdrawals received within 24 hours of the workshop start date/time.

There is no refund for cancellations received after the workshop has commenced.

Substitutes:

A substitute participant is welcome to attend in the place of the original registrant on completion of the registration form. A \$25 administration fee will be charged for each substitution.

Absence:

Non-attendance is treated as a cancellation. Missing any part of a workshop is treated as a cancellation, and no refund is given.

Name: Date:

(Postal) Address:

State/Region: P'Code:

Mobile: Email:

I will be attending: Full day (6 hrs) 9:00am – 12:00pm (3 hrs) 1:00pm – 4:00pm (3 hrs)

My current position/education/training:

My interest in applying for these workshop/s:

PAYMENT AUD\$350 for full day (6 hrs) or AUD\$200 for either the morning or afternoon, only (3 hrs)

I confirm payment has been transferred YES / NO I require an invoice / receipt YES / NO

Please send completed Registration Form only AFTER payment is confirmed sent.

I accept the above Terms and Conditions.

Account Details:

Name: Annette Margaret Coulter
BSB: 012702
Acct No: 475645283

ANZ Bank, Katoomba Branch
SWIFT Code ANZBAU3M
PAY ID: +61 (0)408 822 080

NB. Please include your SURNAME to identify payment

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PLEASE SCAN OR COPY REGISTRATION FORM
AND EMAIL/SEND BACK