

lab notes



ICP International Lab

lab notes Summer 2017

Welcome to our July/August summer edition!

Each month, we share a mix of ideas and links which we hope will be interesting and inspiring from a constructivist point of view. We will be delighted to hear about your ideas and links for future issues: icp_intlab@gmail.com

In this issue:

1. **The art of M C Escher** - questioning what we see
2. **Getting others right** - Teju Cole on photography and the outsider
3. **'How are you two different?'** - young children construing themselves
4. **The Personal Anarchist** - revisiting a seminal PCP paper

The art of M C Escher (video)



Ian Stewart from the University of Warwick on the mathematical art of M C Escher

- on structure, patterns, replications, and possibility v impossibility

“These visual illusions reveal that we don’t just see the world as it is - we interpret, we make assumptions”

“Mathematicians know their subject is beautiful - Escher shows us that it is”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kcc56fRtrKU>

Getting others right (article)



Teju Cole on photographing others:

“Is the lesson here that the truth of a given community can only be delivered by an insider? For outsiders to any culture, the situation remains tricky”

“Capturing how things look fools us into thinking that we’ve captured their truth. But appearance is bare fact. Combined with intuition, scrupulous context and moral intelligence, it has a chance to become truth. Unalloyed, it is worse than nothing”

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/06/13/magazine/getting-others-right.html>

How are you two different? (video)



In this delightful short video, pairs of young children are asked this simple question, and we watch and hear their answers and ideas

“It’s a campaign that shows just how young children see the world, and quite frankly they see things differently to how you and I might” - Alice Webb, director of BBC Children’s content.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MJrRvpjB1I>

The Personal Anarchist (paper)



We are revisiting Spencer McWilliams’ paper on **Becoming a Personal Anarchist**, finding it so very useful for our times.

“A major implication of the anarchist insight is that any form which evolves to serve a human need must be entirely ad hoc in nature and must never be allowed to develop into an ‘institution’.”

“in both conscious and unconscious ways, the self, originally a servant of the person, becomes an "institution" that has lost its original goal and now consists of a set of rules or models that are followed ... the task of personal anarchy is to destroy this institution in such a way that the person may continue the process of evolution.

<http://www.oikos.org/anarchist.htm>



Please visit our website for news and information:

<https://www.icp-intlab.org/>

Registration for our next event will be closing soon:

Personal Construct Psychology for Coaching & Consulting

- an exciting programme exploring Personal Construct Psychology in organisations - add PCP to your organisational practice, or add organisational understandings to your PCP practice!

<https://www.icp-intlab.org/courses/personal-construct-psychology-coaching-consulting/>

With best wishes from the ICP Lab team:

Mary Frances, Chiara Lui, Giovanni Stella, Sara Pavanello, Gabriele Bendinelli