21 – 23 September 2010  
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Surfers Paradise, Queensland, Australia

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:  
Professor Les Back (Goldsmiths College, UK)  
Associate Professor Mine-Ping Sun (National Chengchi University, Taiwan)  
Mary Fogarty (University of East London)

Conference convenors: Professor Andy Bennett, Dr Ian Woodward & Dr Jodie Taylor  
Conference organisers: Ms Jill Jones & Ms Sarah Gornall  
Centre for Public Culture and Ideas, Griffith University

A three-day international conference hosted by the Centre for Public Culture and Ideas at Griffith University

‘Creative communities’ is a phrase that appears in a wide range of government policy and strategy documents, commissioned reports and academic texts. In a post-Richard Florida landscape, urban planners, social scientists, economists, cultural development workers and bureaucrats litter their work with affirmations of community creativity, underscoring its vital role in a twenty-first century creative economy. As we move from a knowledge-based economy to a creative economy, attention has been directed to creative communities in the hope that they will generate economic value through innovation. Therefore, this impresses a higher value upon those creative communities that become, or at least demonstrate the potential to become, creative industries. Moreover, much of the discourse around how creative communities are engendered and sustained indulges the rhetoric of globalisation and the ‘act local, think global’ spin.

The loose application of the term, ‘creative communities’, and its variable discursive contexts, have distracted us from asking the most elementary of questions regarding the people and the practices that generate and sustain ‘creative communities’ that lead to social inclusion. That is, who are the individuals, collectives and facilitators of community creativity? What are their stories and where are they located? And, how might we rethink ‘creativity as a pathway to social inclusion’ outside the current debates around ‘creative class’, ‘creative cities’, and ‘creative industries’?

Following the highly successful Creative Communities conference in April 2009, Creative Communities 2 will address the above questions, bringing together academics, practitioners and policy makers from a variety of different settings, national and international.
Topics for discussion at the conference include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Festivals and carnivals as spaces for multiculturalism and cosmopolitanism
- Youth culture, cosmopolitanism, citizenship and political engagement
- Ageing, leisure and social inclusion
- Embodiment, performativity and pathways to inclusion
- Community arts-based projects, creativity and cultural expression
- Rural communities, creativity and social inclusion
- Street art and civic participation
- Creative projects and the prevention of juvenile crime and delinquency
- Creativity, social inclusion and the role of education
- The internet and communities of creative interest
- Creative projects as a tool for social inclusion among indigenous cultures
- Creativity, social inclusion and DIY initiatives
- Urban regeneration, city spaces and cultural participation

The conference convenors seek proposals for paper presentation and panel sessions.

Please send abstracts of between 150 and 200 words to creativecommunities@griffith.edu.au

To assist us with organising submissions, in the subject line of your email please type the word ‘abstract’ and your last name, eg: ‘Abstract Smith’.

The deadline for abstracts has now been extended until Friday 21 May 2010.

For further information, please contact Jill Jones: j.jones@griffith.edu.au

Please visit www.griffith.edu.au/cpci and follow the link to the Creative Communities page. Details will appear on conference website as they come to hand.