

**Holly St Clair**

**ARP: stuff.jpg**

# Introduction



'Heart' Holly St Clair, 2017.



'Cut Copy Paste' Hi Bye Studio, 2017.

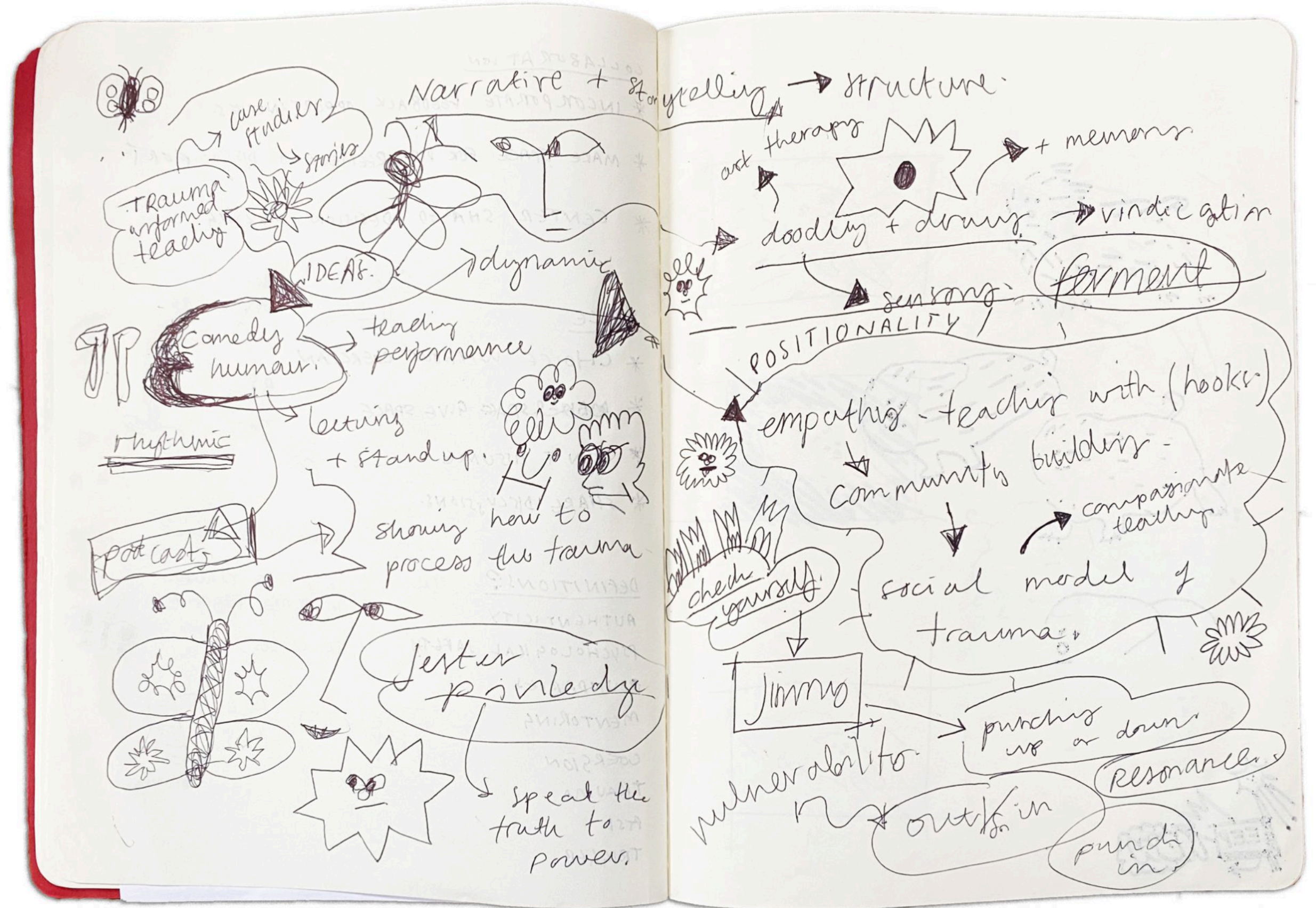
## Previous Relevant Experiences

- \* Associate Lecturer at Camberwell College of Arts on Illustration BA (Hons)
- \* Freelance illustrator
- \* Previously at Hi Bye Studio with Lily Kong
- \* Internal and external projects focus on conversation as a means to accessing challenging or taboo content

My teaching context at UAL is precarious and time limited.



# Introduction



Holly St Clair, 2024.

## Project Themes

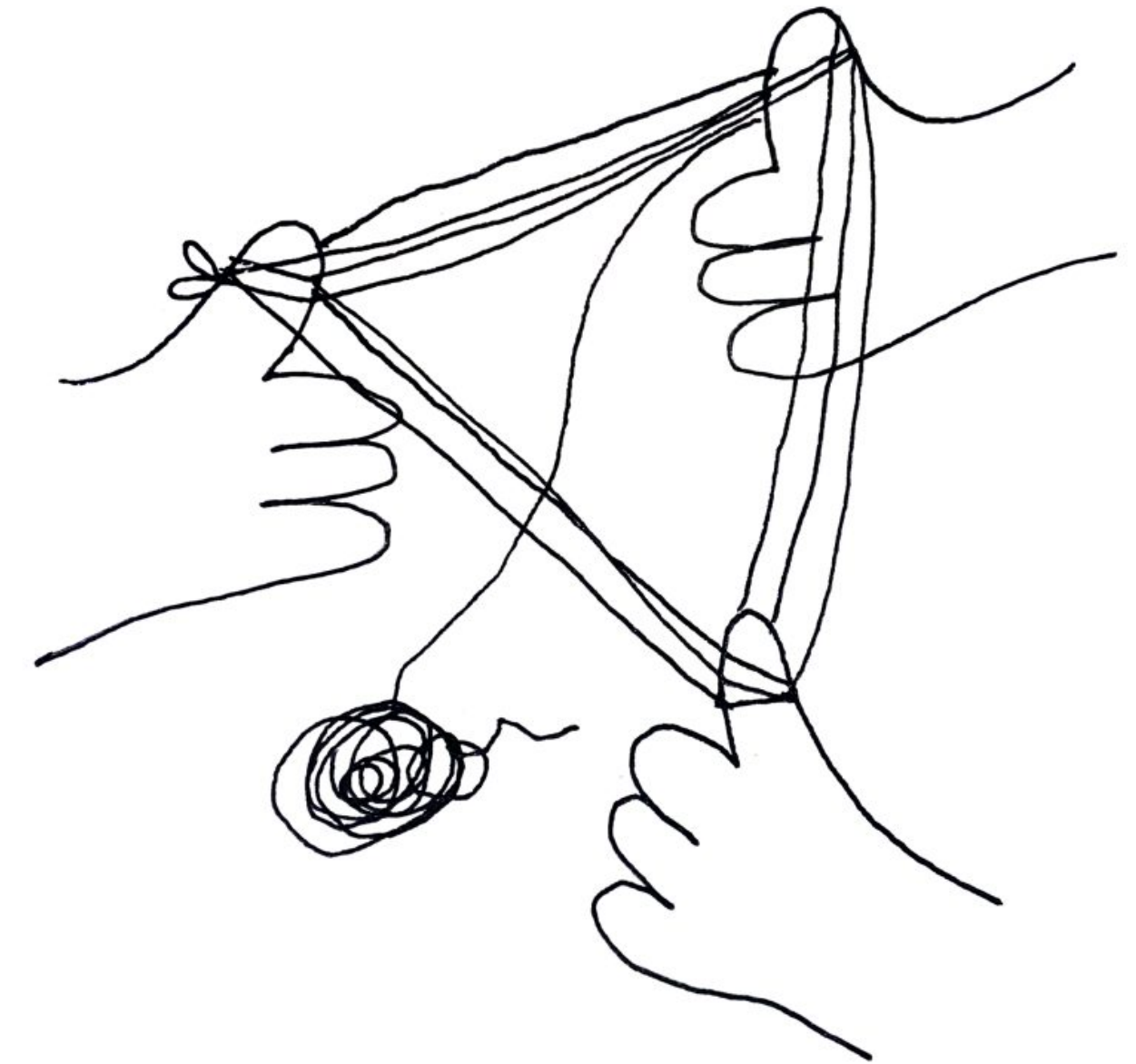
- \* Narrative and storytelling
- \* Comedy as a progressive tool
- \* Podcasting
- \* Education as performance (or the educator as an entertainer...!)

## ***Research Question***

**How can podcasts use storytelling  
to educate story listeners?**



## **Reading**



## **Learning Through Story Listening**

**McCann S, Barto J, Goldman N., 2019**

- \* Story listener and story teller align through neural coupling
- \* Narratives help humans share information, engender compassion, and communicate emotion
- \* Aural storytelling is a mnemonic device
- \* ‘Storylistening’ is a skill like storytelling
- \* The relationship between teller and listener creates a ‘second person space’ where transformative learning can occur
- \* Can a good host and guest dynamic demonstrate this?

# ***Reading***

## **Method Illustration**

### **Franklin J, Taylor R.E., 2022**

- \* Developed from method acting methodology (Stanislavsky, 1936.)
- \* Exploration through action
- \* ‘Synthesis between performance and illustration’
- \* Therefore...

Franklin, J. and Taylor, R.E. (2022) ‘Method illustration’, *Journal of Illustration*, 9(1), pp. 115–142. Available at: [https://doi.org/10.1386/jill\\_00052\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1386/jill_00052_1).

I need to make a podcast. Oh no.

## Field Trip

# Trashfuture Studio Visit Interview with Thomas O'Mahoney (23/10/24)

- \* Met with Thomas O'Mahoney, podcast producer and co-host of Beneath the Skin and Lions Led By Donkeys.
- \* Lions Led By Donkeys is a left-wing military history podcast
- \* Beneath the Skin tells the history of everything through the history of tattooing
- \* Conducted a semi-structured interview and took visual notes

My takeaways:

- \* Overlap between teaching and podcasting
- \* Role-play and performance play a part - one host takes the role of the listener
- \* Tom: "Although podcasts are one way communication that doesn't stop discourse. They [the audience] feel like they are part of the conversation. That's why the format works."
- \* Lived experiences bring connection and foster empathy with audience

Thomas O'Mahoney. Trashfuture Studio Visit. Interview by Holly St Clair, 23 October 2024.





***Action!***

# **stuff.jpg 1: A Short History of Gui with Lily Kong**

# ***stuff.jpg 1: A Short History of GUI***

- \* Topic: Graphics User Interfaces (with diversions into semiotics, hauntology, and Barthes' Mythologies)
- \* Guest: Lily Kong
- \* Recorded in a home in a DIY set up
- \* Gathered feedback from a group of critical friends

Holly St Clair and Lily Kong. 'A Short History of GUI'. Mp4. Stuff.Jpg, 2024. [https://youtu.be/j6nOzXn\\_UCg](https://youtu.be/j6nOzXn_UCg).

## **stuff.jpg 1: A Short History of GUI**

**“...a trusted person who asks provocative questions, provides data to be examined through another lens, and offers critique of a person’s work as a friend. A critical friend takes the time to fully understand the context of the work presented and the outcomes that the person or group is working toward. The friend is an advocate for the success of that work.”** (Costa & Kallick, 1993.)



## **stuff.jpg 1: A Short History of GUI**

**“Host and guest dynamic was engaging, I was asking the same questions that Lily asked. It felt like she was my avatar.” (HH)**

**“Really interesting topic, and very easy to follow along particularly when Lily described an image and then you asked some questions to make her dissect it further.” (CH)**

### Feedback from Critical Friends

- \* Enjoyed the host dynamics and humour
- \* The guest was an ‘avatar’ for the listener
- \* They would like the episode to be shorter - around an hour long - with a smaller scope of topics
- \* They wanted to see more images and to use those alongside oral storytelling

***Action!***

**stuff.jpg 2: Santa Claus with  
Thomas O'Mahoney**

## ***stuff.jpg 2: Santa Claus***

- \* Topic: depictions of Santa Claus, from saint's image to Coca-Cola
- \* Guest: Thomas O'Mahoney
- \* Recorded at the Trashfuture Studio in a professional podcasting environment
- \* Gathered feedback from a group of critical friends and a wider audience representing the potential target audience of the podcast
- \* Feedback was gathered during a live listening session hosted on Google Hangouts

Holly St Clair and Thomas O'Mahoney. 'Santa Claus'. Mp4. Stuff.Jpg, n.d. [https://youtu.be/j6nOzXn\\_UCg](https://youtu.be/j6nOzXn_UCg).



***stuff.jpg 2: Santa Claus***

## **What's so funny about social justice?**

**Goebel B, 2018**

- \* Social justice humour: 'explicitly identifies and challenges bias and corresponding inequities.' (p. 48)
- \* Humour can help dissect intersectional identities – you can notice humorous contradictions and similarities between the different spheres of interest

Goebel, Bruce. 'What's So Funny about Social Justice?' The English Journal 107, no. 6 (2018): 48–53.

**stuff.jpg 2: Santa Claus**

respectful    easy  
engaging    narrative  
informative    exciting    analytical  
funny    humorous  
casual    conversational  
relaxed    approachable  
          complimentary

summarise  
          define  
confusing  
zooming    recap

\* I tallied the words most commonly used in the critical and positive feedback given on stuff.jpg 2

## ***stuff.jpg 2: Santa Claus***

### **Key Feedback**

#### **Constructivist Learning**

“It was really easy to take in the information. I could understand a lot of what you were saying, even though I had holes in my base knowledge.”

“I’m not an aural learner, I like visuals more. The things that stood out to me I already knew a little about – like Coca-Cola and Santa. I remember the images well.”

“The subject itself is relatable – **everyone knows something about Christmas but not its history**. The conversational tone also helped in making the learning easier. I don’t feel spoon fed information.”

#### **Humour and Social Justice**

“The racist imagery stood out to me – not in a bad way! You were able to talk about it in a way that was still respectful but had humour. It felt cathartic. Like these images are so ridiculous. **You took them apart and that took away a bit of their power.**”

#### **Observational Learning**

“Tom was kind of my audience insert, but not fully. They **both taught things to the audience in different ways**. Tom is the first recipient and person to learn from their info, then as the listener we kind of receive both information together as complimentary.”



**“Because it was a story, I  
could find myself again if I  
got lost.”**

## Reflection



In the future I would like to...

- \* Be a better data analyst! Get over my fear of numbers
- \* Be a more empathetic lecturer to my students who 'should be doing more'
- \* Continue with the podcast and continue improving it with each episode!

*To be continued...?*

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Thomas O’Mahoney. Trashfuture Studio Visit. Interview by Holly St Clair, 23 October 2024.