

# What the praxis? [slide 1]

## This is not an introduction [slide 2]

[take off shoes]

[memo to the audience]

I am an artist, researcher, writer and lecturer.

I co-ordinate doctoral training at the Faculty of Arts, Design & Media at BCU to around 160 PhD students working across a broad range of schools that deal with practice including fine art, design, architecture, music, performance and english.

I am also the University-wide PGCert in Research Practice Course Director.

My practice is as a painter: I make things like painstculptstallations, textstallations, book-paintings, painting-poems, paintings-texts. [slide 3]

My practice is also my writing: art-writing, performances and artefacts. [slide 4]

My practice is also the dissemination of my research: such as the articulation of a 32-ft long scroll as a research paper. [slide 5]

As you can imagine, this causes some confusion when it turns up in internal post for a research audit.

My research falls into three interrelated areas:

1. My own practice-led research
2. Research about practice-led research
3. Research about teaching practice-led research.

I completed my own practice-led PhD five years ago at the School of Art.

I've only really come to believe that this is important, but I was also one of the first people in the UK to complete a Fine Art practice-led PhD in which one of its aims of the PhD was to make a contribution to the Fine Art practice-led PhD.

[True story]

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When I was invited to speak today, I was really excited because Don told me this would be informal, playful and experimental.

The thing is: I think it is also a serious practice.

So, I've done what I think any serious academic would in this scenario: I've prepared a paper for you. And of course, a powerpoint.

Of which I will very clearly and very straightforwardly discuss PAR.

It is tentatively titled: What the praxis?

[Drags huge paper to front of space and starts to unfold it.]