



*Recycling Stories:
Community Art and Deliberative Democracy
Opening Spaces for Civic Engagement*

*Bruno de Oliveira Jayme
University of Manitoba*

*Erika Germanos
University of Victoria*

*Brent Franco Saccucci
University of Alberta*

Abstract:

How can we create meaningful spaces of engagement for citizens who work in the recycling industry in Brazil who suffer marginalization? What can we learn from the Brazilian experience of opening spaces of engagement? Seeking answers for these questions, we entered the journey of participatory action and arts-based research and developed a series of visual arts workshops and public exhibits in the city of São Paulo, Brazil. In this context, the objective of this study is to explore the diverse role of the arts in not just creating spaces for engagement that are inherently deliberatively democratic, but also holding the space for dialogue, knowledge construction and mobilization, and civic engagement.

Keywords: arts-based research; participatory action research; socially engaged art

Biographical Notes

Bruno de Oliveira Jayme is a Brazilian visual artist and an associate professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba. His research interests and curiosities are around creative pedagogies, arts-based and environmental adult education, and how street art can be a pedagogical tool for possible dreams.

Erika Germanos has a PhD in Education. She has a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences and a Master of Science degree. She has been a teacher educator since 2006. Her interests include teachers' initial and continuous education and teachers' professional development. She also has experience in environmental education based on Paulo Freire's theory.

Brent Franco Saccucci (he/they) completed his MA at OISE/University of Toronto in Curriculum Studies and is an instructor and PhD student in the Department of Secondary Education at the University of Alberta, where he researches digital humanities, research-creation and cultural studies. He is also an adjunct professor of education at the University of British Columbia, a local drag queen, and stand-up comedian.