



You Said You Liked the Dancing

This exhibition is the second part of a series of art works created by dance artist Janice Parker in collaboration with Town Break Stirling, a charity that supports people with dementia and their carers.

Created as part of macrobert's outreach activity and Get Scotland Dancing programme, the work is a celebration of the role of dance, music and art in people's lives.

In 2012, inspired by the University's dementia development and research work, macrobert invited Janice to be in residence with Town Break. The first residency, although short, had a profound impact on everyone involved. It concluded in the creation of a short dance film, which itself has had a powerful reach across the world; challenging perceptions of ageing and dementia. In this second residency Janice has exchanged and collaborated with different people, performers and artists to create a new art work that shares a little of the experience they had together.

macrobert's partnership with Town Break continues to be inspiring, challenging and thought provoking. We are hugely grateful to the staff, volunteers and clients who meet us openly, enthusiastically and with a lot of humour! With the help of their experience and commitment we are exploring more ways for macrobert to become more dementia friendly - we have a long way to go, but we are hopeful that the small steps that we have started to take will make a difference to families across the Forth Valley region.

Thanks to everyone involved in the project:

Town break clients, staff and volunteers: Thelma Anderson, Kirsty Banks, Rona Barton, Jean Bennett, Susie Connell, Aline Faunce, Winnie Goodwin, Christine Hadley, Robin Lang, Alec Leathley, Leslie Marshall, Agnes McDonald, Janet McDonald, Grace MacDonald, Alasdair Morrison, Bridie O'Donnell, Jenny Rejman, James Rose, Alec Tocher, Ivo Todorov, David Whitehead. Also Michael John McCarthy; Tommy Ga-Ken Wan; Jo Verrent, Adam Scott, Nicola Denman and all macrobert staff.

Alice McGrath

Director of Creative Development, macrobert





A Few Words from Janice Parker

I've been collaborating with the folks of Town Break Day Services every week for 8 weeks. We danced, we laughed, we shared and we talked.

I recorded everything. I was keen to capture the sound of people dancing - the energy, the atmosphere, the enthusiasm and the dancing itself.

Sound artist Michael John McCarthy has edited this into a sound-loop for you to experience for yourself - either as a moment as you walk through, or for you to linger with and immerse yourself in. You might even be inspired to have a wee dance! (The sound loop last for approximately 12 minutes).

The images by Tommy Ga-Ken Wan were taken in macrobert's dance studio. We wanted to capture people dancing in the moment and we wanted to share that.

I am constantly nourished by the enthusiasm and the contribution of the Town Break folks, by their love for dance, their humour and irony, the requests for such a huge variety of music that grew week by week, and by the richness of their life experience.

Janice Parker

Artist in Residence

