



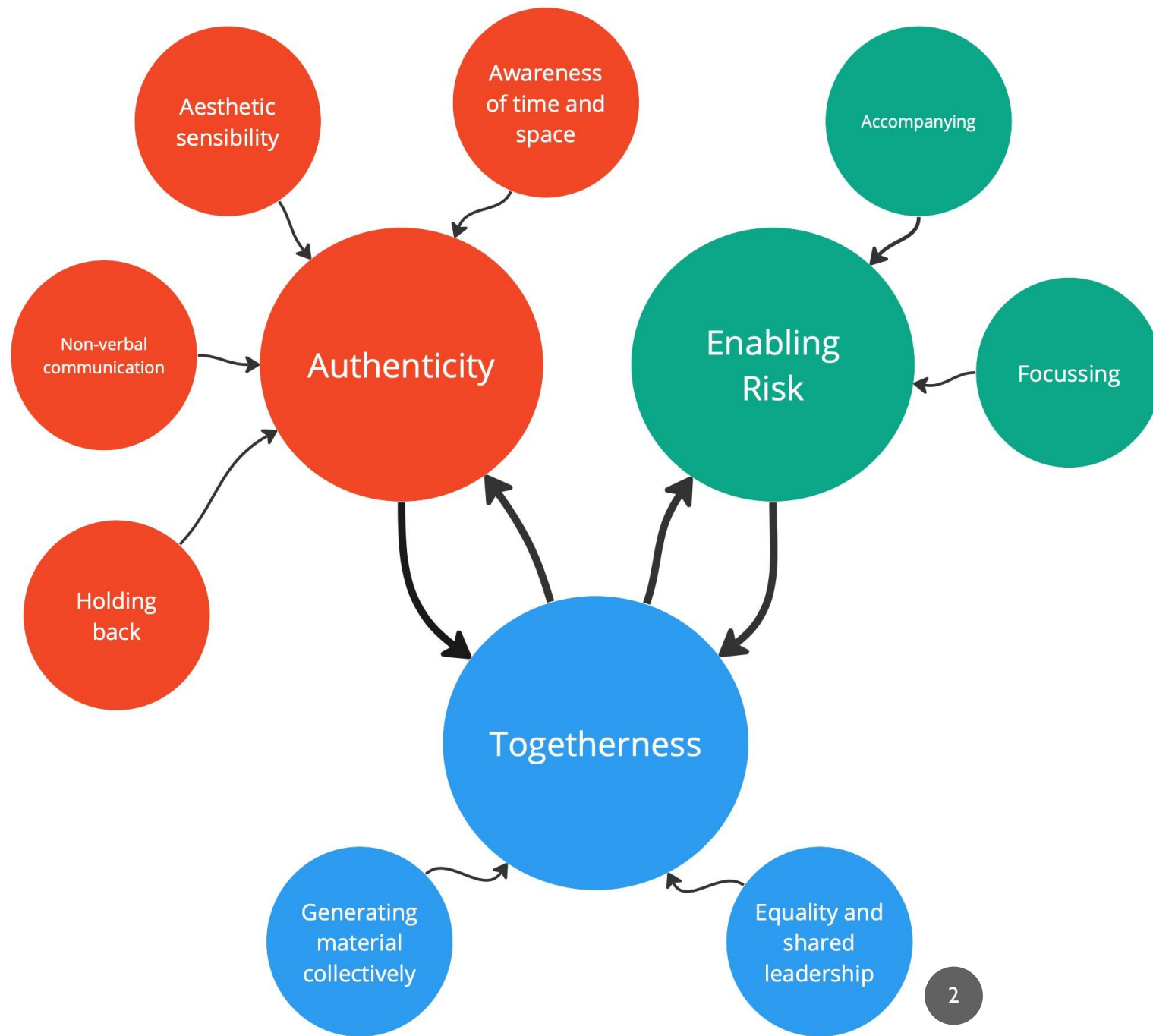
‘Making a Living Moment More Resonant’
An exploration of the role of the artist in
co-creative work with people living with
dementia

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ROYAL
ACADEMY
OF
MUSIC

MAIN THEMES AND SUBTHEMES



AUTHENTICITY

‘There is no hiding place in this project’

AUTHENTICITY



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HOLDING BACK

‘Treasure the lulls’

‘Silence is the Winter that enables the Spring’

NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION

'it was those with whom I have
spoken less/ have less words
themselves that I felt I saw more'

'The moment where I placed the
side of my face against the palm of
his hand and he moulded to me,
read me.'



ENABLING RISK

...the uncertainty of not knowing what will happen next ...that is the very essence of the starting point for co-creativity

ENABLING RISK

ACCOMPANYING

‘By supporting them you empower them to go further – or perhaps more importantly to go forward together’



TOGETHERNESS

‘I danced with R and she held me and rubbed my back.
Who was holding who? We did both’

TOGETHERNESS

GENERATING MATERIAL COLLECTIVELY

'Like building a building, block
by block without knowing the
final design'



TOGETHERNESS

EQUALITY AND SHARED LEADERSHIP

'I see that there is a real power in these moments of equality but that the balance in partnership to achieve those moments is in constant ebb and flow'

'Do I change, do they change? One needs the other'

Who was holding who?





FURTHER READING

H. Zeilig, J. West, M. van der Byl Williams, *Co-creativity: Possibilities for using the arts with people with a dementia*, *Quality in Ageing and Older Adults*, 2018

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr Hannah Zeilig – co-researcher,
Reader - Senior Lecturer in Health
for Art and Design, London College
of Fashion, University of the Arts,
London

Musicians – Lucy Payne (cello),
Mary Martin (violin), Tim Cape
(composer)

Dancers – Clare Whistler, Henry
Montes

Arc Studio – artwork and animation



Who was holding who?

