

Confluence Event

The arts offer the perspective of another world blended with the filters of our own.

The arts explore mystery outside the box of convention by inviting tension with opposite ways of thinking.

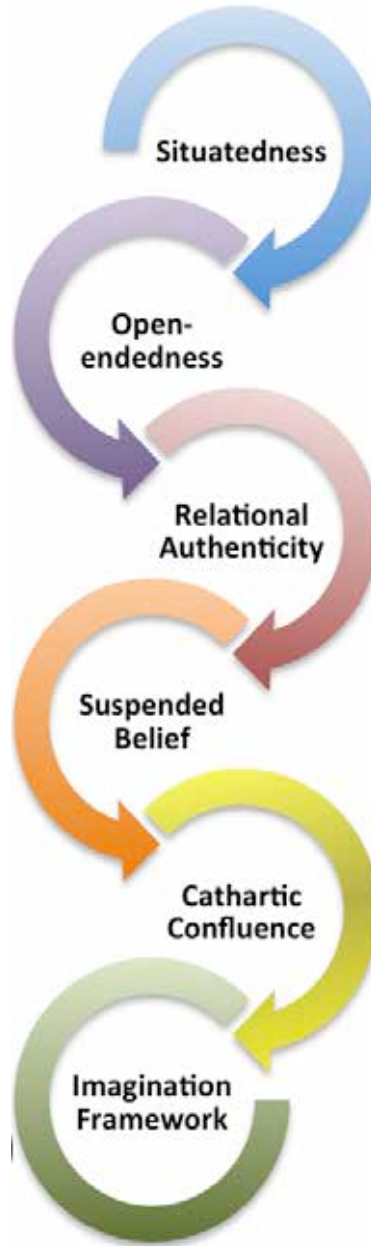
The arts understand the believability of vulnerable honesty and the invitation it compels.

The arts suspend our belief in order to model 'what if' scenarios where new ideas can be imagined.

Artists provide a catharsis of shared pain or joy where validation and relief permit the co-opting of new ideas.

The arts intuitively approximate the mystery of the whole balanced with the reasoning of its parts known and unknown

Touchstones



Worldview

- What is it like in your world?

Mystery

- What can be experienced outside my world?

Truth

- How believable is your story in my world?

Innovation

- What if life were like that in my world?

Disposition

- Does my story make sense as our worlds intersect?

Appropriation

- What can I know in making sense of my world?

Postmodern Priorities

Embedded Culture

- Truth is relative to the community in which we are embedded.

Blending of opposites

- Opposing ideas are held in tension without looking for absolute truth.

Experience of Knowledge

- Meaning not in the individual words but experienced within the context of community.

Pragmaticism

- Hold new ideas in tension with old, with no allegiance to theories that do not function.

Co-opting of meaning

- Co-opt new ideas through experiential validation and collaboration with others.

Wholism

- Network of ideas that relate to and support each other along with the unexplained gaps.

A Way Forward

Importance of immersing oneself into the situatedness of another.

Open-ended discussions can give life. Hear stories and the meaning people make of them.

People will connect with truth experientially as you allow them to grapple with real issues.

Bridge barriers and hear one another's stories

Create a culture of a living message knowing everyone is on a journey of theological discovery.

The theologian becomes a curator of the gallery of theological ideas that all have experienced.