

Hedwig Barry and Professor David Andrew

***A return to Practices and Pedagogies – artistic research as untethering and foraging***

At the January 2020 Arts Research Africa Conference Barry and Andrew reflected on what it means to engage in artistic research over a period of a one-year Master of Arts in Fine Arts (MAFA) project. The present paper marks a return to their interest in practices and pedagogies, the key focus of the Arts Research Africa International Conference. Again we occupy a vantage point from the Global South to consider the *digressionary trajectory* followed in the processes of artistic research. The lenses through which we consider the above diffractions are the multiple facets of the artistic research that Barry and Andrew have undertaken in the period 2020-22. This includes Barry and Andrew's interest in artistic research as an ongoing interplay of confrontation and proximities. In tandem with this focus is our critical reflection and a concurrent curiosity for what it is that we are able to learn and understand from and about artistic research. The paper continues the consideration of the kinds of rigour that are present in artistic research where methodologies necessarily resist being replicated.

Artistic research, confrontation, proximities, pedagogies, untethering, foraging

Hedwig Barry is an artist working at the intersection of the visual arts, arts education and research. Her drawings, paintings and sculptures are grounded in a rich conceptual terrain that articulates a feminist politics of love and desire in artistic practice, and in society at large. A long career as an educator, facilitator, producer and collaborator, across artistic disciplines, has led her to a dedicated studio practice embedded in the processes of drawing, painting, sculpting and writing. She completed her MAFA, with distinction, at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, in 2019.

David Andrew is an Associate Professor in the Department of Fine Arts at the Wits School of Arts, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. He studied at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, (BA Fine Arts 1985) and the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, (H Dip Ed (PG) 1986; PhD 2011). He is a practising artist and lectures in Fine Arts and Arts Education courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.