FROM ENGINEER TO CO-CREATIVE CATALYST; AN INCLUSIONAL AND TRANSFORMATIONAL JOURNEY

An inquiry into the epistemology of how traditional management 'tools and theory' can be used and evolved in enhancing organizational effectiveness in an industrial setting, and how to value and evaluate change.

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Summary of Research Topic

Title:

From Engineer to Co-Creative Catalyst; An Inclusional and Transformational Journey.

An inquiry into the epistemology of how traditional management 'tools and theory' can be used and evolved in enhancing organizational effectiveness in an industrial setting, and how to value and evaluate change.

Abstract:

This thesis is motivated by my desire to understand what it is a Change Agent actually does. Change Agents work in a variety of ways, and have a variety of organizational experiences in helping to create change. Over the years I have become more aware that there is no single body of theory that combines and explains the practical and theoretical approaches that can be taken in Change Management.

In this thesis I will show how I use my current and past practice to improve my understanding of my ontology as a Change Agent and develop an Inclusional epistemology, based on my evolving practice. This ontology transforms the way Change Management within an industrial setting can be approached, by creating fluidity across boundaries and a receptive co-creative space. In this way I create my own Living Theory.

This thesis demonstrates through the narrative of my personal journey how being an Engineer and a Co-Creative Catalyst in generating organizational change can be an Inclusional and transformational journey. Co-Creative Catalyst(s) use their own professional and personal values to help generate a creative space at the 'Edge of Fluidity', a space of embodied and emergent viewpoints on what change should be. This thesis will demonstrate how an Inclusional practice can be used to help create change, whilst also demonstrating that current economic practice needs to be understood as a fundamentally important barrier to fluidity of ideas across boundaries. This thesis demonstrates how Inclusional change can incorporate social, technical, as well economic models to be truly sustainable.

A further element that this thesis shows is that the language used needs to change in order to generate an Inclusional and transformational journey. The language used in this narrative changes with the development of my epistemology.

Index

Summary o	f Research Topic	3
Index		5
Acknowled	gements	11
1.	From Engineer to Co-Creative Catalyst: A Living Thesis	13
1.1.	General Overview	13
1.2.	A Brief Description of the Chapters	32
2.	Research Methodology and Standards of Judgement	
2.1.	Introduction	39
2.2.	My Intent	
2.3.	Standards of Judgment	54
2.4.	Research Methodology	63
2.4.1.	Justification of a Living Theory Methodology	67
3.	Change Management – A Personal Perspective	77
3.1.	Descriptions of Change	79
3.1.1.	A Perspective on Change	79
3.1.2.	Change – A different perspective	87
3.2.	Change Agency and Change Agents	90
3.2.1.	Change Agents – What are they and what do they do?	90
3.2.2.	Change Agents – A Profession	96
3.2.3.	Change Agents Evaluating Change Agents	105
3.3.	Change: Incremental or in Profound Steps	108
3.4.	Frameworks to Make Sense of Experiences	114
3.5.	Inquiry and Impact; a Financial Dimension	123
3.5.1.	Economic Theories and Perspectives	128
3.5.2.	The History of Economics	133
3.5.3.	Economic Theory Meets Social Responsibility	138
3.6.	Personal Development	141
3.6.1.	Development Levels – An Attempt to Generalize	141
3.6.2.	Feedback Loops and Development Levels	153

3.6.3.	Timing in Development and Learning	159
3.7.	Conversations – How to Engage the Soul	165
3.7.1.	Conversations with Intent	166
3.7.2.	Being in the Moment	178
3.8.	The Edge of Chaos – A Transformational Place	184
3.9.	Divisions and Boundaries	188
3.9.1.	Perspective and Language around Systems and Boundaries	196
3.10.	Inclusionality and Fluid Boundaries	201
4.	Distance Travelled	209
4.1.	A Conversation with Jack	213
4.2.	Common Threads	217
4.3.	'The Edge of Fluidity'	224
4.4.	The Components of Transformational Change	227
4.4.1.	How and Where to Start	227
4.4.2.	Building Commitment for Change	238
4.4.3.	Taking People Safely to the Edge of Fluidity and Back	244
4.4.4.	Softening and Moving Boundaries	249
4.5.	It's about Me	251
4.5.1.	Grasping My Opportunity	257
4.5.2.	Development Levels – Distance Travelled	263
4.6.	Results	266
4.6.1.	Results – A Traditional Viewpoint	268
4.6.2.	Results – An Emerging Viewpoint	269
4.6.3.	To Be Inclusional Requires a Different Language	279
5.	Epilogue	287
5.1.	Co-Creative Catalyst - An Identity	289
5.2.	Simplicity and Creativity are Two Sides of the Same Coin!	297
5.3.	Beyond the Edge of Chaos – 'The Edge of Fluidity'	306
6.	Bibliography	313
6.1.	References	315
6.2.	Audio Visual Material – Content Description	325
6.2.1.	Clip 1 – Graham John van Tuyl "Discussions"	327
6.2.2.	Clip 2 – Conversation with Jason; Jason 6 Feb. '04	327
6.2.3.	Clip 3 – Empathy and Incisive Questions; Jason 13 March '04	327

6.2.4.	Clip 4 – Transparent Conversations; Paul, Jason, Jack & Graham	327
6.2.5.	Clip 5 – Alan Rayner on Inclusionality, Boundaries and Space	328
6.2.6.	Clip 6 – Canyon Swing	328
6.2.7.	Clip 7 – Planned Positive Recognition	328
6.2.8.	Clip 8 – Ferres Bueller's Day Off (1986)	328
6.2.9.	Clip 9 – Dead Poets Society (1989)	329
6.2.10.	Clip 10 – Mr. Holland's Opus (1995)	329
6.2.11.	Clip 11 – Terry Tate Office Linebacker	330
7.	Appendices	333
7.1.	Stories	335
7.1.1.	Missing a Beat	339
7.1.1.1.	Correspondence with Poole Hospital	347
7.1.2.	The 5th Man Case Study	357
7.1.2.1.	"The 5th Man"	367
7.1.3.	Safety is more than just a Habit	387
7.1.4.	Systemic Patterns	395
7.1.5.	A conversation with Jason Footnote 56	401
7.1.6.	Self-Reflection; an Example of how I Learn	407
7.1.7.	Conversations with a difference	413
7.1.8.	Winning a Contract	419
7.1.9.	Courage and Humility	425
7.1.10.	Boundaries and Space - Clip 5 Transcript (Alan Rayner)	431
7.2.	Papers – Internal Company Publications and Published papers	435
7.2.1.	"Best of the Best" Submission 1998	437
7.2.2.	"Best of the Best" Submission 2003	467
7.2.3.	Theoretical Maximum Performance; ProStar Rig 2000	525
7.2.4.	"Process Optimization" Through LEAD Coaching	537
7.2.5.	Prozeßoptimierung und Mitarbeiterentwicklung durch LEAD*-Coaching –	
	Erfahrungsbericht eines Bohroperators	551
Attachments		565
CD 1		567
CD 2		569
CD 2		E71



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This is a thesis about change, personal change linked to organizational change. I am an Engineer and I am a Co-Creative Catalyst, a person who helps others to transform the situation they are in. This thesis is about improving the steps a single person or social formations can make to increase the chances of creating a better and more sustainable future. The most important changes are in individuals' behaviours. This changes structures, processes, competences and allows development. If this is done, results will follow.

This thesis is not about 'crystal ball gazing' and has been built on my experiences and uses practical examples from my practice as a Change Agent. It is about real situations, real people and real steps that could be made to help transform situations, by making boundaries 'fluid'.

As the picture shows, a person can be on both sides of a boundary. It is just about points of view, and an openness and empathy towards the other viewpoint – Inclusionality!

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