

OPEN STUDIO PROCESS/COLLABORATIVE INQUIRY THROUGH ART

The Open Studio Process is a psycho-spiritual technology in which, through the articulation of clear intention, engagement in creative means, and conscious witness of actions, individuals and groups can align ourselves with the energy and intelligence of the Creative Source to co-create our visions in the world. OSP consists of three parts:

- setting an intention
 - o meditatively coming into quiet alignment with body, mind and spirit
- entering the space of ‘all possibility’
 - o making art or engaging with another imaginal process
- witness
 - o free writing to engage the creative experience
 - o reading the witness aloud to others (optional)
 - o holding the space for others to read, manifesting witness consciousness
 - o adhering to the “no comment” rule

Collaborative Inquiry Through Art: Uses all the steps described above with a slight tweak, the intention is jointly held by a group rather than individually set by each individual. In the best of all circumstances, the exact wording of the intention is arrived at by a consensus of the group working together. At the end of **CIA** there is an additional step, again done via the group in the Art Hives example. The “no comment” rule stays in effect in regards to both the individual art made or witness read. The next phase often employs the **Open Space Technology**, as used during the Art Hives symposium.

- harvesting the learning
 - o noticing how we are called to participate next in the work

- joining with others to support and manifest the work
- creating next steps for the larger project

The **OSP/CIA** functions as a method of clarification, assessment and course correction to be used as a regular practice to keep those involved in alignment with both their highest good and their right relationship to the work and the work's own spirit There are some underlying premises that support this work:

- Creativity is both a birthright of all and a common resource for all from which each and all can draw for energy, support and guidance in life and work
- The Creative Source supports the ongoing manifestation of itself through human endeavor
- Intention, both personal and group, is a living process that requires ongoing engagement to unfold in truth and complexity
- When intention seems not to manifest there may be unseen obstacles that can be surfaced and understood
- It is possible for humans to work together in a way that supports their creative unfolding as well as the creative unfolding of groups, communities and large scale endeavors
- All living things, individuals, groups, communities and endeavors large and small have a spirit or soul that has a role and a presence and can be engaged with through creative expressive means

