**Senior Moments: Contemplations towards an *Art of Ageing* through filmmaking and performance.**

This performance presentation shares practice based research from the \*CINAGE” and ‘MINING THE MEMORIES” projects using visual, oral and textual performative strategies. The aims, methodology, outcomes and impact of this developing body of work is disseminated using the voices of the participants and the creative directors.

***\*CINAGE - a Grundtvig multilateral film making project with interlinked activities resulting in the production of a learning package aimed at empowering older people towards achieving active ageing.***

The presentation traces the development of the CINAGE project, through its various phases, that originally addressed the six competencies identified by the EU as essential to active ageing. We will illustrate aspects of biographical discourse using key examples from the pilot course in practical filmmaking, with a group of senior volunteers, developed with a second and larger group of volunteers, and then continued and expanded with a group of ex-miners specifically invited to tell their stories of the loss of their industry and communities

We’ll share the story of how screenwriting, directing, editing, and performance workshops, enabled participants to write and produce their own scripts, based on autobiographical stories and strategies for coping with ageing.

The CINAGE project culminated in both 2015 and 2016 with a Film Festival and symposium that invited short film entries featuring older protagonists, or which had older filmmakers as part of the creative team and/or crew. These Festivals were co-ordinated by the CINAGE volunteers, supported by our City Council, and our University, to further an agenda of sustainability and development. Bradford City of Film also hosted dissemination in its inaugural Golden Screen Festival. The project reflects the University’s widening participation and Age Friendly agenda, creating learning environment for collaboration, connectivity, intergenerational learning and creative engagement – all through biographical discourse - for adult learners.

Framed within a phenomenological discourse of experiential and embodied learning (Baars, Solnit and Bogart) our presentation proposes new models for developing creative learning and educational projects for older adults, situated at the heart of higher education and the University sector. Sharing the experience of the pilot filmmaking project, the challenges of addressing political agency with the UK ex-miners, we argue for the centrality of autobiography in creative practice as a tool for enabling transformational learning processes and the production and dissemination of high quality outputs.

Based on the success of a weekend of live performance during the CINAGE 2016 Course, we will dicuss how the forthcoming CINAGE Live Course in 2017 will engage participants in exploring their own attitudes as senior citizens of current political agendas (such as Brexit) through live contemporary, site specific and site responsive performance.

Our presentation would benefit from a screening of selected films made by the participants – which could either accompany the live performance presentation or be scheduled later as an additional/optional conference activity.

***Key Words:*** *Creativity, FilmMaking, Intergenerational, Storytelling, Discourse, Autobiography*