What do Artists Know?

Beyond a wide range of material practices, histories and techniques, concepts and theoretical frameworks, artists are trained to use a unique set of skills, process, and **methodologies**. *These include:*

❑ Synthesizing diverse facts, goals, and references – making connections and speaking many "languages". Artists are very "lateral" in their research and operations and have great intellectual and operational agility.

❑ Production of new knowledge as evidenced by the 100+ year history of innovation and originality as a *top criterion*

❑ Creative, in-process problem solving and ongoing processes, not all up-front creativity: responsivity.

❑ Artists compose *and* perform, initiate *and* carry-thru, design *and* execute. This creates a relatively tight "feedback loop" in their process.

❑ Pro-active not re-active practice: artists are trained to initiate, re-direct the brief, and consider their intentionality.

❑ Acute cognizance of individual responsibility for the meanings, ramifications and consequences of their work.   (The down side of this is that artists are not always team-oriented or willing to compromise due to the high premium placed on individual responsibility and sole authorship.)

❑ Understanding of the language of cultural values and how they are embodied and represented – re-valuation and re-contextualization.

❑ Participation and maneuvering in non-compensation (social) economies, idea economies, and other intangible values (capital).

❑ Proficiency in evaluation and analysis along multiple-criteria -- qualitative lines, qualitative assessment. Many are skilled in pattern and system recognition, especially with asymmetrical data.

❑ Making explicit the implicit -- making visible the invisible.

❑ Artists do not think outside the box-- *there is no box.*