

Closing Workshop Photo Gallery

Tuesday 1st September 3.30 to 4.30

Facilitated by Ulster University PhD candidate Loiusé McGowan & Dr. Shari Eppel

Photos: Louise McGowan

Conflict Textiles lead a hands-on closing workshop using scraps of materials. Textile and Text left a creative tactile and visual trail; testimony of our participation and engagement during the conference. Materials were provided, though participants were welcome to bring along a small textile scrap that had a personal sentimental value.

In Louise's words:

"At the closing session of the INCORE Disappearance Studies Conference, participants gathered to take part in a hands-on workshop.

Participants were invited to use scraps of material and trimmings to "dress" their paper doll. The idea was that participants might try to encapsulate some of their experience at the conference in their doll: some chose to acknowledge or remember a specific person who had been disappeared, and others used more abstract interpretations to express their connection to the topic.

There was a creative energy in the room (as well as a lot of buzzy conversation!) and participants were eager to engage, touching the materials on the table before the workshop even began. It was clear that the discussions around the power of engaging with creative practices/arts, the need to engage all of the senses, as well as the tactile and intimate nature of textiles to express were supported and consolidated in this workshop setting. Each person did something quite different from their neighbour and participants seemed confident in their own ideas resulting in a diverse group of dolls.

Participants also wrote comments and reflections from their conference experience on the back of their doll as a way of wrapping up at the end of the three days. The pieces will be gathered together and mounted on fabric to be displayed".





