

ARC Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation and  
Institute for Creative Industries and Innovation  
are delighted to invite you to a seminar with



## **Charles Leadbeater**

Leading authority on Innovation and Creativity

on

## **Cloud Culture**

*Cloud computing promises a huge liberation of human creativity and communication; but can this precious space for our collaboration be kept open and free? Charles Leadbeater, leading thinker on creativity and innovation talks about the issues he addresses in his recent pamphlet - Cloud Culture: the global future of cultural relations*

**Date:** Thursday, 6 May 2010

**Time:** 9.30am – 11.30am

**Venue:** Queensland University of Technology  
The Gibson Room, Z1064  
Gardens Point

**RSVP:** [infocci@qut.edu.au](mailto:infocci@qut.edu.au) by Thursday, 29 April 2010

**Charles Leadbeater** has a long-standing relationship with QUT going back to the foundation of the Creative Industries Faculty in 2001. He returns here on May 6 for a series of meetings with academic, government and business leaders. The CCI and iCi are delighted to have secured some of his time for a session focussed on research issues, the future of the internet – and the future of our culture.

**Bio:**

Charles Leadbeater is a leading authority on innovation and creativity. He has advised companies, cities and governments around the world on innovation strategy and drawn on that experience in writing his book *We-think: the power of mass creativity*, which charts the rise of mass, participative approaches to innovation from science and open source software, to computer games and political campaigning.



*We-think* follows a string of acclaimed books: *Living on Thin Air*, a guide to living and working in the new economy; *Up the Down Escalator*, an attack on the culture of public pessimism accompanying globalisation and *In Search of Work*, published in the 1980s, which was one of the first books to predict the rise of more flexible and networked forms of employment.

In 2005 Charles was ranked by Accenture, the management consultancy, as one of the top management thinkers in the world. A past winner of the prestigious David Watt prize for journalism, Charles was profiled by the New York Times in 2004 for generating one of the best ideas of the year, the rise of the activist amateur, outlined in his Demos report, *The Pro-Am Revolution*.

As well as advising a wide range of organisations on innovation including the BBC, Vodafone, Microsoft, Ericsson, Channel Four Television and the Royal Shakespeare Company, Charles has been an ideas generator in his own right. As an associate editor of the *Independent* he helped Helen Fielding devise *Bridget Jones's Diary*. He wrote the first British report on the rise of social entrepreneurship, which has since become a global movement.

Charles has worked extensively as a senior adviser to the governments over the past decade, advising the 10 Downing St policy unit, the Department for Trade and Industry and the European Commission on the rise of the knowledge driven economy and the Internet, as well as the government of Shanghai. He is an advisor to the Department for Education's Innovation Unit on future strategies for more networked and personalised approaches to learning and education. He is a co-founder of the public service design agency Participle.

A visiting senior fellow at the British National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts (NESTA), he is also a longstanding senior research associate with the influential London think-tank Demos and a visiting fellow at Oxford University's Said Business School.

Charles spent ten years working for the *Financial Times* where he was Labour Editor, Industrial Editor and Tokyo Bureau Chief before becoming the paper's Features Editor. In 1994 he moved to the *Independent* as assistant editor in charge of features and became an independent author and advisor in 1996.

Charles's current research focuses on how mass, user driven innovation is reshaping organisations, with users increasingly co-creators of products and services. He is also exploring the emergence of China, India and Korea as sources of research and innovation, through a two-year, £350,000 research programme, the *Atlas of Ideas*, funded by the British government and a consortium of companies.

**More Information:**

<http://www.charlesleadbeater.net/home.asp>

<http://www.counterpoint-online.org/cloud-culture-a-new-counterpoint-publication-and-ica-debate/>