Getting started

I think starting them is to...

not to go in with too many pre-set ideas

and to go in and take people as you find them

and then use that as your base for future work

and develop from that point on

rather than looking at an end point

and saying, "Right we need to get there."

I think things have to be more fluid and iterative.

But when you're starting, it's...

harness all that positivity and all that creativity

but keep it going and have regular...

regular meetings, 'meetings' is a horrible thing,

but you need to be involved

in each other's organisations, agencies

whichever way you look at it.

Maybe at the initial meeting,

just make them feel welcome

and say what they are expecting of us

and we may be total laypeople

in regards to museums and galleries and how they operate.

The only tip I think I can give you

from my own perspective is

on starting a project is, start it small,

please do not go in too big!

Learn from the staff and colleagues what is achievable

and learning to prioritise and that's really important.

I think the most important thing

is to listen to each other

to spend time with each other as well

and to really explain what we're about.

I go back to the beginning and really say

it is that communication and that building of trust

and building of understanding.

You need some sort of contract upfront,

an agreement; how many hours

and what the commitment's going to be.

So, I think a museum can start a relationship

by being out in the community a bit more

because then they would know more organisations

and have more links with people out there in the city.

Probably like so many members of the public

I thought it was a bit out of my reach.

So one of my suggestions to them

has been, recently, is have an open day.

Because that perception that it's unaccessible to anybody,

an average Joe, let alone my clients.

So, building up relationships,

getting out there meeting people,

telling them what you do

rather than hiding behind a painting in a gallery.