



## **The Art of Rich Pictures - Audio**

*The Art of Rich Pictures in in Rich Pictures*

### **Professor Simon Bell:**

They're drinking tea, they're turning to each other and chatting and at some point you say to them 'right, kids, what I'd like you to do is sit down and draw a picture.'

### **Tessa Berg:**

Why is the rich picture important?

### **Professor Ken Eason:**

Ah, that's a good question.

### **Professor Simon Bell:**

It's a big sheet of paper in the middle of the table and it's empty. Unfailingly someone in that group will pick up the pen and make a mark on the paper. They may draw a stick person in the middle which represents themselves and they may put a question mark over their heads to say 'I've got no idea what I'm doing'.

### **Professor Ken Eason:**

And people start to connect with one another and have new ideas and see things they didn't see before

### **Tessa Berg:**

Thick lines mean things – yes? They radiate noise and bandwidth

### **Professor Simon Bell:**

The image has a power to convey –

### **Tessa Berg:**

Meanings. It would be non-verbal communication through icons, feelings, emotions.

### **Professor Ken Eason:**

The pen and the written language brings with it all the conventions – 'this word means that, this word connects with these other words in these kinds of ways.'

**Professor Simon Bell:**

You can see in the small child walking away, or the downcast head so many things. So many things that picture will tell you. If you just take a few seconds to look at it.

**Tessa Berg:**

It's a tool that can aid the thinking process

**Professor Ken Eason:**

People will say things like 'I haven't done this since I was ten – you know'.

**Professor Simon Bell:**

Gradually more strokes appear on the page. The paper starts to fill - deepen, strengthen, elaborate

**Professor Ken Eason:**

And you become more human. You become more another human being struggling to articulate some world that you inhabit or you see.

**Tessa Berg:**

Lots of different people – collaborative art – trying to depict a situation or a problem from many different perspectives

**Professor Simon Bell:**

It's a narrative. A picture is a narrative. And a third person looking in could almost instantly get it