

PROSPECTING FOR IDEAS

10x10

*"The real gold in a good idea is seldom found in the initial spark.
It's found in the dramatist's development of the idea." (Jeffrey Hatcher)*

WHERE TO LOOK:

- History
- News
- Work
- Social concerns
- Personal history
- Family & friends
- Other art forms
- Travel

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

AN IMAGE *Find a concrete image which inspires you, in a photo, painting, poem, book, song, person

A CHARACTER *Create a description including what the character wants.

A MOMENT OF CHANGE *A turning point: an accident, discovery, decision, or deed.

A PLACE *What kind of place makes things happen?

A SITUATION *An action that spurs events which build in intensity.

A CONCEPT *Describe a concept which interests you and the people who would embody it in actions.

INVESTIGATE POTENTIAL

Intriguing topic: find an idea that grabs you

Describe the situation: who, where, what happens?

Conflict: what's the obstacle?

Journey of Change: how will the character or the situation change?

Theatricality: what will make the play a delight to see and hear?

Personal connection to you: a strong feeling or belief

IDENTIFY A PERSONAL CONNECTION

What do I want most? (And what prevents me from getting it?)

What do I wish would change and why?

What makes me angry? (nb: the best source for comedy!)

What do I fear most?

What is a big obstacle I've faced in my life?

When did I learn something important?

FAVOURITE STORIES

- Historical event (or character) you've read about or imagined more than once
- News event (or character) you've read about and imagined more than once
- Event from your life (or someone else's) you've re-lived and thought about more than once
- A story you've told to others more than once

**STRETCH! Try venturing beyond the 'family problem' story and engage with bigger issues behind those relationships: social, economic, political, scientific, environmental, spiritual.*