



Jenny Secker is Professor of Mental Health at Anglia Ruskin University and the South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust. She trained in Edinburgh, first as a mental health nurse and later as a social worker. After completing her PhD with the Department of Social Work and Social Policy at Edinburgh University she worked as a researcher in a number of academic and practice organisations. Her main research interests are in the area of mental health, employment and social inclusion. Between 2005 and 2007 she led the team commissioned by the UK Department of Health and Department for Culture Media and Sport to carry out the study *Mental Health, Social Inclusion and Arts*. Following publication of that study she has supported the development and evaluation of Open Arts, a project providing arts participation and wider inclusive opportunities for people with mental health needs in South Essex.