

Leading creative people and personalities

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#### What is creative leadership?



According to Jung (2001) leadership has not been traditionally connected to creativity and innovation.



Recent studies point out that leadership has a massive influence to creativity and innovation.



According to Mumford et al. (2002) leadership tactics and acts influence for instance people's willingness to engage and likely to success with creative ventures.

#### Who are creative leaders?









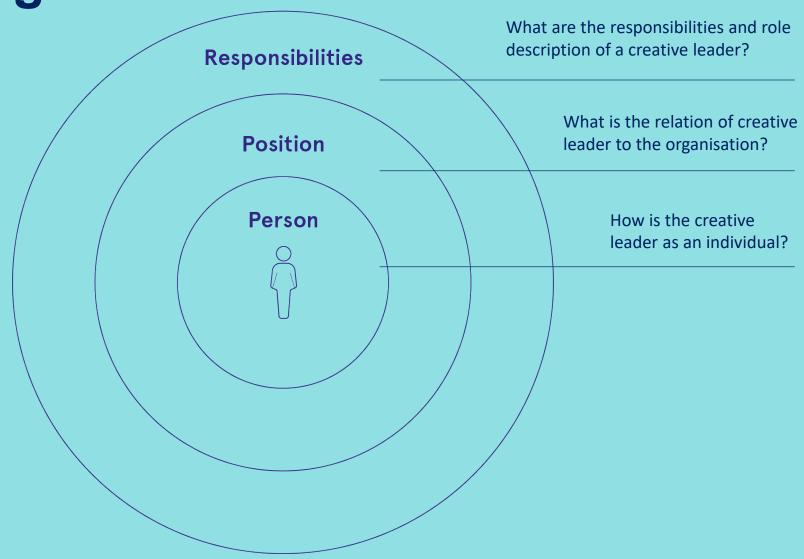


"Creative leadership can be understood through creative leaders" (Turner and Topalian, 2002)

Turner, R. & Topalian, A. (2002). Core responsibilities of design leaders in commercially demanding environments. 2002, Inaugural presentation at the Design Leadership Forum.

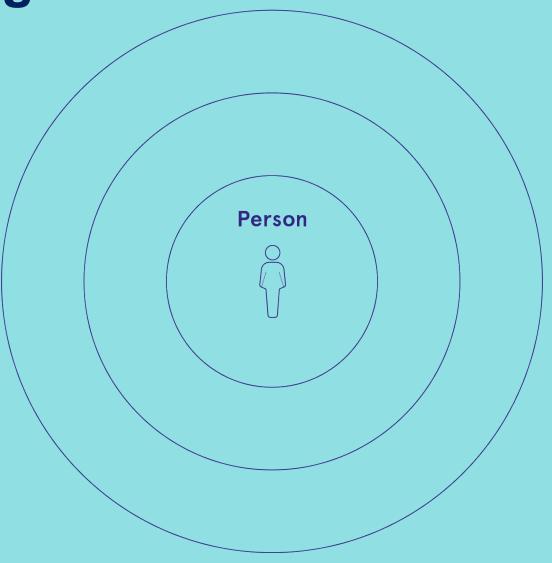
**Understandings** of creative

leadership



**Understandings** 

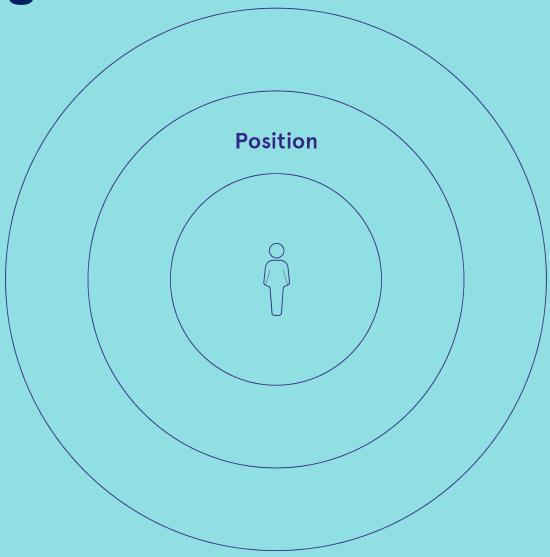
of creative leadership



- Aspirational
- Systems thinker
- Experiments and improvises
- Comfortable with ambiguity
- Networked
- Expertise in design
- Social skills

**Understandings** 

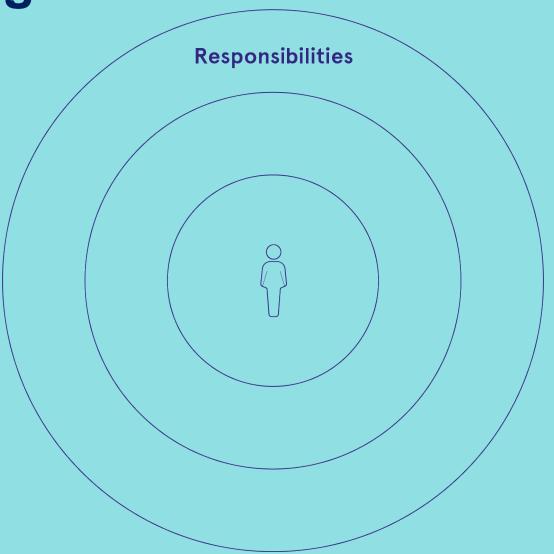
of creative leadership



- Most senior partner
- Having an influence
- Directing investments and resources for design
- Influence on culture

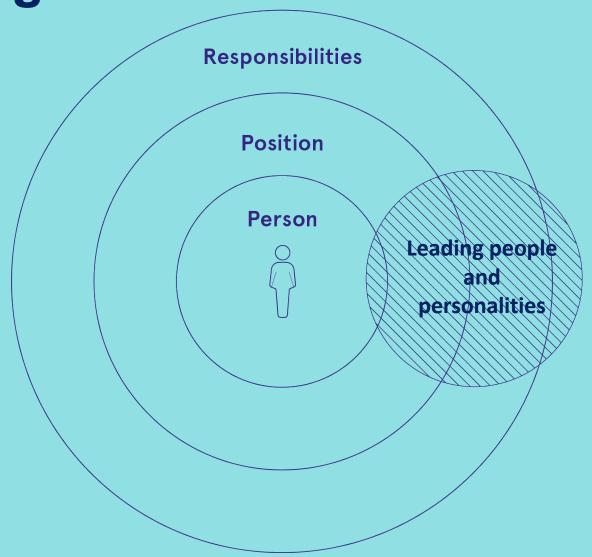
**Understandings** 

of creative leadership



- Permits useful disruption
- Leading change
- Creating a vision and leading through vision
- Engaging people for open collaboration
- Measuring and communicating design value

Understandings of creative leadership



### **Personality**

- Characteristic set of feelings, behaviours and ways of thinking
- Evolves from biological and environmental factors
- o Changes slowly if at all



## **Personality is NOT**

- o Action
- o Talent or skill
- Value or habit
- Cultural characteristics

And it doesn't depend on will or situation



## The Big Five Personality model













### Characteristics of creative people

- High levels of expertise and continuous skill enhancement
- Strong work identity
- Professional achievement and recognition are powerful motivators
- Appreciation of autonomy



# Discussion in groups (5 min)

Do creative people have shared characteristics?

Do creative leaders share these characteristics?

How can a creative leader benefit from acknowledging the personalities of his/her employees?