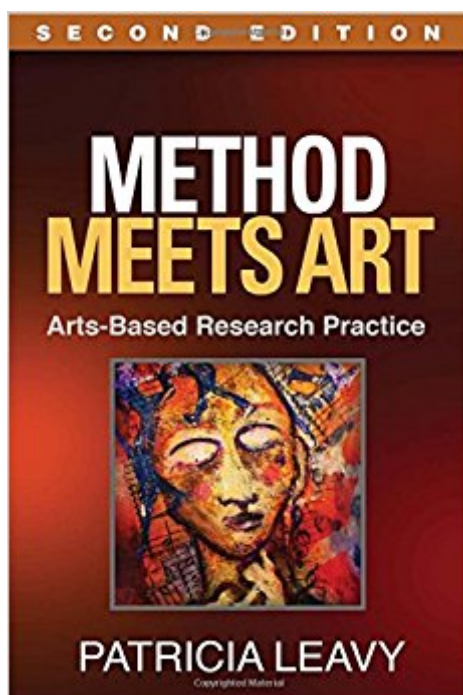


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# Method Meets Art, Second Edition: Arts-Based Research Practice



## Synopsis

A highly accessible introduction to arts-based research (ABR), this widely used text provides a practical guide for researchers who want to uncover information that traditional methods cannot capture. Patricia Leavy addresses all eight major ABR genres--narrative inquiry, fiction-based research, poetry, music, dance, theatre, film, and visual art. Following a consistent format, chapters review how each genre developed, explore its methodological variations and the kind of research questions it can address, and describe sample studies. An exemplary research article or online video link demonstrates each set of techniques in practice. See also Dr. Leavy's edited volume, *Handbook of Arts-Based Research*, which examines the theoretical and methodological foundations of ABR and explores cutting-edge applications across disciplines. New to This Edition:

- \*Covers two additional ABR genres: fiction-based research and film.
- \*Chapter on the criteria for evaluating ABR studies.
- \*Most end-of-chapter exemplars are new; plus links to online exemplars added for ABR performance studies.
- \*Chapters restructured to follow a consistent format.
- \*Implications for creative arts therapies are addressed throughout.
- \*Increased attention to public scholarship and audience issues.
- \*Expanded discussions of ABR as a paradigm, playbuilding, and technology.

**Pedagogical Features**

- \*Checklists of issues to consider when deciding how to use a particular method.
- \*Discussion questions and activities that can be worked on in class or assigned.
- \*Annotated lists of suggested readings and websites, including links to online performance pieces.
- \*Instructive research examples from multiple disciplines.
- \*Flexibly organized so that chapters can be read independently or in sequence.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Leavy has another winner! A practical, engaging guide, *Method Meets Art*, Second Edition, makes a persuasive case for ABR as its own developed paradigm with the potential to advance public scholarship. The second edition includes current examples, an important chapter on evaluation, and new discussions of film, fiction-based research, playbuilding, and creative arts therapies. This book is useful for all qualitative researchers who want to step outside a traditional mode, as well as for any graduate or advanced undergraduate class exploring ways to blend qualitative methods with narrative, music, dance, poetry, drama, fiction, film, visual art, and other creative expressions."--Carolyn Ellis, PhD, Distinguished University Professor and Chair, Department of Communication, University of South Florida "For Leavy, inquiry and performance are not the sole possessions of either science or art, but rather the children of technique, vision, and imagination. This book gently guides us from more familiar means of narrative and poetic expression to more adventurous and experimental modes of music, dance, and visual arts. Along the way, Leavy shares wonderful, original examples of how method meets art to produce research reports that are as accurate as they are moving and as rigorous as they are beautiful. The book challenges us as researchers to not so quickly select a comfortable way to create and share research, but rather let the inquiry's focus, the data's form, the audience's perspectives, and our inner muse guide us to consider new alternatives. Read this book and be prepared to base your research in art like you never could have imagined before!"--Ronald J. Chenail, PhD, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nova Southeastern University "This evocative second edition is a gem for all who want to know more about ABR and the power and potential of the arts in defining our world. Leavy has succeeded in pushing the borders of our understanding of the importance of the arts in research and in writing. The new chapter on evaluating ABR and the provocative discussion of the art/-science divide make the book a 'must read.' I will certainly use this text in my qualitative methods courses."--Valerie J. Janesick, PhD, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, University of South Florida "Like height marks on a doorframe that record a child's growth, Leavy's second edition records a major growth spurt in ABR over the past several years. Arts-based researchers and the broader qualitative research communities continue to be indebted to Leavy for her documentation, celebration, and advocacy of multiple ways of knowing. This extensively updated edition is rich with exemplars and sophisticated discussions of the epistemological and methodological issues that underpin this work. It is a standout book and a 'must have.'"--Joe Norris, PhD, Department of Dramatic Arts, Brock University, Canada "Well written, engaging, and thoughtful. The teaching features of this book

are second to none. As a qualitative researcher, but not an arts-based researcher, I appreciate the way that Leavy weaves pedagogical practices into her text, allowing for scaffolding of those new to ABR. This text serves as a bridge to the various genres, idiosyncrasies, practices, and possibilities of ABR. I highly recommend this book to students of research methods, professors of educational research, and artists who wish to engage in educational research and pedagogy."--Jennifer L. Milam, PhD, Department of Curricular and Instructional Studies, University of Akron "I love this book! It provides detailed information on each method, with an example at the end of the chapter; covers all the main ABR genres; and draws exemplars from multiple disciplines in social science. Each chapter is independent from the others, so reading doesn't need to be linear. This is a great resource for professors who want to learn about (and teach) ABR to their students."--Jeong-Hee Kim, PhD, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Kansas State University "A leading-edge, articulate, comprehensive overview of ABR. The second edition expands into new terrain to make a robust case for ABR across disciplines. Patricia Leavy has once again moved ABR forward, showing how these methods can illuminate and clarify the human experience by bridging the arts and science divide. She demonstrates that ABR methods can take us beyond the limits of quantitative conclusions and into the realm of implicit, person-centered wisdom. This book will undoubtedly be required reading for researchers and students in psychology, social sciences, creative arts therapies, and arts education."--Cathy A. Malchiodi, PhD, ATR-BC, LPAT, LPCC, REAT, Founder and Executive Director, Trauma-Informed Practices and Expressive Arts Therapy Institute "This is the perfect introductory text for graduate-level courses on ABR, and is also ideal for undergraduate surveys of multiple qualitative methods. Key to the book's usefulness are its broad definition of ABR and its inclusion of the multiple artistic genres that have been used as modes of data collection, analysis, and representation in qualitative research."--Susan Finley, PhD, Department of Teaching and Learning, Washington State University "This book is a great foundation for conducting ABR projects as well as a primer for explaining how and why ABR methods complement traditional methods. Leavy introduces us to the field while walking us through issues and topics overlooked by traditional research engagements. Leavy is conscious that she is on the cutting edge of this dynamic methodology and provides thoughtful background and bridging concepts/language. She helps those who use ABR practices succeed in their research and defend their methods to their institutions and audience."--Paulette Moore, MA, Visual and Communication Arts Department, Eastern Mennonite University "Method Meets Art serves as a methods book to all arts-based researchers coming from different disciplines as Leavy provides an updated comprehensive overview with practical variations, lists of suggested readings, and research

examples. But it may also be of interest to researchers and artists outside the qualitative community and various fields as well as to anyone who wishes to explore the merging of science and the arts. (The Qualitative Report 2016-01-01)"An excellent introductory text for arts-based research (ABR). It is time for the arts as research to reside in the research methods classroom and in research proper....Leavy adeptly relates the most basic techniques in ABR giving them away to students and researchers alike. In addition, she exceeds the introduction of techniques by presenting excellent examples of ABR research by experienced ABR methodologists. These elucidate ABR methods by showing students and beginning researchers what those methods look like when done well....I greatly appreciate Leavy's adept handling of this introduction to ABR, showing that it is legitimate, useful, and authentic among research methodologies. I have taught research methods in behavioral science for over 15 years and will use Leavy's book alongside a traditional research methods text, next time around. It is an excellent resource for students, for beginning researchers, and for academicians in the arts, literature, and social and behavioral sciences." (on the first edition) (PsycCRITIQUES 2009-01-01)"I found the book interesting and one I believe will be useful for those wanting to embark on using a different approach to research....For those practicing counseling and psychotherapy, whether engaged in therapy and/or research and not familiar with using alternative methods of enabling people to capture experience I believe this book could offer fresh insights to support and further their endeavors." (on the first edition) (Counselling and Psychotherapy Research 2010-11-01)"In reading Leavy's book I can now see that all forms of research can inform, perform, reform, and transform what we think we know about the world around as well as ourselves as researchers and readers."(on the first edition) (Weekly Qualitative 2008-10-01)"A breath of fresh air....The contribution of this book to the field of research methods is invaluable....Leavy successfully establishes the legitimacy of arts-based research in social science research and succinctly explains how pivotal arts-based research is to the future of academic research." (on the first edition) (International Journal of Education and the Arts 2009-07-01)"Her book is equally relevant to experienced researchers looking to synthesize their artistic and research interests, and students seeking to develop an understanding of innovative research practice. Leavy enables her readers to gain a sense of how a particular art form might suit their research needs and skills-set, while simultaneously validating each methodology and providing guidance over how specific research practice might be emulated."(on the first edition) (Qualitative Research 2010-04-01)

Patricia Leavy, PhD, is an independent sociologist and former Chair of Sociology and Criminology

and Founding Director of Gender Studies at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts. She is the author, coauthor, or editor of over 20 books, and is the creator and editor of seven book series. Known for her commitment to public scholarship, she is frequently contacted by the U.S. national news media and has regular blogs for The Huffington Post, The Creativity Post, and We Are the Real Deal. Dr. Leavy has received numerous awards for her work in the field of research methods, including the New England Sociologist of the Year Award from the New England Sociological Association, the Special Achievement Award from the American Creativity Association, the Egon Guba Memorial Keynote Lecture Award from the American Educational Research Association Qualitative Special Interest Group, and the Special Career Award from the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. In 2016, Mogul, a global women's empowerment platform, named her an "Influencer." Dr. Leavy delivers invited lectures and keynote addresses at universities and conferences. Her website is [www.patricialeavy.com](http://www.patricialeavy.com).

I used this book in a doctoral level course on critical autoethnography. The students loved the book! We discussed it in depth, and several students were inspired to use various arts-based methods in their final papers for the class. They intend to use these methods as they proceed with their dissertation research. They were captivated as the possibilities for presenting research findings in creative and interesting formats that allow them to write compelling accounts of working with marginalized communities. One of the students, Rebecca, said that the book gives her hope for being able to write "meaningful pieces that reach beyond the academy." Leavy's book presents the perfect blending of the arts and the sciences. Bravo, Patricia!

Love this for anyone wanting to do arts based research projects. This book is a must use!

Fantastic overview of Arts Based Research. Leavy contextualizes ABR and includes a range of approaches within different art forms. It's been an amazing textbook for my research subject in my postgrad teaching course.

Just what I needed to think more deeply about my ABER with Education Majors

This book is an excellent text and resource for researchers and graduate students who are interested in arts-based research. A comprehensive review and in-depth exploration of why this new emerging methodology will meet the expectations and goals of contemporary research in education,

social sciences, and other fields. Other some ABR books and papers offers views and perspectives on arts-based research from a single discipline, but Leavy offers a balanced and comprehensive overview of how researchers can ABR in the disciplines of arts, as well as offering a review of major exemplary works of arts-based research in the field. The first chapter provides an excellent overview of ABR, along with the last chapter discussing how to evaluate ABR and what we should expect from ABR. This book is my first choice to recommend anyone who is looking for expanding their research methods beyond traditional qualitative research methods.

I think a colleague I was talking about this book with most appropriately put into words how I feel about this work from Dr. Leavy - "Where has this book been all my life" my colleague exclaimed, and that is exactly how I feel. For many researchers, teachers, and public academics, methods represent an ongoing, often tense, conversation within and between fields throughout the arts and sciences. Rather than the binary distinction between arts and science preached by old school positivism and academics wedded to abstract notions of this or that type of knowledge as better or worse, more or less valid, and / or more or less useful in educating and speaking to broader public audiences, however, this book outlines (with citations and examples for use when encountering old school positivists and others obsessed with artificial boundaries) many ways artistic science and scientific arts can work in tandem with one another to both make information and knowledge more useful and accessible to broader audiences, and to capture the many aspects of the physical, social, and aesthetic world that do not fit so neatly into this or that arbitrary model. For anyone seeking to do arts-based-science or science-based-arts or both, this is a **MUST READ**, and a powerful example of some of the ways fluid approaches to knowledge, information, and education may go much farther than the hierarchical, binary obsessions of the past!

I purchased and read *Method Meets Arts* while researching and writing my graduate thesis for my master's degree. My area of concentration was the history of science, technology and medicine. Dr. Leavy's work was an invaluable resource. Her introduction into arts-based research (ABR) methodologies helped me open the door to innovative ways to approach historical investigations. Yes, history as a field of study traditionally falls underneath the umbrella of the humanities, but it too is a branch of the social sciences. The arts are an underlining factor in both realms of study. Applying the ABR methodologies learned from MMA helped me establish interdisciplinary bridges between the academic worlds of history, art history, sociology and anthropology. Dr. Leavy's work was so pivotal to my thesis that I mentioned her

work in my prologue. I graduated from the Harvard Extension School in May 2016. My thesis was awarded the Director's Prize for Outstanding Thesis in the Social Sciences! ABR helped me push beyond the traditional boundaries of scholarship and allowed me to infuse innovative approaches into my area of study.

In the second edition of *Method Meets Art* Patricia Leavy masterfully presents the case for Arts-Based Research (ABR) by contextualizing it within and between other more dominant research traditions and across multiple disciplinary domains. Dr. Leavy eloquently introduces, represents, and makes accessible the philosophic bases and methodological practices of ABR. In this way she invites the reader to transcend the traditional research and disciplinary silos and consider the arts as rigorous, credible, and authentic forms of knowledge and methods of investigation that can only enhance and contribute to our understanding of the human condition. With this book Dr. Leavy has provided all who are remotely curious and even a little skeptical of ABR a reasonable and unapologetic way of learning more about ABR. Great read and good introductory text!

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