IMPROVISING WITH AGILE

@PaulKGoddard #Agile2015
You don’t have to be...

1. FUNNY
2. ORIGINAL
3. CHAOTIC
Viola Spolin (1906 – 1994)

Keith Johnstone (1933 – )
Improvising With Agile

1. SAFETY
2. SPONTANEITY
3. STORYTELLING
4. STATUS
5. SENSITIVITY
Improvising With Agile

1. SAFETY
(DISCUSS)
SAFETY

• We feel safe when we trust each other
• We feel safe when it doesn’t matter if we win or lose
• We feel safe when we slow down
• We feel safe when we PLAY
Improvising With Agile

1. SAFETY
2. SPONTANEITY
WHAT’S IN THE BOX?
(DISCUSS)
YES,

• Appreciation
• Acknowledgement
• Heard
• Validation
• Encouragement
• Acceptance

AND...

• Adding
• Building
• Collaborating
• Connecting
• Inspiring
• Creating
Spontaneity

• We filter many of our ideas when we don’t feel SAFE
• We can support each other by sharing the creative burden
• We can make and accept OFFERS
• We try to avoid giving BLOCKS
Improvising With Agile

1. SAFETY
2. SPONTANEITY
3. STORYTELLING
I AM A TREE
(DISCUSS)
Storytelling

• We can follow a story that makes and resolves connections
• Storytelling can help develop empathy
• Agile teams can learn to empathise with customers as well as each other
Improvisssing With Agile

1. SAFETY
2. SPONTANEITY
3. STORYTELLING
4. STATUS
STATUS
CHESS
(DISCUSS)
Status

• Low status players tend to accept offers
• High status players tend to refuse offers (unless they feel they can control them)
• Status always exists – especially in business
• Agile teams can learn to “play” with status to collaborate more
Improvisssssing With Agile

1. SAFETY
2. SPONTANEITY
3. STORYTELLING
4. STATUS
5. SENSITIVITY
DUBBING
(DISCUSS)
Sensitivity

• Great improvisers show skills of:
  – Selflessness
  – Listening
  – Observation
  – Recollection
  – Emotional Awareness

• Remaining fully “in the moment”
Improvisssssing With Agile

1. SAFETY
2. SPONTANEITY
3. STORYTELLING
4. STATUS
5. SENSITIVITY
“BEING OPEN TO BEING CHANGED”
THANK YOU!

Available at the Agile 2015 Bookstore OR on...

amazon.com

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#Agile2015