

# Students speak about their Collective Cat's Cradle Experience

"Having power was never enough, the fun was to use it. Everyone of course needed to hold it so that the experience would work. Just like in a society, everyone needs to participate because they couldn't otherwise sustain themselves. Everyone needs to make effort to keep the string *alive*." –Maja

"The person pinching it could be seen as some sort of supreme or ultimate power, making the decision to regroup people under a certain ideology or regime." –Alma

"There were some significant figures that helped shape the network by providing their help in the centre while tying knots. These people making the web evolve and being stronger can be compared to influential scientists that helped to shape society." –Rebecca

"The links between the players in the CCCE can represent what we think we know and the groups of strings form a collective situated knowledge that the people who are part of it think they know (and think is objective)." –Joachim

"Power comes in a spectrum." –Rebecca

"The people tying the knots can be compared to history and evolution since over the years society organised itself into smaller units to be more functional. (...) Some people were also 'born' with more power if they were holding on the ends of the string. This shows how some people are born with more privileges than others. However, when those people let go, the next person then had the power. This demonstrated how you can gain 'privilege' and 'power' function in your life when you are part of the 'society'." –Clara

"Furthermore, some people began pulling strings as a means to get more string and did so in a 'playful' manner, but what I think no one realised is that things like that happen in real time where people take things that ought to be shared." –Timothée

“In this experience we could see the different types of people quite clearly. (...) the general mass in society (...) the ‘players’ (...) those who have a goal (...).”  
–Charlotte

“Alliances were formed, perhaps among friends but, also between the ones pulling the strings and the ones being pulled. Did intelligence have anything to do with it? There were some strategies that were used but, it was mostly strength and determination. (...) So, if the spider web reflects society to some extent, is society a game to some extent as well?” –Amanda

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