

Mary Catherine Bateson sees aging today as an improvisational art form calling for imagination and willingness to learn, and in this ardent, affirming study, she relates the experiences of men and women—herself included—who, upon entering this second adulthood, have found new meaning and new ways to contribute, composing their lives in new patterns. Among the people Bateson engages in open-ended, in-depth conversations are a retired Maine boatyard worker who has become a silversmith and maker of fine jewelry; an African American woman who explores the importance of grandmothering; two gay men finding contentment in mutual caring; the retired dean of a cathedral in New York City who exemplifies how a multiplicity of interests and connections lead to deeper unity; and Jane Fonda, who shares her ways of dealing with change and spiritual growth. Here is a book that presents each of us—at any age—with an exhilarating challenge to think about and approach our later lives with the full force of imagination, curiosity, and enthusiasm. At the same time, it speaks to us as members of a larger society concerned about the world that our children and grandchildren, born and not yet born, will inherit. We live longer, she says, but we think shorter. As adults find themselves entering Adulthood II, making the choices that will affirm and complete the meaning of the lives they have lived, they can play a key role, contributing their perspectives and their experience of adapting to change. In our day, wisdom is no longer associated with withdrawal and passivity but with engagement with others and the contribution that Bateson calls active wisdom.

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Start by marking *Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom* as Want to Read: Mary Catherine Bateson (born December 8, ) is an American writer and cultural anthropologist. A graduate of the Brearley School, Bateson is the daughter of Margaret Mead and Gregory.

In *Composing a Further Life*, Bateson redefines old age as an opportunity to be flourishing examples of this “age of active wisdom” from a retired boatyard.

Spring Semester Interdisciplinary Seminar Series on Aging. Keynote & Capstone. *Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom*.

From the acclaimed author of *Composing a Life* comes an inspiring exploration. Here is a book that presents each of us—at any age—with an exhilarating challenge to think about and approach our later lives with the full force of imagination, curiosity, and enthusiasm. At the same time, it speaks to us as members of a larger society concerned about the world that our children and grandchildren, born and not yet born, will inherit. We live longer, she says, but we think shorter. As adults find themselves entering Adulthood II, making the choices that will affirm and complete the meaning of the lives they have lived, they can play a key role, contributing their perspectives and their experience of adapting to change. In our day, wisdom is no longer associated with withdrawal and passivity but with engagement with others and the contribution that Bateson calls active wisdom. Picking up where she left off in *Composing a Life* (), anthropologist Bateson interviews six older individuals, from a retired Maine boatyard. [An] extended life span suggests a number of adaptations, all of which are occurring simultaneously. For some people, every stage is stretched. 26 Nov - 3 min - Uploaded by Calvin Holland Get *Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom* Details: <http://eatafk.com> The Paperback of the *Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom* by Mary Catherine Bateson at Barnes & Noble. FREE Shipping on.

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