FERAL EXPERIMENTAL

new design thinking
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## Contents

### Introduction

6  
*Dingo Logic: Feral Experimental and New Design Thinking*, Katherine Moline

### Feral Experimental Exhibition

12  
List of Works

* Avena+ Test Bed — Agricultural Printing and Altered Landscapes, Benedikt Groß (2013)
* Community Centred Innovation: Co-designing for disaster preparedness, Yoko Akama (2009–2014)
* Double Fountain: Schemata for Disconnected-Connected Bodies [after a water-clock design by the Arab engineer Al-Jazari 1136–1206], Julie Louise Bacon and James Geurts (2014)
* The Attention Powered Car, Royal Automobile Club, Western Australia (RAC WA) (2013–2014)
* Energy and Co-Designing Communities (ECDC), Bill Gaver, Mike Michael, Tobie Kerridge, Liliana Ovale, Matthew Plummer-Fernandez, Alex Wilkie and Jennifer Gabrys (2010–2014)
* Flamp, Martí Guixé (1997)

### Exhibition Biographies

50

### Acknowledgements

74
Dingo Logic:  
Feral Experimental and New Design Thinking

Feral Experimental: New Design Thinking brings together leading international practitioners and researchers who create new possibilities for design. By exploring the boundaries and overlaps between design thinking, speculative design, co-design, participatory design and exploratory experimentation, the exhibition, symposium and workshops that make up Feral Experimental highlight the impact of design methods that are currently being developed in universities and research centres. The Feral Experimental exhibition sets out to explore state-of-the-art strategies for negotiating significant contemporary challenges, from preparations for extreme weather events to energy conservation and the preservation of cultural heritage.

Experimental approaches to design thinking that are included in the exhibition engage with user experiences via cultural probes and tangible interactions. They are informed by design ethnography, design anthropology, sociology, new combinations of technology, as well as reflections on what these mean by designers and artists. This introduction describes aspects of these methodologies and other forms of creative production related to design. The objective is not to box in the works included in the exhibition into definitive categories. People don’t think that way. Furthermore, the definitions of speculative design, co-design, participatory design and exploratory experimentation are hotly contested. The descriptions provided here do not seek to simplify these terms but are intended to provide provisional definitions for methodologies used in design research contexts for non-specialist audiences. As provisional definitions they introduce the terms used in the Feral Experimental exhibition catalogue and open up specialist terminology for wider discussion.

Speculative design aims to provoke debate in design. Design is a field that has historically addressed industry requirements. As a form of reflexive design that is critical of industry norms, speculative design is sometimes seen as external to the core concerns of design. It is associated with radical design, adversarial design and critical design. Speculative design proposes that engaging people to think critically about their interactions with design is necessary. Often exhibited in galleries and museums, speculative design reflects on what might now be possible with science and technology. As a design team recognised for their contributions to speculative design, Anthony Dunne and Fiona Raby recently described it as a number of approaches to design that can be characterised as “fictional worlds”, “what-ifs” and “cautionary tales”. They see these approaches as distinct from design thinking because of the latter’s focus on, in their words, “the limits of reality as it is.” Speculative design is often seen as a conflation of art and design, but Dunne and Raby prefer to locate it within the realm of alternative scenarios of what may occur in the near future. They suggest that speculative design is “thinking through design” in that it challenges how technology influences and is imposed on everyday life.

Co-design is a collaborative endeavour between the users of designed products and services, and designers. Its purpose is to design with rather than for stakeholders and it is a method that is emphasised in user-centered design, service design and UX (user experience). Elizabeth Sanders, an early advocate of co-design, describes it as “social or collective creativity”. A key principle of which, in Sanders’s words, is that “all people are creative” and it sees utility as design’s core concern.


Co-design has a strong focus on drawing out tacit knowledge, or what people know without being fully conscious of it. Co-design is opposed to speculative design, and what Sanders and Pieter Jan Stappers call “an expert mindset” that they claim characterises people as consumers. They argue that co-design engages with end-users of design as equal partners in developing design as a creative act. A leading proponent of co-design, Bill Gaver, describes co-design projects as built on the principles of “communities of practice.”

Participatory design also explores design as a collaborative practice. It shares with co-design a focus on utility and prioritises the design user as a key stakeholder. Like co-design, it emphasises tacit knowledge and one of its guiding principles is to expect controversy rather than consensus. Founded on the principle of creating legitimate participation for all stakeholders during periods of technological change, participatory design explicitly engages with ethical issues in social intervention. It differs from co-design in that it includes manufacturers and commissioning agencies and clients in design. Also known as Scandinavian design, it is informed by the writings of Bruno Latour who argues that design research includes not only design users and commissioning clients, but also non-human actants, such as objects and devices that influence design activities. The aim of participatory design is to engage the imagination of participants rather than merely collect their data. To do this, participatory design often uses design games and workshops to imagine scenarios with people and rehearse alternative ways of doing things.

Exploratory experimentation is a research approach shared between artists and designers. The Feral Experimental exhibition includes artworks that explore design themes and processes. These works re-create devices, sometimes invent new ones and demonstrate that design innovation is often collaborative. They draw from historical precedents and contemporary peers, rather than the visionary insights of heroic designers in the popular imagination. Seeing invention as emerging from exploratory re-creation and experimentation with existing designs, as well as new combinations of ideas, technology and processes, exploratory experimentation crosses the borders of art, design and other fields of practice. The term experimental is often associated with science, but in this context it draws from art history and the radical practices of artists who focused on new approaches in visual art in the 1970s.

It is not possible, let alone desirable, to reconcile the differences between the works by the designers, design teams and artists in Feral Experimental. The exhibition does, however, present some of the differences, overlaps and intersections between a range of approaches to design research. These approaches are extended by data collection methods that incorporate sensors, cameras and GPS tracking to measure the affect of cycling in Veloscape, for example, and ecologically sensitive proposals for agriculture in Avena+ Test Bed. Other works, such as Double Fountain and The Phenology Clock, draw on historical inventions to comment on the connections between complex contemporary social and environmental issues or, in If We Never Meet Again, deploy new technologies to explore narrative and design. Significant issues are addressed by some of the designers, including the depletion of energy resources in Energy and Co-Designing Communities (ECDC), while Community-Centred Innovation focuses on how to prepare for extreme weather events in remote parts of Australia. Contemporary challenges extend as well to Kindred Spirits’ design approach to negotiating drug rehabilitation, and An Empathic Adventure devises methods for increasing the mobility of elderly people.

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10 Sanders and Jan Stappers, 18.
Playful approaches to imagining new devices are seen in *The Imaginary App* in its presentation of a sample of different apps proposed by app users, and in design responses to everyday hiccups like power shortages in works such as *Flamp*. Often invisible to the naked eye are the research methodologies underpinning such projects. Provocative prototypes, including *Sensitive Aunt*, draw from systems theory and combine aspects of both speculative and participatory design. Another example of an overlap or intersection between these approaches to design are the dolls and rehearsals of design interactions presented in the *Design-Anthropological Innovation Model (DAIM)*. *The Machine to be Another* draws on the principles of open source and combines imaginative engagements with neuroscience and anthropology by allowing people to explore seeing through someone else's eyes. Likewise, neuroscience technology developed by *Emotiv* is applied to real world applications, including the *Attention Powered Car*, while the mobile app *Run That Town* makes urban design a game. Participatory and interaction design is combined in *Circus Oz Living Archive* to preserve significant cultural heritage that was previously stored in legacy media now redundant with digitisation.

By bringing these diverse approaches together, the exhibition shows that the influence and impact of design is now so extensive it has infiltrated every facet of everyday life. Design has gone feral. Like a dingo searching for holes in a fence or a domesticated animal gone wild, *Feral Experimental* shows the convergence of design thinking with the environmental impacts of design, new combinations of technology, and human desires and interaction. Another approach for engaging with the works in the exhibition is to consider their differences and identify the overlaps between their approaches and methodologies. Who benefits from exhibiting speculative design as art is a question worth asking. Another is to compare the internal dynamics of each work with the stated aims of the practitioners. Yet another is to ask whether the principle of empowerment in co-design increases a sense of personal autonomy and, by default, supports the redistribution of responsibility aligned with the withdrawal of funding to statutory authorities in user-pays schemes? And, finally, in what ways are the nuanced debates about and between speculative design, co-design, participatory design and exploratory experimentation opening up or ghettoising design?

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Katherine Moline

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17 Merryl Parker has attempted to rescue the dingo from its bad rap for treachery in ‘The Cunning Dingo’, *Society and Animals* 15 (2007): 69–78.

18 For this question the author would like to thank Noam Toran, whose work, *If We Never Meet Again*, is included in *Feral Experimental*. 
Feral Experimental
18 July–30 August 2014

Avena+ Test Bed — Agricultural Printing and Altered Landscapes, Benedikt Groß (2013)
Avena+ Test Bed — Agricultural Printing and Altered Landscapes, video
Avena+ Test Bed — Process, video

Circus Oz Living Archive, video

Community Centred Innovation: Co-designing for disaster preparedness, Yoko Akama (2009–2014)
Playful triggers
Social Network Map
Community in Emergency Management, video
Southern Otways pilot program, video

Rehearsing the Future (2010), video
Co-Creation of In-Shop Battery Machine (2010), video
Inspiration i en boks: Brugerdreven Innovation på Afialdsområdet (2010)
Toolbox containing print in various formats, digital video, and raw game materials
Joachim Halse, Eva Brandt, Brendan Clark and Thomas Binder,
Rehearsing The Future (Copenhagen: The Danish Design School Press, 2010) (English)
Three magazines (2010) (Danish)

Double Fountain: Schemata for Disconnected-Connected Bodies [after a w-Water-clock design by the Arab engineer Al-Jazari 1136–1206], Julie Louise Bacon and James Geurts (2014)
Video

Emotiv headset
Emotiv Insight - Optimize Your Brain Fitness and Performance, 2014, video

The Attention Powered Car, Royal Automobile Club, Western Australia (RAC WA) (2013–2014)
The State of Inattention–RAC Webisode 1, September 2013, video
The Brains of the Attention Powered Car–RAC Webisode 2, September 2013, video
Creating the Attention Powered Car–RAC Webisode 3, January 2014, video
Attention Powered Car Test Track Webisode 1–Passengers: Friend, December 2013, video
Attention Powered Car Test Track Webisode 2–In car killers, December 2013, video
Attention Powered Car Test Track Webisode 3–Emotions, December 2013, video
Attention Powered Car Test Track Webisode 4–Tunes vs. Talkback, January 2013, video
What we learnt–Webisode 16, February 2014, video

An Empathic Adventure, video
An Empathic Adventure, body suit
An Empathic Adventure, photographs

Energy and Co-Designing Communities (ECDC), Bill Gaver, Mike Michael, Tobie Kerridge, Liliana Ovale, Matthew Plummer-Fernandez, Alex Wilkie and Jennifer Gabrys (2010–2014)
ECDC Workbook 1 and Workbook 2
ECDC Cultural Probe Packs
ECDC Energy Babble
ECDC participant photographs
ECDC video

Flamp, Martí Guixé (1997)
Resin light, 16 cm
Cartoon

If We Never Meet Again, Noam Toran (2010)
Two monitors, video
The Imaginary App, Paul D. Miller (aka DJ Spooky) and Svitlana Matviyenko (2012–2014)
40 posters

Kindred Spirits, G-Motiv, Susana Cámara Leret (2013)
Kindred Spirit Model 1, 27 x 26 x 44 cm
Kindred Spirit Model 2, 22 x 12 x 11 cm
The Molecules That Matter: Smell-memory kit, 30 ML glass bottles: 10 x 4 cm; packaging kit (cardboard & paper), 30 x 9 x 5 m
Photographs

The Machine to be Another, video
The Machine to be Another: Youssoupha Diop, video
The Machine to be Another: Dancing on the Feet - Embodied Dance, video
The Machine to be Another: Gender Swap, video

The Phenology Clock, Natalie Jeremijenko, Tega Brain, Drew Hornbein and Thiago de Mello Bueno (2014)
Two clocks, New York and Sydney

Run that Town: A strategy game with a twist
Mobile app, iPads
Poster

Sensitive Aunt Provotype, Laurens Boer and Jared Donovan (2012)
Two prototypes, each 18 x 18 x 10 cm
Photograph

Veloscape v.5, Volker Kuchelmeister (2014)
Bicycle fitted with sensors
Video
Avena+ Test Bed: Agricultural Printing and Altered Landscapes
Benedikt Groß (2013)

Avena+ Test Bed: Agricultural Printing and Altered Landscapes by Benedikt Groß is a speculative design that explores the possibilities of “agricultural printing”. The experiment applies algorithms to partition and create an environmentally beneficial structure into a standard biomass/energy production field. The Avena+ Test Bed field was used to plant over 11.5 hectares (320 x 920 metres) in Unterwaldhausen, southern Germany. Eighty-five per cent of the field was planted with oats (Avena Sativa) and 15 per cent of the field was planted with 11 different flowers and herbs. The field was harvested for biogas in July 2013. It illustrates how digitisation in farming can support biofuel production, and sustain diverse habitats for native flora and fauna. Groß proposes that it can also provide an income stream to farmers via a leasing system to building developers as part of the new EU regulations for land development.

The title of the design recognises the similarities in agricultural data analysis for field preparation in precision farming and digital production. In other words, the design transforms a tractor into something like a desktop printer. Designed as an exploration of agriculture and digital fabrication, Avena+ Test Bed relies on wide-ranging collaborations with agriculture experts, engineers, a tractor driver, a videographer and a pilot. Avena+ Test Bed was developed for the Design Interactions postgraduate program at the Royal College of Art, London. It won Best Concept and Best Student Project in the 2014 IxDA Interaction Awards and received an Honorary Mention at Prix Ars Electronica 2014. As an example of speculative design, Groß’s work addresses a contemporary challenge and engages people to think critically about their interactions with design, as well as providing a viable model for sustainable agriculture.


Credit: Groß acknowledges the generous support of Maximilian Count of Königsegg-Aulendorf, administrator Holger Steffen and Herbert Genet, project engineer Lorenz Riegger, Roland Groß, tractor driver Stefan Riegger, farming contractor LU Peter Boos and, for agricultural advice, Norbert Meus, Professor Dr Klaus Schmidt, and Professor Dr Martin Denterich. Groß also thanks Florian Vögtle for aerial footage, and Hermann Benkler, pilot. The agricultural machinery was generously provided by AGCO, Massey Ferguson, HORSCH Maschinen GmbH and Kommunaltechnik GmbH.
Circus Oz Living Archive

Circus Oz Living Archive brings together participatory design and interaction design in an extensive experimental process. The design celebrates the performances, rehearsal documentation and advertisements of Circus Oz since the group’s inception in 1978. The Living Archive digitises legacy video formats made redundant by technological change. It is an experimental prototype for a searchable archive that investigates the connections between innovation, repertoire development, performance and audience interaction. As a participatory interaction design, the Living Archive involved a wide range of stakeholders, including circus performers who have contributed to Circus Oz over 35 years. The archive is the result of a collaboration between RMIT University, Circus Oz, the Australia Council for the Arts, La Trobe University and the Arts Centre Melbourne, and was funded by an Australian Research Council (ARC) grant.

Examining assumptions and questioning conventions are intrinsic to experimental design projects. Laurene Vaughan describes the interdisciplinarity and participatory design process of large-scale projects such as the Circus Oz Living Archive as reliant on “understanding and engaging with the socio-historic politics, and the pre- or misconceptions, or assumptions that are present when disciplines and practitioners embark on the design of a collaborative project.” Vaughan suggests that the design was based on the twin ambitions of increasing the accessibility of the culturally significant organisation Circus Oz, and re-conceptualising connections between time, authorship and place in contemporary performance.

Addressing these aims through technology demanded an examination of terms much used in participatory design projects. For example, Circus Oz Living Archive is described as typical of interdisciplinary projects in its calibration of relationships between whole and part, and as an exploration of how creative practice is increasingly recognised as both research methodology and content. The connections between process and meaning in this participatory interaction project saw the research team adopt the white coats of lab scientists in a carnivalesque performance of research in meetings with the circus. As a group they redefined participation and interaction while creating an accessible archive.


Credit: RMIT University: project director/lead researcher David Carlin, lead researchers Adrian Miles, Peta Tait (La Trobe University), James Thom, Laurene Vaughan, Jeremy Yuille, interactive designer and developer and PhD candidate Reuben Stanton; video server administrator, database designer and PhD candidate Lukman Iwan; project manager Luititia Shand; video digitisation and research associate Kim Baston; research assistants Anna Vaz and Melissa Toh; and research associate/project co-founder Jane Mullett. Circus Oz: Mike Finch, Linda Mickleborough, Tim Coldwell, Peter Williams (ODee Digital), Rhyn McGregor, Clare McKenna, Anna Davy, Milly Fyfe, Jafon Baston, Olivia Blackburn, Erica Heller-Wagner, Jarred Hart and Scott Grayland.

18 19
Circus Oz Living Archive
The Community-Centred Innovation project addresses the predictions by many scientists that extreme weather events and natural disasters are anticipated to become more frequent and severe. Community-Centred Innovation explored a suite of innovative co-design methods to facilitate engagement with communities and emergency agencies in Australia. It builds adaptive capacities for collective and continuous development in strengthening resilience. The design approach uses “visual and tactile artifacts that trigger thinking, catalyse discussion, heighten awareness to risks, and collectively devise emergency plans.” The research is funded by the Bushfire Co-Operative Research Centre at RMIT University. Its methodology is incorporated as a training tool by the Australian Emergency Management Institute (AEMI) and has been used by a number of communities. The wide application of the methods demonstrates its adaptability in community planning for localised and multi-hazard contexts across Australia.

Akama describes the project as addressing a ‘wicked’ problem comprised of fractured networks among communities, and their dependence on disaster management authorities. To overcome social and psychological barriers for preparedness, the Community-Centred Innovation project required a radical redesign of power dynamics between fire authorities and communities to strengthen social relations among residents. For Akama, strengthening a community’s autonomy and interdependency for disaster preparedness averts the need to depend on emergency services alone. Instead of solving this problem through the provision of a new service, the project developed a co-designing method in partnership with relevant authorities, councils and community organisations. This enabled communities to devise solutions for themselves and take collective action necessary to strengthen resilience among co-located groups in rural regions of Australia who are at risk of extreme weather and natural disasters. The Community-Centred Innovation project was a finalist in the Victorian Premier’s Design Award (2012) and won two Good Design Awards (2014), including Service Design and the Patron’s Prize for Australian Design, which recognises design that “has the potential to shape the future economic, social, cultural and environmental aspects of our planet.”

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Design-Antropologisk Innovations Model / The Design-Antropologisk Innovation Model (DAIM)
Joachim Halse, Eva Brandt, Brendon Clark and Thomas Binder (2008–10)

The Design-Antropologisk Innovation Model (DAIM) is a large-scale research project developed in the Scandinavian model of participatory design. It investigated user-driven innovation in waste disposal and recycling services in Herlev, Høje Tåstrup and Brandly, three suburbs of Copenhagen. Subtitled ‘Rehearsing the Future’, DAIM was informed by anthropological field studies. These included documenting observations about waste practices by garbage collectors in their daily work and by community residents who use domestic waste management. DAIM developed the User-Driven Innovation Box with which Vestforbrænding and other utility companies can reflect on and renew recycling processes and customer communication. One result of the project is that it foregrounded how small changes in consumer practices – such as the introduction of clear garbage bags to replace black ones, for instance – can reduce the amount of garbage destined for incineration. As well as such practical outcomes, the value of DAIM is that the Innovation Box is sufficiently flexible to be appropriated by other communities wishing to increase recycling practices in garbage disposal.

DAIM is an example of the productive networks forming around practice and research. A shift has occurred in research where interdisciplinary networks of multiple stakeholders have superseded discrete research units centralised around specialisation. Networked collaborations between design and anthropology in studies of social practices were extended in DAIM with the introduction of speculative research practices of re-conceptualising the future imaginatively. Joachim Halse suggests that the User-Driven Innovation Box addressed the absence of tools for exploring “an ethnography of the possible”, by which he means the “articulate yet tentative forms” with which the possible is conceptualised and made material. Halse cites anthropological research into the social imaginary and technologies of the imagination that are defined as “the social and material means by which particular imaginations are generated”. Focusing on lived design experiences, he recommends exploratory design research with prototypes in everyday situations. These experiments aim to explore an issue with users of the product or service before the designer more definitively resolves the idea. As Halse attests, participatory design engages with the imagination and, in his words, “a fictive reality”, but one moderated by “present resources and constraints”.

DAIM was funded by the Danish Government’s program for user-driven innovation and was selected by INDEX AWARD (2009) as an example of Danish design that aims to improve life.
Double Fountain: Schemata for Disconnected-Connected Bodies
[after a water-clock design by the Arab engineer Al-Jazari 1136–1206]
Julie Louise Bacon and James Geurts (2011)

Double Fountain: Schemata for Disconnected-Connected Bodies [after a water-clock design by the Arab engineer Al-Jazari 1136–1206] is a collaborative work developed at the Madatech/National Museum of Science in Israel by Julie Louise Bacon and James Geurts. The video installation was first exhibited in 2011 at the Center for Contemporary Art in Tel Aviv as part of the culmination of Bacon and Geurts’s artist residency in Israel/Palestine. It was then installed on a 16 x 9 foot scaffold structure at South Battery Pier in Halifax Harbour, Nova Scotia, Canada and featured in the 2011 edition of that city’s Photopolis festival.

Double Fountain re-creates the ancient device of a water clock, transforming an engineering innovation into an interdisciplinary experiment in sculptural-video aesthetics and public art practice. Reworking Al-Jazari’s historical design, the work focuses experimental processes operating on the border of art, design and science. As art critic Lizzie Hill notes, Double Fountain draws attention to the current “frenzied relationship with time in the digital age”.

Emotiv is a bioinformatics company offering a unique platform for crowd-sourced brain research. Emotiv’s mission is to empower individuals to understand their own brain and to accelerate brain research globally. The best way to achieve this is by making the enabling technology more affordable and easier to use, and to foster continued innovation by offering a development platform for developers and researchers. Emotiv leverages cloud computing, big data and mobile technology to offer valuable personal insights and progress international brain research. The technology tunes into electric signals produced by the brain to detect the user’s thoughts, feelings and expressions in real time. Emotiv offers a software development kit (SDK) to developers and researchers and a wide-ranging number of applications.

The EPOC+ and Insight interfaces connect wirelessly to smart phones, PCs, laptops and tablets running Windows, Linux, or MAC OS X, IOS. Once familiar with the Emotiv interface, users can train their focus and effect changes in their environment by means of sheer concentration. The Emotiv Cognitiv Suite has been deployed so that wheelchair users can navigate and control their mobility independently using mental commands. This application combines an electric wheelchair, a laptop computer, an Arduino, an interface circuit, an EEG headset, and instructions on how to complete the brain-controlled wheelchair integration. Another application of Emotiv’s technology includes the Emotiv Expressiv Suite to change the facial expressions of digital avatars simply by detecting the user’s facial movements. The Affectiv Suite translates the user’s emotions and results in various creative events, such as the performances by the Music in Neural Dimensions ensemble (MIND). This range of applications demonstrates that Emotiv developers can create enjoyable human-computer interactions and shows promising results for affective computing.

In Australia, Emotiv co-founder and chief technology officer Dr Geoff MacKellar, in collaboration with the Royal Automobile Club, Western Australia (RAC WA), helped develop the Attention Powered Car to address the high percentage of fatal accidents attributed to driver inattention. The Attention Powered Car combines customised software and an Emotiv EEG neuro headset with a car engine. The car was tested in Western Australia over several months and raised drivers’ awareness of the danger to public safety when they are distracted. In a number of videoed experiments of a car fitted with an Emotiv neuro monitoring suite, the speed of the car mirrored the driver’s concentration and slowed down and stopped when the drivers’ focus dispersed. In this way, drivers were shown the effects on driving of listening to music, chatting with passengers and talking on a mobile phone. Applications of Emotiv, such as the Attention Powered Car, demonstrate the life-changing impact of exploratory research.

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An Empathic Adventure
Heather Daam with Maartje van Gestel (2013)

An Empathic Adventure is a co-design project developed with carers and elderly people in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. As part of Grey But Mobile (2011–15), a large-scale government-funded research project that explores care-related mobility services for the elderly, An Empathic Adventure supports independent living and social connectivity. The aims of An Empathic Adventure are twofold. One is to offer new ways to tell the stories of elderly people in order for organisations to innovate how they support them. A second aim is to design tools, methods and strategies that care professionals can use to leverage their knowledge and skills and find new opportunities for transforming their experiences into innovative ideas. The design components are inspired by the stories told by the elder participants involved in the research. They provide a mixture of body restraints that emulate elders’ physical experience and an audio track with an elder’s voice telling a story of their own journey with a destination to reach and a task to accomplish, such as going to the supermarket.

Heather Daam and Maartje van Gestel suggest that care organisations sensed that nurses knew a lot about elderly people but needed resources to think through how to innovate their services and products for them. Experiencing the physical restrictions of an older body with the tools of An Empathic Adventure was a means of unpacking the knowledge of nursing participants to contribute to a co-design process. The productive co-design aspect of the project meant that the nurses’ knowledge synthesised with the lived experiences of older bodies, and together they began to identify opportunities for the provision of independent living aids and new mobility possibilities for elders.

Heather Daam with Maartje van Gestel, Homecare nurses wear a customised ageing suit and experience the story of an elderly woman getting groceries, then reflect to define design opportunities. Photographs by Heather Daam. Image courtesy the designers.

Credits: An Empathic Adventure was designed as part of a Design Research Associateship at the Design Academy Eindhoven, within the multidisciplinary context of the Grey But Mobile project of the Creative Industry Scientific Programme (CRISP). CRISP is a four-year national research plan in the Netherlands supported by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science that seeks to identify the strategic role of designers within multi-stakeholder projects. An Empathic Adventure was created in collaboration with Eindhoven University of Technology and Zuid Zorg. CRISP focuses on the development of Product Service Systems (PSS) and on generating and disseminating the knowledge, tools and methods that are needed to design complex combinations of intelligent products and services with a highly effective user experience. A Design Research Associateship provides opportunities for designers to work on large research projects with which the Design Academy Eindhoven is engaged.
ECDC is a co-design project developed as a collaboration between the departments of sociology and design at Goldsmiths, University of London. Funded by the Research Councils UK (RCUK) Energy Programme, ECDC is one of several projects that explore how the United Kingdom can reduce its energy consumption by 80 per cent before 2050. ECDC’s co-design process combines a number of methodologies, including fieldtrips, workshops and the distribution of cultural probe packs in communities such as Whitehill Bordon Eco Town and Low Carbon Living Ladock. The workshops explore questions such as: How is people’s engagement with technology affected by who they trust? The cultural probe packs invite participants to reflect on energy consumption in a number of ways. One is to imagine a conversation between two objects, such as a candle and a hairdryer. Workbooks are another co-designing tool in the ECDC project. They present activities in which participants can reflect on current energy use practices and imagine alternatives. Lead researcher of the project, William Gaver, claims the value of the workbooks is that they demonstrate how ideas can emerge slowly over time from concrete experiments that are generated by multiple stakeholders.

In 2014 ECDC distributed Energy Babble devices to 30 homes. The Energy Babble is a domestic appliance that broadcasts comments and sounds sent from a network of Babbles. The ECDC team describe the Energy Babble as “familiar, playful, [and] ambiguous” and designed to provoke debate within communities. In the Babble network device ECDC explores the imaginative and emotional dimension of energy usage and what they call the “potential aspects of people’s use of technologies.” The combination of fieldtrips, workshops, cultural probe packs and the Energy Babble in ECDC means that this co-design project involves ethnographic processes that generate community reflections on how to reduce demands on energy resources. At the same time, ECDC involves speculative design as it co-imagines alternative possibilities for the future with communities. As a result, ECDC engages with both co-design and speculative design and thereby challenges the traditionally demarcated separation between ethnographic research and imaginative speculation.

Energy and Co-Designing Communities (ECDC)
Bill Gaver, Mike Michael, Tobie Kerridge, Liliana Ovale, Matthew Plummer-Fernandez, Alex Wilkie and Jennifer Gabrys (2010–2014)

Credits: ECDC acknowledges the contributions by all participants engaged with the project, including ECDC communities: Reepham Green Team, Transition New Cross, Energising Goldsmiths, Low Carbon Living Ladock and Compondound Road, Meadows Partnership Trust, Energise Hastings, Whitehill Bordon Eco Town; the communities: Arem Awam Tawe Community Energy, Rayned Energy Co-operative Ltd, BallEd, Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust, Hook Norton, Lamosus Low Impact Initiative, Low Carbon Berwick, Low Carbon West Oxford, Monykes Village, Masswell Hill Sustainability Group, One Planet Sutton, Sanford Housing Cooperative, Sustainable Blacon, Tinkers’ Bubble, Transition Town Brixton, Transition Town Peckham and Transition Town Totnes; and resources provided by: Community Energy Initiatives, Energy Savings Trust, Department for Energy & Climate Change, Forum for the Future, Grassroots Innovations Blog, Nanode, Bristol Energy Network and Electric.
Flamp
Martí Guixé (1997)

Flamp (1997) by Catalan designer Martí Guixé is a design commissioned by Joaquim Ruiz Millet, Galleria H20. The resin Flamp, its title a contraction of the words fosfor (Spanish for phosphor) and lamp, has no wires or switches to operate and is instead painted with green phosphoresce. It is designed to stand beside an electric lamp so the phosphoresce can absorb light. When the electric lamp is switched off, Flamp functions as a step between light and dark and glows in the dark. At 16cm high, Guixé’s Flamp is shaped as an archetypical lamp. When media commentary described designers as celebrities in the late 1990s, Guixé promoted Flamp in two cartoons. In one, Flamp resembles a domestic religious icon. A glowing Flamp captioned “Designers” is compared with a glowing Virgin Mary captioned “Cat[h]olics”. A second cartoon explains how Flamp works, describing that if is placed beside a conventional lamp, it will glow in the dark for 20 minutes after the electric lamp is switched off. In these drawings Guixé draws attention to the archetypical shape and design of furniture.

Flamp implicitly refutes the definition of design as artistic styling and insists that design engage in critical operationality, a term that describes design’s engagement with industry. Guixé insists that design’s potential for change emerges from direct engagement with industry rather than at arm’s length in museum exhibitions. Describing himself as an “ex-designer”, Guixe disdains the popular idea of design that in his words means, “buying happiness” and rejects participating in design that he sees as “turning the world into a global neo-liberal business pot”. Instead, Guixé insists that design is a historically determined process situated in an industrial system. He explores consumerism from a standpoint that is critical of acquisitiveness in his role as a brand consultant for Camper shoes and Alessi, while also devising speculative critical designs such as Flamp.

Image courtesy the designer.

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If We Never Meet Again
Noam Toran (2010)

If We Never Meet Again is a film sequence screened on two monitors that explores fantasies and narratives about interactions with and through design. Engaged with experimental design, the work implicitly questions design conventions and the broader issue of narrative in history, cinema and literature. In a choreographed car sequence and face-to-face meeting, an assignation between two men evokes films about Cold War espionage. It explores design as an event and what Noam Toran calls an ‘exchange of ‘things’ by men.’ Through a range of cinematic movements, including aerial shots and more conventional close-ups, the work combines emotional intimacy and high-tech with design. Reminiscent of scenes in films and novels such as North by Northwest by Alfred Hitchcock (1959) and the novel The Spy Who Came in from the Cold by John le Carré (1963), If We Never Meet Again interrupts expectations of the cool demeanor of espionage. It implicitly comments on perceptions that design is the product of an omniscient view on the part of designers.

Experimental practices such as Toran’s can be located in a long-running history in design discourse. Experimental works such as If We Never Meet Again keep the historical disjuncture and gaps between art and design in play. Recent debates about design have introduced new descriptors such as ‘design fic-tions,’ ‘design factions’ and ‘speculative.’ Each proposes an alternative trajectory for exploring design possibilities and questions assumptions about where designers value lies. Experimental design thus includes a broad range of approaches to critique design through practice. This is unlike design-art that features limited-edition design by artists and with which experimental design is sometimes associated. As a general term, experimental design borders contemporary art and is significant for the complexity of its reflections on the fluidity of historical discourse in art, design and science. If We Never Meet Again raises many issues pertinent to current debates about the shaping of design futures and the multiplicity of views by key stakeholders in design.

The Imaginary App
Paul D. Miller (aka DJ Spooky) and Svitlana Matviyenko (2012–14)

Since 2012, under the pseudonym DJ Spooky, Paul D. Miller has collaborated with Svitlana Matviyenko to commission proposals for an app that app users see as beneficial in addressing unmet needs, desires and circumstances. More than 100 people have responded to the invitation to propose a hypothetical app with the design of an icon. The resulting Imaginary App icon posters comprise a portable exhibition. Included in Feral Experimental as an exhibition within an exhibition, The Imaginary App is reminiscent of a crowdfunding campaign such as Kickstarter, and demonstrates the accessibility of design and the potential obsolescence of specialised design tasks with the convergence and accessibility of digital technologies.

The Imaginary App takes the ethos of design scenario thinking and visualisations of alternative futures into apps created by non-designers. The hypothetical apps collected by Miller and Matviyenko democratically open up design at the same time as revealing how dependent on technology many daily interactions have become. In their words:

The goal of The Imaginary App is to challenge the limits of technological assistance endorsed by the slogan: “There’s an app for that.” What are the most desirable, terrifying, or ridiculous apps that haven’t been and, possibly, will never be released? Formulate a concept of an app. Translate it in the language of design.69

Miller proposes that the expansion of opportunities for non-designers to invent technological possibilities, which he sees in the number of apps available worldwide, is revolutionary.68 The Imaginary App demonstrates how apps open up exploratory experimentation and access to information and experiences, such as searching for local cinema screenings to meditating and downloading music.68

The Imaginary App project. Images courtesy of Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky and the artists.

Kindred Spirits is a design fictions research project that was developed in collaboration with the residents of the adolescent drug rehabilitation clinic Mistral in The Hague, the Netherlands. As part of G-Motiv (2011–15), a large-scale government-funded research project that explores game elements as a stimulant for behavioural change, Kindred Spirits envisioned with residents possible interventions within the systems and services provided in the clinic. The 3D-printed creatures that populate Kindred Spirits are described by Susana Cámara Leret as “companion species” that could be introduced to “the clinic’s ecosystem” and act out the behaviours, “compulsions” and “acquired obsessions” on behalf of Mistral’s clients.

Cámara Leret sees the companion creatures as a therapeutic influence in the alienating environments of health clinics and hospitals where, at Mistral, for example, residents spend 80 per cent of their time in the living room. The noise of this space was described by a patient as sometimes so loud that “you can’t hear your own mind”. This comment inspired the first Kindred Spirit, a crustacean with claws that function as earphones, transmitting a frequency that induces a meditative state of mind. The co-creation of a trumpet-like creature was in response to a comment by Berend Hofman, at Mistral, that “smelling makes you want to talk” as it releases molecules that enhance or block human olfactory receptors and influence mood. This object, along with the Smell-Memory Kit: The Molecules That Matter, builds on research about the associative power of smell. Only a handful of molecules compose all the smells in the world, yet it is our experiences that give them meaning. Used in therapy, the kit prompts clients to share their stories and memories, evoked by particular smells. The Mistral clinic now includes the smell exercises in its patient-intake procedure, as new residents reflect on their behaviours and how they can change.

Kindred Spirits is an interplay between the mundane and the fantastic as the project balances real needs with imagined desires, and builds on sensory experiences to encourage the contemplation of future alternatives. These kinds of design activities engage participants in long-term behavioural change in the context of addiction therapy.

Kindred Spirits, photographs by Susana Cámara Leret, anatomical illustrations by Maartje Kunen from Medical Visuals. Images courtesy the designer.


The Machine to be Another

The Machine to be Another is a device with which the interdisciplinary Barcelona-based art collective BeAnotherLab explore the experience of inhabiting a body different to one’s own. The collective seeks to understand embodiment and telepresence in terms of the “self” and the “Other” through a series of experiments. The experiments are documented on video and show how individuals develop capacities for cooperation in a group beyond what the desires of an individual might dictate. Themes of embodied interaction, extended body and extended mind are explored creatively via a mix of low-budget digital technology, social relations and neuroscientific methodologies.

It is the partner-operator’s movement creates a haptic sensuousness, it also creates novel visual sensations such as dancing, for example, for people whose mobility is reliant on wheelchairs. According to Philippe Bertrand of BeAnotherLab, people who have used the device claim that “the experience has raised their awareness about the performers’ social conditions, that they were able to go deep into this other person’s life” and, as noted on Fast CoDesign, The Machine To Be Another aims to “help scientists explore and quantify concepts like sexism, gender identity, and bias” via “body transference”.15

The Phenology Clock
Natalie Jeremijenko, Tega Brain, Drew Hornbein and Thiago de Mello Bueno (2014)

The Phenology Clock is an exploratory experimental artwork that introduces the concept of time in the visualisation of annual ecological cycles between January and December. The work conveys a sense of the cycle of time in specific geographic locations. It is an open source software tool that enables the visualisation of phenology data. The Phenology Clock displays the temporal dimensions of blooming, budding, fruiting and migration events of local urban organisms. It re-presents time as seasonal interdependent processes. Taking phenology data for a particular site, the software visualises temporal data within the visual conventions of a clock. Observable seasonal events are arranged in concentric annual circles, one for each species. The clock face is described by the Project X Clinic, led by Natalie Jeremijenko, as showing perennial flowering plants in the innermost circle, with the insects, butterflies, bees and moths that are dependent on these in the next surrounding set of circles. The set after that show birds dependent on insectivorous resources, then local trees, with the outermost circle showing large biomass and habitat provisions.

The Phenology Clock shows the dynamic of microclimates and the “vivid natural systems on which we depend not only for food and nutrients, but also air quality, water quality, and health.” The Project X Clinic describes phenology as “our most sensitive indicator of climate destabilization” and that, with this knowledge, “we can redesign our collective relationship to natural systems.” Information about how to develop a phenology clock for your local ecosystem is available at http://phenclock.org/make-a-clock/, http://phenclock.org/find-data/ and https://github.com/dhornbein/pclock. Information about Australian climate change is available at Climatwatch: http://www.climatwatch.org.au/. Jeremijenko, Brain, Hornbein and de Mello Bueno are developing additional plugins to realise this data as calendar updates and social media feeds. The clocks show phenology patterns for local ecosystems: http://phenclock.org/
Run That Town combines Census data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and mobile phone app technology in a strategy game for the design of municipalities. The Australian Census collects information from every household in the country every five years. This data informs budget decisions about infrastructure such as education, the environment and healthcare, by local, state and federal governments. The mobile app Run That Town was commissioned by the ABS to facilitate gamers in imagining how services, infrastructure and the opinions of local populations interact with each other in the local communities of more than 2,500 Australian postcodes based on data from the 2011 Australian Census. The app offers hundreds of projects, including swimming pools and theme parks, which each community can develop and change. Before implementing projects, gamers can poll their community for responses based on demographic profiles in the Census data with mock newspaper articles providing feedback. In the choices of both “practical” and “preposterous” projects, gamers experiment with community leadership and find out if they will be, in the words of Run That Town, “treated to a ticker-tape parade, or chased out of town by an angry mob.” In the words of the advertising agency Leo Burnett Sydney, Run That Town “integrates real world data tightly into gameplay,” while the mobile game website Pocket Gamer celebrated how the game provides opportunities to find out if offering free ice cream increased the popularity of mayors.

Run That Town is one of a number of recent design visualisation projects to explore big data. The Block Project (2005–) by Laura Kurgan, for example, questions the visualisation of data and the politics of mapping to advocate for social reform. In the data visualisation The Institutional Harvest, Mitchell Whitelaw shows changes to Australian women’s services and agencies, such as parliamentary bodies and health providers, between 1970 and 2013. The website DataViva by MIT Media Lab and César Hidalgo is also committed to making government information accessible. This online interactive organises datasets in response to searches by people who access the site. Questions such as ‘Where in Brazil is employment of early childhood teachers growing?’ lead to a graph of Brazilian states that shows employment trends over 10 years and, by implication, the best place to look for work. Like Run That Town, these interactive engagements with big data extend to a wide range of possibilities. Initiatives such as Run That Town represent how the principles of open source are currently transforming policy decisions based on the digitisation of information.
The Sensitive Aunt Provotype was designed as part of Indoor Climate and Quality of Life, a three-year research study of participatory design and user-driven innovation resulting from collaboration between two universities and five industry partners. Indoor Climate endeavoured to understand inhabitants’ experiences of comfort in domestic, business and institutional environments. It involved a literature review on the meaning of comfort, an ethnographic study of a range of indoor climates and environments, a provotyping process designed to provoke debate and engage participants in discussions about future possibilities, and a final phase focused on the development of new product opportunities. Laurens Boer, Jared Donovan and Jacob Buur describe provotyping as “provocative prototyping” that engages a range of stakeholders and helps participants understand what they call the “tensions at the fuzzy front end of new product development”. The tensions to which they refer involve the different conceptions of a new product or service from the perspectives of manufacturers and design users. The Sensitive Aunt emits coloured light in relation to the temperature and air quality of the environment in which it is placed. In addition, when the buttons on the top of the device are pressed it displays suggestions for ways to improve the temperature, light intensity and air quality on an LED screen.

The provotype was distributed and tested in a range of contexts by each industry partner involved in the project. Distinguishing “critical design, organisational sense-making and provotypes” opens up “the transfer of user knowledge”, according to the designers of the Sensitive Aunt. They cast the provotype as a mix of participatory design and design ethnography, and frame it as a prototype informed by anthropology. In this they recombine characteristics of both cultural probes used in co-design and the design fictions of speculative design. The difference is that provotypes provoke debate with industry partners. From their perspective, the feedback from industry partners emphasises the diversity of opinions when imagining innovation and, in their words, shows that “the actual practice of an envisioned future is considerably messier than its envisioned homogeneity.”

Critically challenging accepted ideas – such as the belief that 21 degrees is the temperature in which people should be comfortable – the provotypes combine participation and provocation and open up design to issues of usability and values. Studying the relationships between people and things and the everyday environments in which design is used, such as in the Sensitive Aunt Provotype, locates “using as a form of designing” and questions systems that regulate indoor environments.


65 Indoor Climate and Quality of Life research was conducted between 2007 and 2010.
67 Laurens Boer, Jared Donovan and Jacob Buur, ‘Challenging Industry Conceptions with Prototypes’, CoDesign 9:2 (2013): 73, 87. The authors note that provotyping is a design approach developed in systems design in the early 1990s.
68 Boer, Donovan and Buur, 81.
69 Boer, Donovan and Buur note that three kinds of advice are provided: compelling, social and persuasive advice. In other words, commands range from ‘Put on some extra clothes!’ to ‘Ask your colleagues if it is OK to open a window’. Boer, Donovan and Buur, 81–82.
70 Boer, Donovan and Buur, 74.
71 Boer, Donovan and Buur, 84.
Veloscape: a Curating Cities project, led by Jill Bennett, Laura Fisher and Volker Kuchelmeister, is a participatory art research project about cycling in Sydney. It takes place under the umbrella of the 5 year ARC linkage project Curating Cities, a partnership between researchers at NIEA, UNSW, the City of Sydney, Object Design Centre and Carbon Arts. The Curating Cities project is an investigation of how the arts can generate environmentally beneficial behavioural change and influence the development of green infrastructure in urban environments. Veloscape locates this investigation within the context of Sydney’s unfolding transport infrastructure reforms, core to which is an expanding cycle network in the CBD. By enabling new patterns of mobility, these changes are generating a new geo-spatial politics over road use and public space in Sydney. They have also enabled new practices of place-making around which a range of vibrant activities and communities are taking shape. In light of these changes, Veloscape addresses the need for a greater understanding of the subjective dimensions of the Sydney cycling experience beyond the utilitarian and safety elements that are the focus of many other studies. As both an artistic intervention in the public domain and a research endeavour, Veloscape is exploring the unique perspective the cyclist has on the urban environment, and the spectrum of emotions and sensory stimuli which colours their experience.

As a socially engaged project, Veloscape has been designed to enable the participation of hundreds of Sydney cyclists. A range of tools and interfaces are being utilised to explore the physical, social, navigational and environmental triggers of their affective responses to the city. These include a specially designed biometric and sensor data logging device, hands-free photography and video, in situ voice recordings, annotated maps and GIS (Geographic Information System) software. A series of workshops and focus groups will also be staged. Through their involvement, the participating cyclists will both assist the team to generate useful quantitative and qualitative information of value to future urban design and urban planning endeavours, and be co-creators of a range of dynamic maps and visualisations through which that information can be made meaningful to the public.

In Veloscape v.5, designed by Volker Kuchelmeister and exhibited at Feral Experimental, the audience is invited to ride on a bike through Sydney CBD while a biofeedback sensor picks up their affective responses.
Exhibition Biographies

*Avena+ Test Bed — Agricultural Printing and Altered Landscapes*  
*Avena+ Test Bed — Agricultural Printing and Altered Landscapes* is by Benedikt Groß  
http://benedikt-gross.de

**Benedikt Groß**

Benedikt Groß is a Stuttgart based speculative and computational designer who focuses on relationships between people, their data, technology and environments. He is particularly interested in *antidisciplinarity* and speculating on the possibilities of the near future in design visualisations. Groß’s working mode can be described as *thinking through making* with software. Groß received the IxDA 2014 Best Student and the IxDA 2014 Best Concept for his final RCA graduation projects, *Avena+ Test Bed* and the Excellence Award (with Joseph K. Lee) at the 18th Japanese Media Arts Festival for *The Big Atlas of LA Pools*. He is co-author of *Generative Design*, (Princeton Architectural Press, 2010) and his work has been published in *Wired, CAN, Form, Page, Weave, Infosthetics* and exhibited internationally at the Open Data Institute, Ars Electronica, V2_ and the New Institute and the Node Festival. Groß is currently a visiting tutor for Digital Culture and Data Visualization at the Hochschule für Gestaltung Schwäbisch Gmünd.

**Circus Oz Living Archive**

The *Circus Oz Living Archive* was developed by a team of researchers from RMIT University and La Trobe University: David Carlin, Lukman Iwan, Adrian Miles, Reuben Stanton, Peta Tait, James Thorn, Laurene Vaughan, and Jeremy Yuille.  
http://circusarchive.net/

**David Carlin (Project Leader, RMIT University)**

Associate Professor David Carlin is a writer, director and Program Director of Media within the RMIT School of Media and Communication. He brings to the *Circus Oz Living Archive* project experience as a film and video documentary maker and former show director of Circus Oz. He has taught and led projects at RMIT focused on social and participatory media, and has scholarly and creative publications in the field of memory, narrative and media archives. Associate Professor Carlin’s documentaries, short films and plays have been performed and screened internationally, and he has published a book of creative non-fiction, *Our father who wasn’t there* (Brunswick: Scribe, 2010).

**Adrian Miles (RMIT University)**

Adrian Miles is a Senior Lecturer in New Media and currently the Program Director of the Bachelor of Media and Communication Honours research studio at RMIT. He has also been a senior new media researcher in the InterMedia Lab at the University of Bergen, Norway. His academic research on hypertext and networked interactive video has been widely published and his applied digital projects have been exhibited internationally. Adrian has extensive expertise in online video with extensive publications in the field and is one of the first video bloggers in the world. His expertise extends to social media from both a practical, and theoretical point of view.
Peta Tait (La Trobe University)

Professor Peta Tait, from the Theatre and Drama Program at La Trobe University, is an academic scholar and playwright with an extensive background in theatre, dramatic literature, performance theory and creative arts practice. Her research focuses on the interdisciplinary humanities fields of emotions, body theory and gender identity. She has published extensively on circus and is one of the few scholars writing on new circus and in particular on Circus Oz. Professor Tait has worked with Dr Jane Mullett on Circus Oz materials over a number of years. She brings her knowledge of circus research, practices and archives to the Circus Oz Living Archive project. Professor Tait has authored four monographs and further publications include articles in *Theatre Journal*, *Modern Drama* and *Performance Research*. She also writes plays and contemporary performances.

James Thom (RMIT University)

Jamie Thom is a computer scientist with extensive experience in text retrieval, document databases and image/video retrieval. His main contribution to Circus Oz Living Archive was the development of technology that supports content based video retrieval combined with community tagging.

Laurene Vaughan (RMIT University)

Laurene Vaughan is Associate Professor in Design and Communication in the School of Media and Communication. She has a diverse research and teaching practice covering the areas of design, communication, fashion and embedded research in diverse industry sectors. Associate Professor Vaughan contributes to the RMIT University research community in her role as a Research Leader in the RMIT Design Research Institute. Her contribution to Circus Oz Living Archive is expertise in exploring how people experience the space of digital environments and practice-based research, understanding how the experience and personality of the circus is maintained in a digital archive, and how rich layers of narrative are embedded in the experience of engaging with a database/archive.

Jeremy Yuille (RMIT University)

Jeremy Yuille is an interaction designer, digital media artist and academic with a background in digital art, music, performance and architecture. Yuille is a co-founder of the Media and Communication Design Studio at RMIT where he undertakes collaborative research with the Australasian CRC for Interaction Design (ACID). He is also a certified scrum-master and was director of the Interaction Design Association.

Lukman Iwan (PhD candidate, RMIT University)

Lukman Iwan is a PhD candidate in the School of Computer Science and Information Technology at RMIT University. His doctoral research on content-based retrieval systems was applied to Circus Oz videos. Iwan’s retrieval system includes a video collection server, metadata video database, and web-based application software.

Reuben Stanton (PhD candidate, RMIT University)

Reuben Stanton is a PhD candidate in the School of Media and Communication at RMIT University. His doctoral research in the Circus Oz Living Archive project explores interaction design and development in the design and creation of a prototype digital archive as both a pragmatic design act and as a research activity. Stanton is interested in the role that interaction design can play in creating new, useful and engaging digital archives, and how the possibilities of technology are utilized to enable different ideas of what an archive could be.
Community-centred innovation: co-designing for disaster preparedness

Community-centred innovation: co-designing for disaster preparedness is by Yoko Akama.
https://www.designresearch.rmit.edu.au/contact/researcher-directory/yoko-akama

Yoko Akama (RMIT University)
Dr. Yoko Akama is Senior Lecturer in communication design in the School of Media and Communication, RMIT University. She undertakes research to explore the role and agency of design to tackle social issues. Her expertise is in human-centred design that sees design as a scaffold that facilitates communication, engagement and co-creation with people and leads to transformative change. Her current research project with the Bushfire CRC explores design methods to strengthen community resilience in mitigating bushfire risks. This has recently won her two awards from Good Design Australia – the Good Design Award, best in the category for service design and the Patron’s Prize for Good Design. Her research interests extend into the networks she actively organizes, including the Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability (DESIS) network in Melbourne and the Service Design Network Melbourne.

The Design-Anthropological Innovation Model (DAIM)

The Design-Anthropological Innovation Model (DAIM) research team includes Joachim Halse, Eva Brandt, Brendon Clark and Thomas Binder.
http://www.dkds.dk/Forskning/Projekter/DAIM

Joachim Halse (The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design)
Joachim Halse is an Associate Professor at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts – School of Design. He works in the transdisciplinary field of anthropology and design, where he experiments with building a productive interaction between anthropological studies of everyday life and design-oriented articulations of new possibilities. The innovation potential of everyday life is one of the areas that Halse explores in his research. He is interested in expanded user-involvement where the user is not simply included in the final stages of the design process to testify to the ease of use of a given product and is instead taken seriously as a dialogue partner for design and development throughout the whole design process.

Eva Brandt (The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design)
Eva Brandt is an Associate Professor at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts – School of Design. Her research is closely associated with practice and is typically carried out in cooperation with companies, design agencies and/or partners from the public sector. Her research approach is experimental, and she often draws on theories from other disciplines such as anthropology, ethnology or the world of theatre and other artistic disciplines. Brandt’s work mainly involves interdisciplinary projects that involve a wide range of stakeholders such as researchers, designers, technicians and end-users. The design approaches, methods and tools that she develops are dialogue-oriented and usually playful, experimental and explorative in nature. They belong in the category that is often referred to as co-design and are essentially about developing various ways of ‘rehearsing the future’. She co-edited the book Rehearsing the Future, which is an outcome of the DAIM project.
Brendon Clark (Interactive Institute Stockholm, ICT)

Brendon Clark is the studio director and a senior researcher at the Interactive Institute Stockholm. He completed his PhD exploring the emerging field of design anthropology and developed a framework for organizational negotiations at the front end of design research projects. His research interests lie at the intersection of anthropology and design (Participatory Design) with a nod toward business and innovation. He focuses on exploring collaborative practices and full-bodied interaction that seek to re-think linear processes of research, analysis, design, intervention, and evaluation — exploring the implications for knowledge generation and knowledge transfer in praxis settings. Brendon worked on the DAIM project during post-doc research in design anthropology at SPIRE (Sønderborg Participatory Innovation Research Center) at the University of Southern Denmark’s Mads Clausen Institute for Product Innovation (MCI). He teaches PhD and MA-level courses in Scandinavia (e.g., Umeå Institute of Design, University of Southern Denmark, Chalmers & Göteborg University) and he is a project leader for projects such as Lead User Innovation Lab, Language as Participation, and Språkskap.

Thomas Binder (The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design)

Thomas Binder is an Associate Professor at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts – School of Design. His research focuses on understanding how design processes generate new knowledge, and how an emphasis on knowledge building and learning can connect the designer’s classic design skills with more open design processes based on dialogue with users, for example in the fields of service design, strategic development and change processes. Binder has worked with design laboratories, where designers and non-designers collaborate on ‘rehearsing the future’ at the intersection between the known and the unknown. Through workshops and other activities where designers and stakeholders co-create future-oriented experiments, a learning zone is established in which the possible comes within reach. For this learning zone Binder has developed methods and approaches for collaborative inquiries such as a documentary video that serves as design material, design games, and scenario and prototyping methods based on improvisation. These design laboratories were used in the DAIM project.

Double Fountain: Schemata for Disconnected-Connected Bodies [after a water-clock design by the Arab engineer Al-Jazari 1136-1206]

Double Fountain: Schemata for Disconnected-Connected Bodies [after a water-clock design by the Arab engineer Al-Jazari 1136-1206] was developed as a collaboration between Julie Louise Bacon and James Geurts. http://vimeo.com/41232904

Julie Louise Bacon (UNSW Art & Design)

Dr. Julie Louise Bacon is an artist, curator, writer and lecturer at UNSW Australia: Art and Design. Her research focuses on the relationship between aesthetics and politics, art and philosophy, technology and consciousness, mythologies and archiving. Her projects include the video installation Double Fountain [after a water clock design by the Arab engineer al-Jazari 1136-1206], a collaboration with James Geurts, that was developed at South Battery Pier, Halifax waterfront for Photopolis (2011); the performance Performing Knowledge as Landscape in Mix, Jerusalem (2011); and the video and sculptural installation STOCK in 3x3x3 at Eyelevel Gallery, Halifax (2011). She curated the symposium The Clearing in London (2010), and edited the anthology Arkive City (Interface: Belfast, 2008). Bacon is Artistic Director of TÖNE, an international festival of sonic and visual arts launched in June 2014 in Kent, England with Claudia Molitor. The festival, supported by the University of Kent and the Arts Council of England, featured 35 artists creating site-specific work in 5 heritage sites in and around the maritime and naval/military location of Chatham, Kent.

James Geurts

James Geurts is an Australian artist who has produced large-scale, site and time-specific projects and gallery works in international contexts since 2002. Recent commissions include: The Presence of Giants, Arts Victoria Public Sculpture Commission (2014), Drawing: Tidal Topographies 10 shown at Dalhousie Art Gallery’s Place Markers exhibition (2012), and Drawing: Horizon, a solar light sculpture, staged on the coastline of the North Sea in The Hague with Sattelietgroep (2010). His work has been exhibited at GEMAK, Holland; Centre for Contemporary Art; Televiv; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; La Chambre Blanche Quebec, Quebec; Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne; and White Cube, London. Geurts is represented by: GAGPROJECTS/Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide; Contemporary Art Society, London; Zhulong Gallery, Dallas.
Tan Le, Founder, Technology Innovator, Entrepreneur & Business Executive

Tan Le, Co-founded Emotiv, a bioinformatics company advancing understanding of the brain through electroencephalography (EEG). Today, Emotiv’s award winning technology (Red Dot Award, AutoVision Innovations Award, Australian International Design Awards, Australian Engineering Excellence Awards) is a recognized world leader and pioneer in this field of brain computer interface with developers and researchers in over 100 countries. Ms Le has been featured in the Who's Who in Australia list since 1999 and Who's Who of Australian Women list in 2007-2011, Fast Company's Most Influential Women in Technology in 2010 and Forber' 50 Names You Need to Know in 2011. She has also been an Ambassador for the Status of Women since 2001. Named Young Australian of the Year in 1998, Ms Le's story was featured National Museum of Australia. She has been honoured by the World Economic Forum as a Young Global Leader since 2009. Emotiv Inc. is a bioinformatics company offering a unique platform for crowd-sourced brain research. Emotiv leverages cloud computing, big data and mobile technology to offer valuable personal insights and accelerate brain research globally.

Geoff MacKellar

Emotiv co-Founder & CTO, Dr. Geoffrey Mackellar, leads up the research and development teams behind Emotiv Lifesciences. Geoff holds a PhD in Laser Physics and has over 25 years experience developing high tech medical and consumer products. After 10 years as Chief Scientist and R&D Manager with a series of medical laser startup companies, where he designed over 35 different laser systems for medical, scientific and industrial research, Geoff moved into the medical diagnostic field. Geoff holds 7 international patents and has published several papers and presentations at international conferences.

An Empathic Adventure

An Empathic Adventure was developed by Heather Daam and Maartje van Gestel.

Heather Daam (Design Research Associate, Creative Industry Scientific Programme, Design Academy Eindhoven)

Heather Daam is a Design Research Associate in the Creative Industry Scientific Programme (CRISP) at the Design Academy Eindhoven where she is involved in the Grey but Mobile project about ageing and mobility. Her interest is to understand the role a designer plays in involving different people and stakeholders into the design process, and to focus this around the people we are designing for. Daam believes in different disciplines sharing knowledge towards a common goal, and in empowering people as experts of their own knowledge and experience.

Maartje van Gestel (Design Research Associate, Creative Industry Scientific Programme, Design Academy Eindhoven)

Maartje van Gestel is a Design Research Associate in the Creative Industry Scientific Programme (CRISP) at the Design Academy Eindhoven where she is involved in the Grey but Mobile project about ageing and mobility explorations. Van Gestel's research in Experience Design has shaped her views on her role as a designer. She focuses on how people experience the world around them, and uses her understanding of these perspectives to develop products or services. This involves psychology and empathy, which she combines with intuition and her own perspective. Her research results often in visual reports that allow her to communicate personal messages from people to designers and developers in ways that are not only rational but also emotional.
Energy and Co-Designing Communities (ECDC)

The Energy and Co-Designing Communities (ECDC) research team includes Bill Gaver, Mike Michael, Tobie Kerridge, Liliana Ovalle, Matthew Plummer-Fernandez, Alex Wilkie and Jennifer Gabrys.

www.ecdc.ac.uk

Bill Gaver (Goldsmiths College, University of London)

Professor William Gaver leads the Interaction Research Studio at Goldsmiths, University of London. His research on design-led methodologies and innovative technologies for everyday life led him to develop an internationally renowned studio bringing the skills of designers together with expertise in ubiquitous computing and sociology. With the studio, he has developed approaches to design ranging from Cultural Probes to the use of documentary film to help assess peoples’ experience with designs. He has pursued conceptual work on topics such as ambiguity and interpretation, and produced highly finished prototypes that have been deployed for long-term field trials. He has exhibited internationally at venues such as the Victoria & Albert Museum, Tate Britain, and New York’s Museum of Modern Art. He has published over 70 articles and is an elected member of the Computer-Human Interaction (CHI) Academy. Professor Gaver currently holds an ERC Advanced Investigator Grant and is principle investigator of ECDC.

Mike Michael (University of Sydney)

Professor Mike Michael is a sociologist of science and technology. His research interests include the relation of everyday life to technoscience, biomedical innovation and culture, the interface of the material and the social, and process methodology. Recent research has addressed the complexities of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis clinical trials (with Marsha Rosengarten), the interdisciplinary use of sociological and speculative design techniques to explore energy demand reduction (with the ECDC project team), and the development of an ‘idiotic methodology.’ He has authored 6 books and over a hundred papers and chapters. Professor Michael is a co-editor of The Sociological Review.

Tobie Kerridge (Goldsmiths College, University of London)

Tobie Kerridge is based at the Interaction Research Studio, University of London. His PhD thesis explores the mixing of speculative design and public engagement with science and technology in two public engagement projects; Biojewellery and Material Beliefs. Kerridge has helped develop an innovative mixed method approach to design research, with a recent focus on community and energy reduction. Kerridge is co-convenor of MA Design: Interaction Research, which offers a research based approach to interaction design. Kerridge’s work has been exhibited internationally, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Design Triennial in Beijing.

Liliana Ovalle (Goldsmiths College, University of London)

Liliana Ovalle is a product and furniture designer based in London. Since graduating from the Royal College of Art, she has been running her own practice developing design projects in Mexico, Italy and London. Ovalle is research associate at the Interaction Research Studio, Goldsmiths College, University of London and she is a member of the London based design collective Okay Studio. Ovalle designs objects where the functional and the aesthetic components are accompanied by a reflection of contemporary life aspects. She pays special attention to inquiring themes such as the “incomplete” and the “unrehearsed” observed in the urban context. Ovalle was presented the Talent Award by the British Council in 2006 and the Mexican Clara Porset Special Award in 2008.

Matthew Plummer-Fernandez (Goldsmiths College, University of London)

Matthew Plummer-Fernandez is a British/Colombian artist and designer who makes work that critically and playfully examines new sociocultural entanglements with emerging technologies. His current interests span bots, algorithms, automation, copyright and file-sharing. Based in New Cross, London, he is also a research associate and technologist at the Interaction Research Studio at Goldsmiths College, University of London.
Alex Wilkie (Goldsmiths College, University of London)

Dr. Alex Wilkie has worked at the intersection between design and science and technology studies (STS) for over twelve years. Wilkie studied interaction design at the Royal College of Art and was awarded his PhD in sociology, based on an ethnographic study of user-centered design. He was an original member of govcom.org, a group who designed and developed the Issuecrawler, an online tool for tracing and visualising controversy on the web and has been a member of the Interaction Research Studio at Goldsmith, University of London since 2006. Wilkie is particularly interested in exploring computational technology and the politics of participation in issue-oriented design as well as inventive research methods and research through design. He currently works on topics including the design of energy and climate change, healthcare informatics and technological interventions into domestic living. Wilkie is also committed to developing sociological accounts of design practice, drawing on his engagement with developments in actor-network theory and process sociology.

Jennifer Gabrys (Goldsmiths College, University of London)

Prior to joining the Department of Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London, Dr Jennifer Gabrys was Senior Lecturer and Convenor of the MA in Design and Environment in the Department of Design at Goldsmiths, University of London. Her research investigates environments, material processes and communication technologies through theoretical and practice-based work. Projects within this area include a recently published book, Digital Rubbish: A Natural History of Electronics (University of Michigan Press, 2011), which examines the materialities of electronic waste; and a written study currently underway on citizen sensing and environmental practice, titled Program Earth: Environment as Experiment in Sensing Technology. Gabrys is currently Principal Investigator on the European Research Council starting grant, Citizen Sensing and Environmental Practice: Assessing Participatory Engagements with Environments through Sensor Technologies.

Flamp

Flamp was designed by Martí Guixé.

www.guixe.com

Martí Guixé

Martí Guixé is a Catalonian designer based in Barcelona and Berlin. In 2001, as a statement against the limited scope of the traditional designer and to open new possibilities for the industry Guixé started an ex-designer movement. His work is characterised by a focus on new product systems and the belief that design should act as a platform which questions, visualises and influences behaviour in terms of patterns of consumption, exchange of information and the process of choice. Guixé’s critical and provocative approach is reflected in the frequent use of disposable or cheap materials and the quick and ephemeral character of much of his work. Guixé has won many awards and authored several books including Transition Menu - reviewing creative gastronomy (Milan: Corraini Edizioni, 2013), Kubabook, with Inga Knölke (Miami: Name Publications, 2012), Dream Factories (Milan: Triennale Design Museum, Mondadori Electa, 2011). His designs, installations and performances have been exhibited at the Institute Cervantes, Milan; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Design Museum London; Centre d’Art Contemporain Genève, Geneva; the National Art Center, Tokyo; and the Museum für angewandte Kunst, Vienna.
If We Never Meet Again
If We Never Meet Again was created by Noam Toran.
http://www.noamtoran.com

Noam Toran (Royal College of Art, London and HEAD, Geneva)

Noam Toran’s work involves the creation of intricate narratives developed as a means to reflect upon the interrelations of history, cinema, literature, and memory. The works are most often exhibited as sculptures, films and installations. The works examine how fictions influence the collective consciousness, be it as history, myth or memory forming. This is realised through an original way of deconstructing and reconfiguring cinematic and literary codes, conventions and structures, and weaving them with historical materials, thereby complicating the relation between artifact and artifice. His work is exhibited, screened and published internationally and is part of the collections at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, Frac Ile-de-France, the Israel Museum and the Centre National des Arts Plastiques (CNAP).

The Imaginary App
The Imaginary App was initiated by Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky
www.djspooky.com/

Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky

Artist, writer, musician and composer Paul D. Miller’s multimedia performances, art installations, recordings and writings immerse audiences blend a number of genres. His works raise awareness about climate change, sustainability, and the role of technology in addressing environmental and social issues. His multimedia composition and installation The Book of Ice is an experiential visual and acoustic portrait of Antarctica’s disappearing environment. In Nauru Elegies, he explores problems facing the environmentally exploited South Pacific island of Nauru through a string ensemble, video, animation and live Internet feed. He also founded Vanuatu Pacifica Foundation, a sustainable arts centre on the island of Vanuatu. Miller was the first artist-in-residence at New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art. In his practice as the hip-hop turntablist DJ Spooky he developed the app ‘DJ Spooky’ and the exhibition project The Imaginary App.
**Kindred Spirits**

*Kindred Spirits* was developed by Susana Cámara Leret.

[www.designacademy.nl/Research/StrategicCreativity/People/Susana%C3%A1maraLeret.aspx](http://www.designacademy.nl/Research/StrategicCreativity/People/Susana%C3%A1maraLeret.aspx)

Susana Cámara Leret (Research Associate, Creative Industry Scientific Programme, Design Academy Eindhoven)

Susana Cámara Leret’s work concerns an in-depth, transdisciplinary research based practice, addressing social and environmental challenges. Her work spans various mediums, oscillating at the intersections between art, design, science, fiction and reality, confronting scientific truth with the anecdotal or absurd. She is interested in cross-species collaborations in an on-going search for alternate ways of living. These explorations materialise through multidisciplinary collaborations alongside institutes such as the Netherlands Metabolomics Centre and The Waag Society: Institute for Art Science and Technology (NL), where she is currently Fellow. Leret was recently a Research Associate on the Creative Industry Scientific Programme (CRISP) at Design Academy Eindhoven and worked on the G-Motiv project. She currently lives and works in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**The Machine to be Another**

*The Machine to be Another* was developed by BeAnotherLab: Phillipe Bertrand, Christian Cherene, Daniel González Franco, Daanish Masood, Marte Roel and Arthur Tres.

[http://www.themachinetobeanother.org](http://www.themachinetobeanother.org)

**Philippe Bertrand** is an interdisciplinary artist, investigator, and activist interested in interactive narratives and 2.0 tools of social intervention.

**Christian Cherene** is a researcher, performer, and Interactive System designer with an interest in Rehabilitation Game Systems, hyper-documentation and neuroscience.

**Daniel González Franco** is an electronic explorer whose interest lies in visual/sound interactive art, VR, binaural audio, embodiment and telepresence.

**Daanish Masood** is a peacemaker who is interested in peacemaking, resolving inter-religious/interethnic conflicts, writing, storytelling, techno-shamanism, embodiment, empathy and performance.

**Marte Roel** is an artist, professor and researcher of embodiment surrounding spatial cognition, play behaviour and agency. He has explored the intersection of art and technology for modulating perceptual contingencies.

**Arthur Tres** is a programmer seeking the empowerment of individuals and communities by digital means. He likes to work in interdisciplinary environments where science, humanities and technology meet and stimulate each other.
The Phenological Clock

The Phenological Clock was developed with the Environmental Health Clinic at New York University by Natalie Jeremijenko, Tega Brain, Drew Hornbein and Thiago de Mello Bueno.

http://phenclock.org/

Natalie Jeremijenko (Environmental Health Clinic and Visual Art Department, New York University)

Dr. Natalie Jeremijenko directs the Environmental Health Clinic, is an Associate Professor in the Visual Art Department, New York University, and has affiliated faculty appointments in the schools of Computer Science and Environmental Studies. With a background in biochemistry, engineering, neuroscience and the history and philosophy of science, Jeremijenko was included in the Whitney Biennial of American Art (1997 and 2006), and the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Triennial (2006). In 2010 Neuberger Museum, SUNY Purchase (2010) produced a retrospective exhibition surveying Jeremijenko's work, titled 'Connected Environments'. Recent exhibitions and performances include 'Cross Species (xSpecies) Adventure Club' at the Dublin Science Gallery (2012); 'Alter Nature: Designing Nature – Designing Human Life – Owning Life', Z33, Hasselt (2011); ' (Re)Designing Nature', Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna (2010-2011); and with Bureau of Inverse Technology, was exhibited in 'Mortality' at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (2010). Jeremijenko has been named one of the most influential women in technology by Fast Company (2011) and one of the inaugural top young innovators by MIT Technology Review (1999).

Tega Brain

Tega Brain is an artist, researcher and environmental engineer from Sydney, Australia. Her work rethinks the infrastructures, interfaces and institutions that structure our relationship with larger environment systems. She has made experimental infrastructures, speculative services and data driven installations. She is currently teaching at the School for Poetic Computation (SFPC) in New York and was previously in residence at the Environmental Health Clinic at New York University. She has recently exhibited at the Dublin Science Gallery and at Eyebeam Centre for Art and Technology, New York (2013). In 2013 Brain was awarded a Creative Australia Fellowship for early career artists from the Australia Council for the Arts.

Drew Hornbein

Drew Hornbein is a web designer, artist, activist and technologist based in New York.

Thiago de Mello Bueno

Thiago de Mello Bueno is a designer who specialises in user experience, front-end development, and graphic arts.
Run That Town: A strategy game with a twist

Run That Town was developed by The Australian Bureau of Statistics, Leo Burnett Sydney and Millipede Creative Development.


The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is Australia’s national statistical agency and has played a critical role in Australian society throughout its more than 100 years of history. The ABS provides official statistics on a wide range of economic, environmental and social issues to encourage informed decision making, research and discussion within governments and the community. The ABS also plays an important leadership and coordination role in relation to the statistical activities of other official bodies, both within Australia and internationally. The ABS is committed to developing new and innovative statistical information solutions to ensure it remains a world leader amongst national statistical agencies.

Leo Burnett Sydney
Leo Burnett Sydney is an advertising agency in Australasia that has won Agency of the Year 12 times on a local, regional and global level in the last five years. Leo Burnett Sydney was the first Australian agency to rank in the Top 10 Most Creative Companies internationally and was the first to win both the prestigious Global Cannes Lion for Effectiveness and Media Agency of the Year. In 2013 the agency was the second most awarded digital company in Australia.

Millipede Creative Development
Millipede Creative Development design and develop games, applications, services and experiences for mobile platforms, physical spaces and the web.

The Sensitive Aunt Prototype

The Sensitive Aunt Prototype was developed by Laurens Boer and Jared Donovan.


Laurens Boer (Interaction Design, University of Southern Denmark)
Dr. Laurens Boer is Assistant Professor, Interaction Design at the University of Southern Denmark. His research interest is in the areas of speculative design and experience design. He studied Industrial Design at the Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands. In 2012, he completed his PhD at the SPIRE Centre with a dissertation titled How prototypes challenge stakeholder conceptions in innovation projects. Boer has worked with prototypes as ethnographically based and technically robust artefacts that deliberately challenge stakeholders. By building provocative prototypes and deploying them at family homes and industrial organisations he aims to bring together practices of critical design, design ethnography, and organisational change.

Jared Donovan (Creative Industries Faculty, Queensland University of Technology)
Dr. Jared Donavan is a lecturer and researcher in Interaction Design in the Creative Industries Faculty at the Queensland University of Technology. His main research interest is in finding better ways of interacting with computer technologies with the goal of making computer technologies easier to use, more enjoyable and more respecting of people’s abilities for skilled physical movement. In particular, he has investigated the use of gesture as a way for people to interact with computer interfaces without the need for computers and mice. Donavan is also keenly interested in Participatory Design approaches and finding better ways to involve stakeholders in the design process. Before joining QUT, he worked for four years at the SPIRE centre for Participatory Innovation at the University of Southern Denmark where he researched the use of ‘prototypes’ (provocative prototypes) to spark discussion and debate. Donovan co-edited Design and Anthropology with Wendy Gunn (Surrey: Ashgate, 2012).
Veloscape was developed by a research team led by Jill Bennett, Volker Kuchelmeister and Laura Fisher.

Jill Bennett (National Institute for Experimental Arts, UNSW Art & Design)
Professor Jill Bennett is Professor of Experimental Arts and founding Director of NIEA, and is Associate Dean Research, UNSW Art & Design. A writer and curator, she has published widely on visual culture, new media and transdisciplinary aesthetics. Her research is particularly focused on aesthetics, broadly understood as the analysis of sensori-affective perception and interaction, and its practical deployment both in art/exhibitions and in social and scientific areas beyond traditional art practice. Her most recent book is Practical Aesthetics: Events, Affects and Art After 9/11 (London: IB Tauris, 2012), for which she received the Sterling and Francine Clark Fellowship (Clark Institute, Massachusetts) in 2009 and an ARC Discovery Grant. Her previous books include Empathic Vision (Stanford UP, 2005), a study of art and traumatic events and several monographs on new media art. Bennett leads the Curating Cities ARC Linkage Project with the City of Sydney council, Object: Australian Centre for Design, University of Cincinnati and Carbon Arts. Growing out of the 2010 HotHouse symposium on art and ecology at the Sydney Opera House, Curating Cities develops experimental public art, promoting urban sustainability. As part of this project, Bennett is co-authoring, with Saskia Beudel, Curating Sydney (UNSW Press, 2014), the Database of Eco-Public Art and is leading Veloscape, with Volker Kuchelmeister and Laura Fisher.

Volker Kuchelmeister (National Institute for Experimental Arts, UNSW Art & Design)
Volker Kuchelmeister is a media artist, researcher, digital media specialist and expert in place representation. He has worked extensively in cinematography, experimental imaging, spatial mapping, interactive systems, immersive visualisation and mediation in the performing arts while exploring the boundaries of the cinematic image. He was a founding member of several media-based research labs, including ZKM Centre for Art and Media Karlsruhe, iCinema Centre at the University of New South Wales’ iCinema Centre and the iCinema Lab at the National Institute for Experimental Arts. Kuchelmeister’s art projects have been exhibited internationally and he has been appointed Research Fellow at iCinema Centre for Interactive Cinema Research and the National Institute of Experimental Arts.

Laura Fisher (National Institute for Experimental Arts, UNSW Art & Design)
Dr Laura Fisher is a sociologist and art historian currently based at the National Institute for Experimental Arts, UNSW. She is pursuing a range of research interests around art in the public domain, visionary outdoor environments, and the ways in which art’s meanings are shaped by social and political change. She has published on Aboriginal art, public art and visual culture, with recent articles in Cultural Sociology and Visual Studies. In addition to her work with Veloscape: a Curating Cities Project, which is exploring the emotional and sensory dimensions of urban cycling, Laura is currently developing her manuscript Aboriginal Art: Ethics and Politics (Anthem Press), based on her doctoral thesis, and collaborating with Gay McDonald on a book project about the Aboriginal Art Board’s program of touring Aboriginal art exhibitions overseas between the 1970s and 1990s.
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