

Immateriality: Possibilities and Experiences

Research Student Conference and Exhibition

University for the Creative Arts – Canterbury Campus

Conference date: 6 April 2016

Exhibition date: 4 -13 April 2016

This one-day conference and associated exhibition will explore contemporary applied doctoral research and will provide students with an opportunity to establish a dialogue that critically reflects upon current research in art and design.

There will be an evening reception in the exhibition space following the conference.

The sphere of inter-human relations cannot be conceived any more without its environmental and technological sides. Similarly the research environment today is concerned with a renegotiation of our relationships with both the technosphere and biosphere within our practices, exploring the connections between the living and the object, the machine and the body, the architectural and the social – and experiencing their interdependence.

If we take this human dance between materiality and immateriality as a hypothesis, how does it transform our vision of the world? Is there still such a thing as a direct inter-human relation? This conference aims to address what exists at the heart of every research practice in the hope of re-humanising the political agenda, and, whilst re-visioning the autonomous human subject working against the realities of the universe, of reasserting a human scale with those other spheres with which we share the planet; economical, technological, material, semiological etc.

How can this conference open up the space between idea and material practice. How can we express our approach to the immaterial through process?

Our hope is to engage in a dialogue with the local scene, which is our research practice, and its cultural frame, to navigate the signs of our cultural histories and make new connections and new maps. Our research practices consist of a huge cloud of data, in multiple forms, from material to knowledge to relationships. It is the co-presence of a human consciousness and a situation, and our question as researchers is how can this network go beyond the sum of its parts. How can it create new possibilities?

Conference – Call for Papers (open to UCA and CREST member institutions)

Research students are invited to submit a title and 200-word abstract outlining a 20 minute presentation on an aspect of their research, which relates to the theme of the conference.

Please also supply at least one JPEG image of your work (minimum 300 dpi) which may be used in the conference publicity material.

Deadline for abstracts: Midnight 13th December 2015

Research Student Exhibition (open to UCA students only)

UCA Research students are also invited to submit work relating to their current research to be included in the associated exhibition at the Herbert Read Gallery. Students should submit a brief proposal of up to 200 words and up to three JPEG images (minimum 300 dpi) to describe the work to be exhibited.

Deadline for exhibition proposals: Midnight 13th December 2015

All submissions and enquires to the Research Office at:

roffice@ucreative.ac.uk with the subject heading 'Research Student Conference' and your name (i.e. Research Student Conference – J. Smith)

For any enquiries regarding your submission please contact Sian Jones at 01252 892853 or Mary O'Hagan at 01252 892922