

Cardboard Catwalk/Outside-IN

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ABSTRACT

This document describes our proposal for a situated action- Exhibition/Workshop and participatory conference session-Cardboard Catwalk/Outside IN.

Our Proposal is to present a Photographic and Video Exhibition documenting the trajectory of this Collaborative Educational Project and its contexts both inside and outside of the educational institution with examples from the 20 years of its existence.

We also propose to deliver a pop-up participatory workshop ‘Outside-IN exploring verbal and non-verbal methods of communication within collaborative and participatory design.

A 2 Day workshop is proposed working with Manizales based students where pairs of Students are invited to work together to produce bespoke personal shelters for each other using Cardboard.

Using Model-making/Somatic/Instruction/Body Language/ Written language /Verbal instruction/Associative imagery/Mime and the International Language of Cardboard!

The workshop aims to explore and make explicit the verbal and non-verbal exchanges of collaborative working through a playful approach to material and communication It is our aim to attempt a creative documentation this sometimes-elusive aspect of the collaborative process through photography and video.

The resulting outcomes from this workshop will form the basis for a curatorial walk through and Q and A session presented to Conference participants.

Author Keywords

Collaboration; Communication; Language of Materials; Collaborative methodologies; Somatic instructions; Cardboard conversations; Art School pedagogies.

INTRODUCTION

‘Cardboard Catwalk’ is a Foundation Studies, Art and Design project which has undergone numerous manifestations and revisions in its run of over 20 years.

This year’s production involved 200 cross curricular and interdisciplinary student participants, it’s a real and authentic project culminating in a live presentation/ event during which students work collectively and collaboratively.

After a series of intensive initial briefings, workshops and structured research tasks; the remainder of the project is student led involving a high level of autonomy including the organisation of the studio space.

The basic premise of the rapid one-week project is that each student group of six students work with the names of two randomly chosen artists from the Tate Modern timeline of the 20th Century to interpret the work and concerns of the “cultural odd couple” in cardboard using the format of the catwalk.

An important aspect of the project is the emphasis of the studio resource as a space for peer-to-peer learning and collaboration and the physical format of the Art School Studio as a discreet co-learning device.

A space which can support the generative exhibitionism of the extrovert learner but also provide creative privacy for the introvert learner – A space where the many different ways of working are made explicit through tangible evidence, which is displayed in static presentations but also performed as a set of behaviours, to be observed and absorbed.

This year we have explored the application and appropriation of Art School pedagogies in a wider context siting the project externally in a community setting where Post Graduate students worked to co create a version of the ‘Cardboard Catwalk’ alongside a local Charity, engaging with this organisation and ensuring that their voice and expertise is part of the process and project. This in turn became part of a wider initiative- ‘Narratives of Homelessness’ which is a pilot project conceived and generated by the Department of

Media. This work contributes to the larger umbrella of the department's socially engaged educational drive to explore diverse pedagogical value, ensuring our students connect and co-create with the rich diversity of communities in Greater Manchester as part of their educational experience.

SITUATED ACTION PROPOSAL

Our Proposal is to present a Photographic and Video Exhibition documenting the trajectory of this Educational Project and its contexts both inside and outside of the educational institution with examples from the 20 years of its existence.

We also propose to deliver a pop-up participatory workshop 'Outside-IN exploring verbal and non-verbal methods of communication within collaborative and participatory design.

A 2 Day workshop is proposed working with Manizales based students where pairs of Students are invited to work

together to produce bespoke personal shelters for each other using Cardboard.

Using Model-making/Somatic/Instruction/Body Language/ Written language /Verbal instruction/Associative imagery /Mime and the International Language of Cardboard!

The workshop aims to explore the verbal and non-verbal exchanges of collaborative working through a playful approach to material and communication documenting the process through the creative use of photography and video.

The resulting outcomes from this workshop will form the basis for a curatorial walk through and Q & A session presented to PDC Conference participants.



Figure 1. Image showing – 22nd Annual Cardboard Ca-twalk 2019 Student Performance, Foundation Studies,- Manchester Metropolitan University.