

Anachron-Gen – Group CV

Current members: Sean Williams (Sheffield), Matt Lewis (Manchester) and Kate Allen (London).

While You Wait Twenty+3 Projects, Manchester, April - May 2008

Joined by artist and writer Kate Allen, we assembled objects, writing and digital recordings in this former living-room space, as a series of responses to the city and its urban spaces. Reflecting ways of experiencing a place – fragmented, uncertain, obscure and confusing – as a conception borne of fragments of information, discovered historical and representational reference points, *While You Wait* drew together divergent ideas to become a place to navigate, inhabit and re-imagine the city again. (<http://www.20plus3.co.uk/anchroncurrent.html>)

Host 8: Observatory Millenium Galleries, Sheffield, Feb - Mar 2008

We were invited to contribute to an analysis of time spent in the studio by artists – a tongue-in-cheek survey of artistic productivity. This was displayed as a model of our studio (amongst others), containing a light bulb that could be dimmed or brighten depending on our level of artistic activity. (<http://www.hostoffice.org.uk/host8/>)

Dancer 'A' for Host 7: Home Disco for Host Artists Group's touring DVD, Oct 2007 (including exhibition at 'Consortium' Amsterdam).

Anachron-Gen invited dancer Allie Carr to construct and perform a routine to her favourite piece of music. Three members of the group then attempted to copy this dance and all the performances to video were made into single channel video with the screen split into four. (<http://www.hostoffice.org.uk/host7>)

And finally Esther... Access Space, Sheffield, May 2007

Working in the UK's longest-running open access media lab, we created a new website featuring a vast collection of short texts, photographs, video clips and found images reflecting the distracted collaboration of our butterfly minds – all appeared randomly via the cloud of words on the homepage. Wall-based works included a series of posters with an architectural flavour, using the strap-line or mantra 'Space is Everything' as well a large digital print of 'The Muppets' Fozzie staring melancholically across Sheffield at night in a scene reminiscent of Romanticist paintings by Caspar David Friedrich. (www.andfinally.org)

Little Madam for Host Artists Group's contribution to the Sheffield Pavilion, May 2007

The brief was to respond to 'Beauty' in order to investigate its thematic validity within contemporary art. We chose a photograph taken with a phone camera of group member Gemma (taken from her 'MySpace' profile), and flipped it to suggest a replication of the 'Mona Lisa'. The title of the piece further infers a connection with da Vinci's iconic image. (<http://www.hostoffice.org.uk/host6>)

I dream sense-making commissioned billboard for Bloc Assembly, Bloc projects, Sheffield – April 2007

Our response was to combine an extract of a piece of prose we had written with an extract of spam mail, purporting to be from a Russian woman seeking a husband. The final piece was made from a photo of the resulting text on a computer screen, with cropping making complete legibility impossible, and turning the focus onto the words as objects. (<http://blocprojects.co.uk/programme/billboard/commissions-2007/anachron-gen/>)

Could It Be Forever? 'Non' zine, Jan 2007

We invited artists to contribute small artworks/objects for a photo-shoot, the results of which formed a poster for the centre pages of the zine.

We Belong Everywhere for four Sheffield Libraries – Architecture Week, Jun 2006

We invited photographs from artists Helen de Main and Susanne Palzer, and amassed 200 images with architectural issues at their core. Architecture is such a rich subject for photography, and we attempted to include all aspects from scaffolding and building to ruins and demolition, with architectural details and views of interiors within the collection. These were all printed at 8cms by 5cms and placed around four of Sheffield's libraries. An accompanying website features invited textual responses to a selection of the images from artists as varied as Hewitt & Jordan, Kim Noble, and a sound piece from Neil Webb. (<http://www.webelongeverywhere.co.uk>)

This Changes Nothing Bloc Projects, Sheffield, Jan 2006

Having worked purely with mobile phone photographs thus far, we attempted to extend the sensibility we had established into the moving image. The results were a series of short video clips which were exhibited on old, large computer monitors stood upon a table tennis table. We also compiled an eponymous booklet featuring texts by Karl Hyde, Tony Kemplen, and Hilary Thorn amongst others. (<http://blocprojects.co.uk/programme/exhibitions/2006/this-changes-nothing-anachron-gen/>)

Return Of The Dead for 'FRED' 05, Muncaster Castle, Cumbria, Oct 2005

The castle's Guard Room played host to a collection of over sixty of our photos with a distinctly sinister, unnerving theme which also included selected details of the castle's interior. We were able to exploit the blurry, slightly eerie quality of mobile phone photos and stills from a web-cam. The project was part of FRED, a Cumbria-wide series of appropriately-situated contemporary art. (<http://www.fredsblog.co.uk/2005/artists/3.html>)

Something Less Than A Terrible Nightmare Surface Gallery, Nottingham, Aug 2005

Our collection of over 100 mobile phone photos were categorised into four separate sets. The criteria for this process of organisation were nebulous and frivolous. The photos had been taken with the mere intention of being beguiling, charming and unspectacular. One set of 48 images, entitled 'Image, (Music), Text', was the inspiration for the production of our first booklet in which we invited artists, writers and curators to write a short text in response to a given image. The intention was to make an (albeit futile) attempt at giving some context to images which reflected the post-modern condition of flitting, with no coherent structure.

Space Is Everything University of Sheffield, Jun 2005

Our first project helped set the lo-tech tone that underpins all our projects thus far. Fumbling for a common ground on which to collaborate, mobile phone photography proved a fruitful starting point. The sixteen photos had a theme of architecture in context. The photos were placed at the entrance to the studios for the Landscape Architecture degree course.