



Plain Language Statement
ON BEING MOVED: TRANSMEDIA DRAMATURGIES FOR MOBILE AUDIENCES

Researcher details:

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Name: Robert Walton - Student Researcher

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Project details:

This research project is part of a PhD research project at the Victorian College of Arts.

You are invited to participate in this project, which is being conducted by Prof Mary Luckhurst and Mr Robert Walton of the Faculty of the VCA & MCM at The University of Melbourne. This project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee.

The aim of this study is to enhance our understanding of how performances are created and experienced by mixing live action in physical venues with networked communication systems like email, telephony, apps and social media accessed through smartphones.

What will I be asked to do? Should you agree to participate, you would be asked to contribute in the following ways:

- First, we will ask you to take part in a transmedia performance using your own phone,
- Second, we will ask you to complete a feedback form about your experience of the performance,
- Thirdly, after we have analysed all the feedback forms we may ask you to participate in a further interview that will take approximately 30-60 minutes.

As you interact with the transmedia performance on your phone test data will be collected about your progress and choices by the computer system. Your involvement in the project is completely voluntary and you are free to withdraw your contributions at any time until the data analysis has commenced on 1st January 2017.

How long is my contribution expected to take?

We estimate that the time commitment required of you would be approximately be an hour for the performance, five minutes to complete the feedback form and 30-60 minutes for the interview if required.

How will any potential risks be minimised?

The risks involved in this project are envisaged to be minimal, as you will not asked to do anything other than what you would normally do when discussing your experiences of a performance or your mobile phone.

Will I be able to be identified as a participant in this project?

You have been selected to participate in this project due to your interest in attending a new transmedia artwork. We do not intend to refer to you by name in our research. Instead we would refer to you by a pseudonym, and remove any contextual details that might reveal your identity. We would protect your anonymity to the fullest possible extent within the limits of the law and any records of your contribution will be kept on the Student Researcher's password protected computer.

This project aims to recruit between 20-100 people. Since the number of potential participants is small, it might still be possible for someone to identify you, even if a pseudonym is used.

What about confidentiality?

Your contribution to the project will be anonymous, we will do our best to protect the confidentiality of data that you provide. There are legal limits to data confidentiality. It is possible for data to be subject to subpoena, freedom of information request or mandated reporting by some professions.

What happens to my contributions after the project has finished?

Materials collected during this study will be retained for a minimum of five years after publication of the research in the student researcher's dissertation in accordance with the University's Code of Conduct for Research. The material may be used to inform the student researcher's performance or art works either as a direct quote or as stimulus for creative writing, collage, character or situation. The art work may be presented at festivals and conferences in Australia and overseas, and may appear on a website. We will not repurpose the material without your consent.

What if I have concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like further information about the research project, please contact the researchers. Contact details are listed at the start of this Plain Language Statement.

If you are concerned about the conduct of the project, please contact the Executive Officer, Human Research Ethics, The University of Melbourne, ph: 8344 2073.

What happens next?

Thank you for considering this invitation to participate in our research project. If you do decide to participate, one of the researchers will provide you with a consent form. Please indicate that you have read and understood this information by signing the accompanying consent form and returning it to one of the researchers. Whether or not you decide to participate, this Plain Language Statement is yours to keep.