

Jess Mathews



Lecturer in Fine Art Practice

Institute of the Arts

Contact Details

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Jess' research-based practice typically exists between curating / producing, learning and outreach, and teaching. Alongside academic and personal inquiry she has adopted a variety of professional roles within visual arts organisations across Wales, including; Outcasting; Fourth Wall Artists Moving Image Festival; LightsGoingOn; Artes Mundi 5 & 6; Amgueddfa Cymru, National Museum Wales; Wales in Venice 2013; Oriel Davies Gallery; and Wales Artist Resource Programme at g39.

Teaching & Research

Teaching interests

Module leader for FAPR1100 Visual Enquiry. This module introduces students to ways of looking. Visual language comes from subjective experience (encounters with art and life), mark-making (translating experience through drawing), and understanding processes of making through verbal or written communication. Questions asked include; how do we look? How many different ways can we look? What is drawing? What influences the way we make art, and how can we begin to understand and translate this for audiences? What does research look like?

Research interests

Having studied Curatorial Practice my research has considered; the multiplicity of the artist - curator position; the politics of 'inside' and 'outside' the frame and how meaning is transformed from creation to curation; contemporary welsh identity as collected, rendered and experienced by the National Museum of Art Wales; and a practice-based thesis titled 'Mapping the borders – curating Venice. A study in three parts: curatorial document; critical text; and experiential encounter with nation, Biennale and city.' My research interests continue to lay very much with notions of the border or crossing-zone; perceptions and value of place; language; and processes of translation.

Professional Bodies

Publications

Paper

Mapping the borders – Curating Venice. A study in three parts: curatorial document; critical text; and an experiential encounter with nation, Biennale and city.

Projects

do what you can: exercise x, Bute Park, Cardiff, August 2015. The first public outing of the do what you can project in collaboration with Louise Hobson. The event / temporary exhibition brought together a small group of artists and creative practitioners to activate unfinished gallery footings in a public park at the centre of the city.

Mocha encounters, Artes Mundi Encounters project with June Campbell-Davies, Flow Maugran & Adeola Dewis, Feb 2015.

Choir for Visitors, Artes Mundi Encounters project with Sing! Choir and artist Heloise Godfrey, Jan 2015.

Pedestrian choreography, Artes Mundi Encounters project with ValleysKids and artist Claire Prosser, Dec 2014.

Learning Resource Pack, Artes Mundi 6, 2014.

The Wall, Artes Mundi Encounters project with artist Louise Hobson, Sept 2014.

LightsGoingOn's e-learning project – three part film/lecture series, April – June 2014.

Everyday backdrop, Artes Mundi Encounters project with artist Ben Owen, Oct 2013.

Interplay, artist-led event at Z-shed Bristol with WARP, 2013.

Critical Mass, Artes Mundi 5 artist-led symposium, National Museum Wales, Dec 2012.

Exhibitions

Conspicuity, TestBed at Oriel Davies Gallery, April – June 2014.

The married life of atoms, TestBed at Oriel Davies Gallery, Feb – April 2014.

Fluent Aphasia, TestBed at Oriel Davies Gallery, Nov - Jan 2013.

The Crossing Place of Road and River, TestBed at Oriol Davies Gallery, Sept – Nov 2013.

Greetings from Bala Lake, TestBed at Oriol Davies Gallery, June – Sept 2013.

Nebulous, group show, 11 Broad Street Bath. 4 - 11 June 2012.

Mercurius, Cardiff collective group show, Fringe Arts Bath Festival. 25 May -10 June 2012.

Wunderland II in association with the Women's Art Association & TactileBOSCH Gallery, group show by open call of 18 artists' practices, 10 -31 March 2012.

Strange Things Happen, Cardiff collective group show, TactileBOSCH Gallery, 25 Nov - 8 Dec 2011.

External Responsibilities

Freelance Curator / Producer

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<http://www.worcester.ac.uk/courses/jess-mathews.html>