**London: City as Material**

Proboscis

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The focus for this class will be in considering the role of the city as material for artistic experimentation and creation. Only inadequately understood as "public art," urban interventions produce public space where it does not exist, foster new models of urban citizenship and participation, and challenge the zero-tolerance policies of the city and its police. Our aim is to create a vibrant and inspiring space in which students are encouraged to work on their interventions, and during the session will be held for food and drinks as much as for learning.

The class will be co-creative: i.e. students will collaborate with the tutors to define the nature of their investigations of the city and its potential. Our aim is to create a vibrant and inspiring space in which students are encouraged to work on their interventions, and during the session will be held for food and drinks as much as for learning.

**Some Links**

- CityMine(d) - http://www.citymined.org/
- Platform - http://www.platformlondon.org/
- Space Hijackers - http://www.spacehijackers.co.uk/
- Hide & Seek Festival - http://www.hideandseekfest.co.uk

**Tools We Can Use**

- Blogs
- Podcasting
- Diffuson eBooks & StoryCubes
- Field recordings (audio)
- Video and digital photography
- Sensors
- Video and digital photography
- Field recordings (audio)
- Diffuson eBooks & StoryCubes
- Podcasting
- Blogs

**Course Outline**

- Temporary installation and contraptions
- Urban sensory mapping
- Urban performance
- Street Play / games
- Stencilling / drawing / sketching
- Seedbombing / guerrilla gardening
- Observation / guerrilla ethnography
- Some sensors

**The core of this class will be in considering the role of the city as material for artistic experimentation and creation.**
Some Films We Can Watch
Playtime, Jacques Tati
Listen to Britain, Humphrey Jennings
Powers of 10; Goods; Day of the Dead, Charles & Ray Eames
Blue, Derek Jarman
London, Patrick Keiller
Gallivant, Andrew Kötting

Some Books We Can Read/Refer To
London Encyclopedia, eds Weinreb & Hibbert (Macmillan 1993)
Actions: What You Can Do With the City, eds Borasi & Zardini (CCA 2008)
London Walking, Simon Pope (Ellipsis 2000)
Flesh and Stone, Richard Sennett (Faber & Faber 1994)
Robinson in Space, Patrick Keiller (Reaktion Books 1999)
Liquid City, Marc Aitchison & Lain Sinclair (Reaktion Books)
Field and Stone, Robert Santamour (Raber A Faber 1994)
London Walking, Simon Pope (Ellipsis 2000)
London Encyclopedia, eds Weinreb & Hibbert (Macmillan 1993)

Some Places We Might Visit
Smithfield Market / Borough Market / Spitalfields
Barbican/Museum of London
Sir John Soane's Museum
Geffrye Museum
Hampstead Heath / Highgate Cemetery
Along the Thames River
Pollocks Toy Museum

Assignment
The assignment for the class will be two-fold:

1. Group Project – the class will collaborate together to document their experiences and explorations of the city as material, setting up and maintaining a blog and using various media (audio/video/photography etc). This will be an ongoing activity throughout the course.

2. Individual Project – each student will publish a Diffusion eBook of a personal artistic action or urban intervention they have carried out during the course.