Augmented reality in privately owned public places. Digital moving images as activist agent through performance of heterogeneous everyday practices.

Dani Landau

University of the West of England, Bristol

I would like to:

present via skype
or
presentation in person if funding permits.

This practice research project uses augmented reality (AR) to overlay video loops of everyday public space activities on to the live feed from the phone camera. I am working in a contested area of central Bristol, UK where privately owned public spaces are increasing in number. These places can be arbitrarily closed off and people refused entry using case law of trespass for arbitrary exclusion, thus effectively controlling what can and can't happen in them.

The work involved a series of public workshops in a park and gallery space where
everyday practices were acted out for camera. The loops were then placed used to make ongoing iterations of an AR app currently called ‘Kebab’

The work explores how architecture shapes habitual practices – for example leaning on railings, to sleeping rough, to moving round a space trollies. Influenced by the choreography of Pina Bauch the work finds a certain violent choreography through video looping in the AR. The agenda of the app, and its associated workshops and exhibitions has been to promote discussion about the diversity of practices that take place in public places.

The work came about out of an investigation in to the performative ontologies of the image asking: what do pictures do? And the method involved working with them in relation to specific spaces in order explore how they inta-act with space they are part of.

The project is part of a series in which images are overlaid in to the city in various ways.

https://vimeo.com/193679053 password - AMPS

https://vimeo.com/213757280 password - AMPS

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Dani Landau is a media artist currently working with moving image in public space. He is a PhD candidate researching - ‘Site specific image in conversation with architecture and cultural memory’ at the Digital Cultures Research Centre at University of the West of England. He is also an active participant in the non-reperesentional theory group at Bristol University, and the Film + Place + Architecture group at the Bartlett, UCL