URBAN ASSEMBLAGE: THE CITY AS ARCHITECTURE, MEDIA, AI AND BIG DATA.

• Proposal Title:

Collectarium Lockdown Space: Sharing domestic transformations and innovations for pandemics

• Authors Names:

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• University or Company Affiliation:

Dr. Sophie Beard: University of the Creative Arts (Epsom),
Peter Maloney: University of the Arts London (CCW),
Allyson Waller: The University of Brighton.

• Abstract:

It is just over one year since the UK went into Lockdown and in this time we have had to drastically and rapidly alter the way we live. People around the globe have had to innovatively re-think and transform their domestic spaces to adapt to the new demands placed on them. The spaces of the home have been adapted to perform tasks, behaviours and practices previously conducted across a range of public and private space, as the home has become the place where we work, socialise, exercise, learn, create, entertain, play, celebrate and escape.

Collectarium by Allyson Waller and Sophie Beard is a publishing platform that creates and curates design activities to engage audiences into new ways of seeing. Collaborating with Peter Maloney, a senior lecturer and researcher in interior and
spatial design, they set up the Lockdown Space project in January 2021. The project uses Instagram to collect and present observations demonstrating how people have adapted, transformed and expanded the domestic environment during this time.

The presentation will discuss submissions that reveal this rapid re-imagination of domestic space. They will evidence the innovative transformation and adaptation of the home into the office, the gym, the school, the artists’ studio, the pub, the club, the campsite, the restaurant, the beach and spaces of the imaginary. It will reflect on these outcomes to speculate how this period of rapid disruption could shape the designs and demands of the future home and the way we live in it.

• Authors Biographies

Dr. Sophie Beard is a practitioner within the field of Visual Communication. Her interest lies in the terrain of Vernacular Photography and the methodological approach of The Archive and Act of Collecting. Dr. Beard is a designer, researcher and educator. Currently a Senior Lecturer in Graphic Design at UCA Epsom Sophie graduated with a BA (Hons) Graphic Design at Central Saint Martins in 1998 and a MA in Communication Art & Design from the Royal College of Art in 2002. In 2010 Sophie completed her UAL funded practice based PhD, entitled Collecting Collects: The Family Photograph in the British Newspaper at LCC (UAL). Sophie has published and exhibited internationally and has extensive experience of working in higher education in both studio and theory delivery at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, most recently at Kingston University and Chelsea College of Arts.

Peter Maloney is a Senior Lecturer in Interior and Spatial Design at CCW, University of the Arts London. He studied at Chelsea School of Art, Central St Martins and London College of Communication. He has worked across design disciplines from Architectural Glass to Virtual Reality producing outcomes for prestigious clients. He has exhibited and presented work at The Barbican, BFI, Tate Britain, Tate Liverpool, ICA, RIBA, The Architecture Foundation, The National Gallery, The Art School, Chicago and the Ars Electronica Centre in Austria.

He was part of a research project that presented the Virtual Reality and the Gallery conference at the Tate Gallery in 1994. In 2017 as part of the Digital Maker Collective he organised four Virtual Reality Symposia, at the Tate Modern, bringing together industry and research experts to discuss Virtual Histories, Virtual Economies, Virtual Bodies and Virtual Spaces.

In 2018 he was commissioned to make work for the New Horizons: Beyond 2001 exhibition celebrating 10 years since the opening of the Stanley Kubrick Archive at UAL and 50 years since Kubrick’s film, 2001: a Space Odyssey. His teaching research and practice explores the critical relationship between new technologies and spatial practices through speculative methods.
Allyson Waller is both a lecturer and practising graphic designer. Her passion and fascination with the subject of visual communication naturally leads her to want to engage people in conversations about it. Facilitating and designing opportunities for students to learn and get excited about design is at the heart of Ally’s practice. She graduated from Central Saint Martins School of Art with a BA (Hons) Graphic Design degree and from the Royal College of Art with an MA in Communication Art & Design. She has freelanced for reputable design studios in both San Francisco and London.

Alongside her teaching practice Allyson works under the title ‘AW-Projects’, working on a project-by-project basis, either by inventing the content and authoring the work herself or by realizing the content with her collaborators.

Allyson’s research practice is focused around using both her skills as a designer and lecturer. In 2019 she co-founded ‘Collectarium’ with Dr. Sophie Beard. Collectarium is a publishing platform that creates and documents design activities that engage audiences’ exploration of archives and collections.