



Artist: **Georgie Pinn**

Artist support material website: www.electric-puppet.com.au

To whom it may concern,

This letter is written in support of my creative collaboration with Urban Screen Productions and the Digital Placemaking Institute, focusing on their interactive platform 'Interact-in place' implemented across the screen network. The platform will provide the opportunity to explore further notions of connection by working with realtime data visualisation in public space. My creative practice is underpinned by a long-term research into empathy as a creative force for making connection. I am driven my themes of 'democratisation of public space' and 'the public as artist and subject'. This interactive platform makes it possible to connect people between different geographic locations, communities and cultural backgrounds and can provide tools for meaningful cross cultural communication.

By example, my most recent and on-going work, 'Echo' was developed last year during a 3 month residency at the Cube, QUT. Echo is an immersive artwork that takes the form of an interactive booth based installation. The work is user-specific, relational and explores notions of connection through an interactive exchange of personal narrative. Touch screen, real-time facial tracking technology combines animation, storytelling, and portrait to highlight intersections between strangers. The key intention of the work is to create a vehicle for the exchange of empathy and to collect and share an embodied archive of cross-cultural experience that elicits compassion. Not only has the work been presented with the 2018 Ars Electronica Prix award but has also been curated into the 2018 ISEA symposium in South Africa.

Urban Screen Production's Artistic Director, Lubi Thomas, supported my Cube residency application and was also someone who I collaborated with when working with the Ars Electronica Futurelab in 2017. During this time we co-developed various conceptual projects with a focus on key FIS activation questions about AI, future humanity and how to grow empathy.

I have worked consistently with creative activation concepts combined with the screen platform at Fed Square for the past 6 years. Most recently, Echo was installed as part of the digital "Pause" Festival. The work was presented as an intimate public installation, outputting live animation to the Atrium screens. Other projects, such as 'Electric Dragon', were presented on Federation Square's public stage, this had a focus on Chinese folklore and public interaction through motion tracking technology. The project used the public screens for realtime, animated visualisations of the performance happening on stage. 'Electric Puppet' was another Fed Square public installation that used the Atrium screens as a live animated visualisation of the motion tracked performance of children. This project had a focus on sustainability and education, allowing children to design a digital character and animate them with their movement in real-time.

Glenn has been following the progress of my work throughout this period and has been a mentor for me on various projects. The opportunity to collaborate with him on this project is ideal, allowing me to continue creating work that is not only activated by, but from a content point of view, created by the public.

The 'Interact-in place' platform offers many opportunities to enhance new forms of audience engagement and also to become a flexible medium for artistic expression and the creative visualisation of data. I have extensive experience in devising adaptable, motion triggered applications and workshops for primary, secondary and university students. These real-time, interactive systems are interpreted and experimented with in a range of creative ways, generating high quality audio-visual content. The combination of bespoke applications with the facilitation of mentoring, development workshops would be a beneficial process to enhance the future capabilities of this platform for emerging artists.

It is an exciting opportunity to collaborate with Urban Screen Productions to develop these future project outcomes.

Yours Sincerely
Georgie Pinn

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