



School: School of Art

Researcher: Jonathan Kelham

Project Title: *UGO*

UOA: 32: Art and Design

Research Timeline

Date	Rationale of research activities and decisions undertaken
Sept-Dec 2015	<p>Developing initial idea for UGO Project Space</p> <p>Increasing engagement in local art programme; visiting exhibitions, screening and talks throughout Southampton at artist-led spaces/projects: HaHa Gallery, K6 Gallery, ASpace, God's House Tower and John Hansard Gallery Central.</p> <p>Engagement was both personal and professional interest; as a lecturer at an inner-city FE institution I was keen to develop a wider knowledge, beyond that of the students' very singular experience of visual art within Southampton (Southampton City Art Gallery).</p> <p>Despite a number of renowned institutions – especially that of The John Hansard Gallery – the artist-led projects were difficult to access without prior experience. Externally null of signage, with the exception of HaHa Gallery, the projects were reserved and withdrawn, this only perpetuated the sense of isolation and thinness of the regional artists scene.</p>
Jan-Feb 2016	<p>Developing initial idea for UGO Project Space: Location</p> <p>Exploration of multiple unused, dilapidated, and/or local community managed billboards in the city of Southampton. Identification of appropriate billboards and attempts made to contact owners.</p> <p>Desire to launch a project which was responding to the above concerns, focusing on visibility and accessibility in a public space.</p> <p>Key locations identified. Without funding a significant need was to maintain very low costs and so independent or abandoned billboards were focused on. This resulted in securing an unknown owned billboard in the suburb of St Denys.</p>
Jan-Feb 2016	<p>Developing initial curatorial ideas for UGO Project Space: Artist Enquiries</p> <p>Identification of potential artists to exhibit and develop a curatorial programme with. Contacting artists, outlining the concerns, interests and technical frameworks. Developing a series of commissions which would generate visually stimulating works that would engage a wide-ranging audience across a public space.</p> <p>A need to gauge response from artists who I thought would be appropriate across the above criteria. This was in the context of artist-led initiative, prior to the</p>

successful funding application to the BAS8.

The following artists responded and confirmed their interest in working on a commission for *UGO*:

HAHA GALLERY [Local Gallerists & Artists Jen Harris / Liv Fontaine]

S MARK GUBB [UGO work created alongside other US/UK site-specific works in SYSON Gallery Solo Show]

JUNEAU PROJECTS [BAS5 Artists & Previous Show at JHG Central]

DOMINIC FROM LUTON [British Artist, with practice centered on city-context of hometown.]

STUART WHIPPS [BAS8 Artist & city-context decline of the motor industry]

MILLY PECK [RCA graduate Sculptor]

PAUL VIVIAN [Locally based Graphic Readymade artist]

HARRY PYE [WSA Alumni - proposed work is a Painting of Chris Packham, with his favorite animals as requested by Packham]

May 2016

Informal Meeting with James Gough: Cultural Director Southampton Cultural Development Trust

Met with James Gough to discuss the project, outlining the intension and the desire to generate a low cost, public-facing space for commissions.

Meeting James would potentially provide support or contacts for - locations, funding and marketing.

James suggested contacting Turner Sims to liaise with their marketing team which had a strong marketing presence within the city. This also flagged that the forthcoming BAS8 would involve an associate programme of events, exhibitions, activities and opportunities for regional organisations and artists to develop projects with some funding attached.

June 2016

Application for BAS8 Associate Programme Funding + Shortlisted Interview with BAS8 AP Coordinator Carol Maund + Successful Application

Undertook application for UGO to be involved in the British Art Show 8 Associate Programme.

BAS8 would provide a brilliant platform for the work to be located alongside. One artist approached for UGO was Whipps, who was also involved in the BAS8 programme as a selected artist. The associate programme would also provide funding to begin the first 3 artists

UGO was selected as a BAS8 Associate programme project for Southampton. This provided a small amount of funding: £600.00 to commission and locate a private billboard within the city to present the work of three artists spanning 6 weeks of the BAS8 programme.

July 2016

Artist in Residence - John Hansard Gallery

Play Ground

Selected for a four day collaborative, collective and test space residency *PLAY GROUND* at the *John Hansard Gallery* [Southampton. UK]. The residency facilitated time to experiment within the space and develop practice in potentially new and varied directions through collaboration and artist-led activity. Throughout the residency, *John Hansard Gallery* was a test space for new ideas to collectively consider the question 'How can play help us to explore individual and collaborative practice?'

Participating artists include: Letty Clarke, Jonathan Kelham, Alys Scott-Hawkins, Bevis Fenner, Eloise Rose, Debbie Lee, Jill Laudet, Bettina Fung and Savinder Bual.

July 2016

Selecting UGO artists for BAS8 AP with Coordinator Carol Maund

Meeting with CM to discuss the appropriate curation of the artists mentioned earlier. To identify 3 appropriate works/artists to frame the *UGO* project for the duration of the BAS8 show in Southampton.

To generate the most appropriate, relevant and coherent curatorial programme for the 3 commissions.

Selected artists were: Mark Gubb - the work at *UGO* would be part of a larger multi-site [UK/US] solo show being launched in conjunction - exploring the spatial qualities of the same work generated and presented across multiple sites.

Stuart Whipps - also exhibiting as part of the BAS8 - Whipps was selected for the subject of his work; the decline of the British car industry, especially Longbridge, and the loss of specialist knowledge and skills within this sector from those made redundant. This created an interesting parallel with the decline of the Ford Factory in Southampton.

Harry Pye + Gordon Beswick - Harry was selected as a graduate of the Winchester School of Art [University of Southampton]. Pye works as a painter however the scale and digitalisation of the work was a new format for the work.

August 2016

BAS8 Associate Programme Meeting - Gods Tower

Meeting with all selected artists and projects across the Associate Programme, this required the formation of a short abstract and presentation of the overarching proposal for *UGO*.

To gather a sense of community, focus and introduction to the associate programme and its multiple formats. There was also the opportunity to expand on thoughts in an open forum and Q&A session.

Key outcomes of the meeting focused on collating marketing material for multiple forthcoming publications: BAS8 AP programme, BAS8 AP Website, BAS8 AP review.

September 2016

UGO Press Coverage. UGO Website, UGO Social Media, BAS8 AP Website, BAS8 AP Event Publication

Collating CV, Press Images & Statements from the selected Artists, developing low cost online presence for *UGO* via website [<https://ugoprojectspace.tumblr.com>] & Twitter page [<https://twitter.com/ugoprojectspace>]. Utilizing some of this copy to contribute to the wider BAS8 AP marketing

Again to gather a sense of community, focus and introduction to the associate programme and its multiple formats. Generate interest and platform for promotion of the works - Twitter especially effective in promoting the ongoing, durational and event based elements of the wider BAS8 AP.

Selected free platforms to place *UGO* aspects as the funding was unable to cover such points. Provided copy for a wider 3000 copy distribution of the BAS8 AP programme.

October 2016

BAS AP Meeting / Programme Literature Launch & Press Articles.

Meeting of the BAS8 AP including *UGO* for the launch of the AP programme. This coincided with articles in the Southampton Echo [<https://www.dailyecho.co.uk/leisure/news/14790882.fringe-benefits-for-city/>] & Arts Council England website [<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/news/southampton-celebrates-contemporary-visual-art-british-art-show-8-and-city's-first-fringe>].

	Again to gather a sense of community, focus and introduction to the associate programme and its multiple formats. Generate interest and platform for promotion of the projects - returning to and framing the AP as an artist-led and community focused set of projects.
October – November 2016	<p>Mark Gubb Commission - Free For All Forever</p> <p>Exhibited on the <i>UGO</i> billboard from 24 October – 6 November 2016.</p> <p>Launched in conjunction with <i>Revelations</i>, the multi-site solo exhibition at Sysons Gallery (Nottingham) and then G39 (Cardiff). Gubb produced a flyer which was published in Frieze Magazine (October 2016) and included <i>UGO</i>'s commission.</p> <p>Additional information can be found here: https://www.smarkgubb.com/revelations</p>
October 2016	<p>British Art Show 8 [Southampton UK] Private View / Launch event.</p> <p>A central concern of British Art Show 8 is the changing role and status of the physical object in an increasingly digital age. These concerns will be explored through a wide range of mediums that include performance, film, sculpture, installation, painting and design. The exhibition will fill the entire gallery, transforming the space with a series of works that demonstrate the strength of art practise in this country today. This will be the third time Southampton has hosted this prestigious show, the last time being in 2000 with British Art Show 5. Find out more at britishartshow8.com</p> <p>Exhibition will launch on 8 October 2016. Open to the public from 9 October – 15 January 2017.</p>
October 2016	<p>BAS8 Fringe Associate Programme Celebration</p> <p>Celebrating the wonderful work of all the Associate Artists at Metricks Guildhall on the evening of 26 October.</p>
21 Nov – 4 Dec 2016	<p>Stuart Whipps Commission – Poor Old Tax Payer</p> <p>Exhibited on the <i>UGO</i> billboard from 21 November – 4 December 2016.</p>
17 November 2016	<p>Rebel Magazine Blog Article</p> <p>http://therebelmagazine.blogspot.com/2016/11/chris-packham-painted-by-team-beswick.html</p>
23 November 2016	UGO Project Space Q&A - on Southampton Associate Programme Website [url dead]
5 December 2016	<p>Article in Southampton Echo</p> <p>https://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/14946818.giant-painting-of-hampshire-broadcaster-hidden-somewhere-in-southampton/</p>
5 December – 18 December	<p>Team Beswick & Pye Commission – A Starry Night in Southampton</p> <p>Exhibited on the <i>UGO</i> billboard from 5 December – 18 December 2016.</p>
	Associate Programme Survey
December 2016 – January 2017	Relocation from Southampton to Colchester - New appointment as BA Fine Art Course Leader.
January 2017	Review/Documentation Publication of BAS8 Associate Programme + Launch

Team Beswick & Pye Commission is in Guardian.

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2018/mar/31/tate-modern-gallery-staff-art-exhibition-london>

March - April 2017	UGO Digital Project Space Development Informal discussions and meetings with the Head of School of Art to discuss possible avenues for expanding UGO Project Space BAS8 notions of space within a pedagogical format.
July 2017	Conducted in PDR reviews, 1-2-1 meetings and CPD end of year reviews for both course and individual level. Focused on professionalisation and digital spaces.
July - September 2017	Production of Colchester Institute / University Centre Research Project Proposal.
November 2017	Meeting with Dean of University Centre Colchester & Research Board to discuss Colchester Institute / University Centre Research Project Proposal application.
January - September 2018	Undertaking construction & Research involved in development of digital project space. Including a meeting with Matthew Hughes of Legion TV [https://www.legionprojects.com/legion-tv-archive]
October 2018	Launch of Doc 0.1 with workshop for BA Fine Art Year 3 Students 11 students involved. An open access collaborative project. Across 2018-19 UGO 0.2 will allow users to edit: remove. add. alter. the online word processor document Doc 0.1, while collaborating with other users in real-time. Students asked to continue collaborative practice output.
27 November 2018	Launch of Emma Theedom collaboration – Certified Copy with presentation and screening of interview between artist [BFA 2018 alumni] and co-coordinator [2018-19 student]. Attendance 18. <i>Theedom embraces the act of appropriation with major influence from the poignant Pablo Picasso quote, 'Good artists copy, Great artists steal'. Exploring the history of art, Theedom recreates classics using her attention to detail combined with a contemporary twist, relying on digital photography to produce her works.</i>
11 January 2019	Launch of Olivia Bax collaboration – Handle This Included Visiting Artists Talk, Seminar with Artists, myself and digital project space co-coordinator [2018-19 student] followed by individual tutorials with the artist. Talk and seminar attended by 25 students. Tutorials attended by 6 students. <i>In the studio, making work involves a series of actions: some planned, some responsive. Handle This is a recording of a simple action, one of many to</i>

	<p><i>complete a sculpture. In this .gif I was preparing the surface of a part of a sculpture in preparation for a ready-made handle. Bax 2018</i></p> <p>At Colchester School of Art.</p>
March 2019	<p>Launch of Similitudes a collaborative project with curator Dave Evans and the BA Fine Art Year 3 students. Workshop attended by 11 students focussed on the submission process for a visual dialogue to begin with Evans.</p> <p><i>Given that literally everyone old enough to touch a screen is now meant to be completely in thrall to devices connected to the internet, I was pleasantly surprised to receive the images submitted for this UGO 0.2 Work in Progress digital exhibition. None of the works, bar one, appeared to have been digitally generated, nor did there appear to be the preoccupation with instagram-ability that every artist is supposedly obsessed with. Evans 2019.</i></p> <p>Whole project undertaken online via chan-style message boards.</p>
March 2019	<p>Launch of collaboration with Chris Alton – <i>The Union of Human Intelligence Taskworkers</i>.</p> <p>Included Visiting Artists Talk, Seminar with Artists, myself and digital project space co-coordinator [2018-19 student] followed by individual tutorials with the artist.</p> <p>Talk and seminar attended by 22 students. Tutorials attended by 6 students.</p> <p>Alton conceived the project as a possible avenue for dissent and solidarity for the HIT workers. <i>The Union of Human Intelligence Taskworkers</i> reveals their working conditions to a wider audience, whilst also commenting on broader issues regarding precarious labour, automation, and trade/workers unions in the digital age.</p> <p>At Colchester School of Art.</p>
5 March 2019	<p>John Robinson's performance for Velázquez Variations at Colchester School of Art was attended by 15 students who supported the recording and installation of the performance. This preceded a Visiting Artists Talk followed by individual tutorials with the artist.</p> <p>In the performance [5.03.2019] Robinson drew upon the uncertain relationship between the figures depicted, artist and audience. Encouraging audience participation and documentation as he reworks and poses, capturing snapshots of an idiosyncratic retelling.</p>
April 2019	<p>Launch of Velázquez Variations online.</p>