

Research Output 3

Materials of Hope

Film + Soundtrack

<https://www.compound13.org/waste>

Including workshop and production of soundtrack.

This short 18-minute documentary has been produced collaboratively between a team of UK-based researchers and members of ACORN India, using participatory methods. It tells the story of the journeys that waste materials make through the informal recycling industry in Dharavi, Mumbai. It was produced as part of a follow-on project for impact and engagement, Resources of Hope, funded by AHRC through the Global Challenges Research Fund.

The film was shot, edited, and co-directed by Dr Ben Parry and co-produced with Graham Jeffery. The film's soundtrack was collaboratively composed by Graham Jeffery with members of ACORN and rappers from Dharavi Rocks. Jeffery was also responsible for location recording and sound design with Dr Ben Parry. The film is intended to provoke debate about the 'story of waste', challenging received notions of disposable products, materials, and people, reflecting on labour, urban inequalities, and the 'biopolitics of disposability'.

The film was exhibited as a video installation at Central & Western Jutland – video & performance festival 2019: Contemporary art in untraditional places and locations around Nisum Fjord <https://et4u.dk/meetings/meetings-2019/>
Accompanying publication: ISBN:978-87-991270-7-8

Further screenings: MESCA / Norwich

Dr Ben Parry produced a different version of the film in the form of a triptych for Media Wall, Bath Spa University. November 26 - December 17, 2018.

<https://twitter.com/MediaWallBSU/status/1067429670231072769>

<https://www.bathspa.ac.uk/be-bath-spa/facilities/mediawall/project-archive/>