

School: School of Design Researcher: Tim Vyner

Project Title: Reportage Illustration as Visual Journalism at Two World Cups

**UOA: 32 - Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory** 

# **Research Timeline**

Date	Rationale of research activities and decisions undertaken
2018	Stage 1: Pre-tournament planning and background
2012 – 2018 Background	Following on from reporting for The Times at the London Olympic Games of 2012, I was looking to see if reportage illustration, carried out in real time, can influence the way we experience live sporting events. It was a new departure for reportage illustration to function in real time, and a series of live participatory projects followed using static and moving images as a form of visual journalism.
	By 2018 we were used to experiencing news in real time, and being able to draw using technology on location meant the voice of the illustrator could contribute to the way the Russia World Cup was seen.
	In addition to the FIFA World Cup, the Street Child World Cup taking place in Moscow in the same year and this was a chance to explore if reportage illustration could also raise awareness of marginalised groups, and empower individuals through participatory drawings. My aims for the project were to grow new audiences around sport, travel and identity.
2018 March	Research visit to Moscow: Attended Russia v Brazil, at the Luzhniki Stadium. A friendly game and re-opening of the stadium to host the World Cup Final. Delivered a reportage illustration workshop and professional lecture at the British Higher School of Art and Design [BHSAD] in the ArtPlay area of Moscow.
	While exploring the city and getting a sense of the feasibility of the project, I was in discussion with The Telegraph newspaper about publication of work and why reportage illustration could be used to publish this unique World Cup story to their readers.
	I was introduced to the British Council in Moscow and the charity

'Street Child United', who were organising their Street Child World Cup in May 2018. SCU is a charity that has 3 core values: sport, human rights and the arts. I made a proposal to the charity use reportage illustration as a way of bringing all 3 values together. We agreed I would cover their tournament as a visual journalist and also contribute to their arts program and exhibit the outcomes at the powerful end-of-tournament 'General Assembly' where individual rights of participants are presented to the global media present. The tournament is a moment where these vulnerable young adults are in a 'goldfish bowl' where photographers and journalists report on the games. I was interested to see if drawings could tell individual stories of the participants in a different way to the lens of a camera

Ongoing FIFA World Cup planning: travel safety, World Cup logistics with photographer Stuart Clarke, who became an 'silent' collaborator on this project. Clarke and I travelled together for the knockout stages of the tournament. Working independently, we shared an ethos to put ourselves "between the fans and the games".

## 2018 Stage 2: Street Child World Cup Live Project

#### May 2018

Over 10 days in May I documented the journey of 2018 Street Child World Cup, including the opening ceremony, the games, Embassy and Red Square visits, cultural late shows, art workshops including a Moscow boat party at the end of the tournament.

On the penultimate day, a team of volunteers worked with commercial printers in Moscow to produce a series of archival large format prints to go on display at the Amber Plaza at the General Assembly alongside photography and artwork produced by the participants. This was a genuinely collaborative experience; over 200 young adults, volunteers and leadership coordinators, who looked after the wellbeing of all the participants, as well as facilitating and delivering the creative workshops, put on the exhibition at the Amber Plaza [Moscow] during the General Assembly.

A dedicated 'comms' team were making daily films and updates throughout the tournament as well as significant international media coverage throughout, constantly raising the global profile of the event. The charity uses the hashtag #lamsomebody and value the drawings produced, using visual journalism methods, including it in their promotional films and pre/post tournament workshops and education programme. They see it as a valuable way of building confidence in the street child participants, and contributes positively to the legacy of their tournaments. They have invited me to participate in the Cricket World Cup and I am actively involved in developing content for Qatar 2022.

# June/July 2018

## **FIFA World Cup Live**

35 days traveling around Russia following the developing stories of a remarkable World Cup. I was reporting directly to the Sports Editor at the Telegraph each day. Cities included: Kaliningrad, Moscow, St Petersburg, Samara, Volgograd, Nizhny-Novgorod, and many thousands of miles of road, rail and air-travel inbetween. A FIFA World Cup is 'blanket covered' by national newspapers through journalists, photographer and film-makers. In my proposal to The Telegraph I was keen to explore how reportage illustration alongside a written diary 'from the field' would add value, inform and potentially grow new readers when published in the sports pages alongside their ubiquitous World Cup coverage.

2018 – Present	Stage 3: Project Dissemination:
21.3.18	'House of Illustration' Panel Discussion about Reportage Illustration to coincide with the launch of the book 'Reportage Illustration, Visual Journalism' by Gary Embury and Mario Minichiello published by Bloomsbury, ISBN 1474224598
29.6.18	'Up Late' Discussion about Drawing at The Holburne Museum, Bath from Russia, via Live Stream
14.9.18 – 23.12.18	National Football Museum, Manchester – Stuart Clarke Road Trip to Russia, featuring artwork by Tim Vyner
28.9.18	'Futures' EU Public Engagement lecture - Birdall's Yard 'Reportage Illustration and the World Cup'
28.11.18	Hereford College of Arts Professional Practice Lecture
27.3.19	Keynote speaker at Digifest symposium, Graphic Art Facility, and Birmingham City University, Birmingham
29.3.19	Bristol UWE Business School Professional Lecture
11.4.19	BSU Alumni Public Engagement 'networking' event, Bath City Centre
5.7.19	Speaker at Interactive Children's Narratives Symposium, BSU