

Helen Stratford CV

www.helenstratford.co.uk

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ESCALATOR live/visual arts artist

Located between performance art, architecture and writing, I realise projects that combine performance/architecture, practice/theory, intervention/lecture, including performative walks, lectures, papers and films produced through site-specific research that explores the effects of the built environment; its influences on how people rest, move and live. In analysing the rhythms of daily life my practice investigates how we can rethink the power of the built environment within social, political, economic and emotional infrastructures.

I am currently completing a part-time practice-led PhD in live art and 'Performative Architectures' at Sheffield University and recently finished a 2-year residency supported by Arts Council England with national arts organisation METAL in Peterborough and Southend, developing a new app with artist Idit Elia Nathan that uses visual and audio prompts to explore a playfully critical approach to the urban environment.



IMAGES: (clockwise from top left) **A Day With A Duck** Ely (UK): residency, gallery presentation, live-art events Babylon Gallery (2012) **Play The City Now Or Never** Southend and Peterborough (UK): residency/app development with Idit Nathan, METAL (2015/6) **Please Wait Here:** Instructions for performing a queue for a pleasure pier train: artside: pause festival, Southend (UK) (2012) **Mechanical Operations in Cambourne** Wying Arts Centre, Cambridge (UK): residency, exhibition, audio-walk, interventions, publication (2009), **INTERVALS** audio-led performance: Metropolis Biennale Copenhagen, 2011, (DK) with Diana Wesser & Giraff Graff.

LINKS

www.helenstratford.co.uk

www.playthecitynowornever.com

www.wysingartscentre.org/archive/residencies/cuc_helen_stratford/2009

www.urbanlaboratory.net

Education / Training

2012-current	Part-time Practice-led PhD in Performative Architectures University of Sheffield
2003	RIBA PART III University of Cambridge
1998-02	MA Architecture and Critical Theory, Distinction University of Nottingham
1996-98	RIBA PART II / Diploma in Architecture, University of Cambridge
1991-94	RIBA PART I / BA Hons. Architecture, University of Sheffield

Selected Solo Exhibitions & Installations

2015	Demolition Mood Board Exchange Place Studios, Yorkshire Artspace, Sheffield The First International Survey On Bird Deterrence: Sheffield, The World Outside SIA, Sheffield
2014	Market Meditations solo show, Celje Center for Contemporary Arts (SI) Things To Do With Shopping Centres solo installation, Smiths Row Gallery, Bury St Edmunds.
2012	A Day With A Duck solo curated gallery presentation, Babylon Gallery Ely

Selected Group Exhibitions & Installations

2016	Imaginary Worlds Oriel Davies Gallery, Newtown Europa Shop Show Transition Gallery, London Bloc Billboard Commission with Craig Fisher, Sheffield Bloc Projects UNIT(e) 2016 group show g39 Gallery Cardiff The Reading Room artists book show & One Place After Another Cambridge Artspace
2015	Drawing Conversations with Craig Fisher, Coventry University I'M Ten group show and auction, IMT Gallery, London Variety Show I and XIII Primary Studios Nottingham and Aid & Abet, Cambridge
2014	JUST LIKE THIS annual online project Fermynwoods Contemporary Art The Walking Encyclopaedia group show, with Idit Nathan AirSpace Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent
2013	Eastern Approaches open group show, UH galleries at Museum of St Albans The Air of Songs group show, Celje Centre for Contemporary Arts (SI) A State of Unplay group show, Atelier 35, Bucharest, (RO)
2012	Please Wait To Be Served (How to Perform a Café) visual arts commission Hunt&Darton Cafe Intervals Film Screening at Hotbed, The Cambridge New Writing Theatre Festival
2011	Please Wait Here: Instructions for performing a queue for a pleasure pier train A DIY installation: artside: pause festival Southend-On-Sea Manchester Blind Spots Film screening at Exhibition, Cambridge, Film Festival & Conference: MIRROR/LENS: WOMEN IN FILM & WOMEN MAKING FILM, Murray Edwards College,
2010	CUBEOpen 2010 Manchester Blind Spots group show with Diana Wesser Manchester CUBE Gallery Wysing Arts Contemporary: Partnering group show with Diana Wesser
2009	Communities Under Construction group show, Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge
2006	Compendium: the Work of the University of Cambridge Department of Architecture

Selected Solo Performative Tours Walks & Actions

2015	Perimeter Perambulations Queen's Park, Loughborough, RADAR Flora & Fauna Tours Castlegate Festival, Sheffield, Yorkshire Artspace
2014	Mechanisms of Control participatory workshop for CRAASH conference, Cambridge University Things To Do With Shopping Centres public event, Cornhill Walk, Bury St Edmunds
2013	An Architectural Cleaning Cupboard Tour Cambridge Junction: Unfinished & Unleashed
2012	Practising Firstsite: 10 ways to Misuse a Visual Arts Centre performative tour, Colchester Arts Centre
2011	Approaching Art performative tour Camberwell School of Art, commission
2008	In-between House & Home performative lecture walk, Arts Theatre, Cambridge Festival of Ideas
2006	In-between House and Home performative lecture "A Question(ing) of Gesture" Leipzig Opera House

Selected Collaborative Performative Tours Walks & Actions

2016/17	Lightbulb Walks National Theatre, London with Idit Nathan Play The City Now or Never! CounterPlay 16 Aarhus (DK) with Idit Nathan
2015	Play Welcome Now or Never! Welcome Trust Play Spectacular London with Idit Nathan
2014	Play Cambridge Now or Never! Curating Cambridge with Idit Nathan
2013	Sunder & Land performative walk, with Idit Nathan On Walking conference Sunderland University & NGCA
2012	Time to C&B performative tour with Idit Nathan, CB1, Cambridge Curiosity & Imagination & Aid&Abet
2011	Choreographing Knowledge with Diana Wesser: Murray Edwards, Cambridge Festival of Ideas Walking Through Walls audio walk-for-one with Diana Wesser: Stadttheater Bremerhaven (DE) Intervals audio-walk, with Diana Wesser: Metropolis Biennale, www.cph-metropolis.dk/en (DK)
2010	Walking Through Walls audio walk-for-one, Centraltheater Leipzig play! LEIPZIG Festival (DE)
2009	Choreographing Knowledge performative walk and talk with Diana Wesser: Murray Edwards College, Nightjar festival & Festival of Ideas, University of Cambridge Fissures in the Harbour of Knowledge lecture performance walk with Diana Wesser: TANZ MACHT RAUM _ RAUM MACHT TANZ, Symposium, Ruhr University Bochum (DE) Home is where the piano is CROP MARKS contemporary art trail, with Diana Wesser, Cambridge
2008	Manchester Blind Spots performance lecture walk, Get Lost! Festival, TRIP conference MMU

Selected Event Curation / Organisation

2016	Interstitial Breakfast with taking place, 13th AHRA international conference KTH Stockholm (SE) Hands On workshop with Apolonija Šušteršič, Oslo National Academy for the Arts
2013	Liberty Belle: Floating Micro Cinema with Cambridge Super8, Ely
2012	A Day With A Duck live art events, Ely
2011	Performative Architectures discussion event the Showroom, London
2008	Feminism is on the Agenda* Public works and ICA, London, Nought to Sixty Salon with taking place.

Selected Performative Lectures

- 2016 **Was (is) taking place a nomadic practice?** with Teresa Hoskyns 13th AHRA Conference KTH (SE)
A Day With A Duck Pecha Kucha at Walking Women Forest Fringe, Edinburgh
- 2015 **Market Meditations Plank** Techniques of Art & Protest, Kings College, London
- 2014 **Market Meditations P74 Gallery** Ljubljana (SI)
Performing Cities: "Occupy" and Playgrounds presentation at CRAASH, Cambridge
Play the City Now or Never! with Idit Nathan METAL, Peterborough.
- 2013 **Play the City Now or Never!** with Idit Nathan Futurepark METAL Southend-on-Sea
- 2013 **Mechanical Operations** flip-chart presentation with Lawrence Bradby, Cambridge Junction
- 2012 **Beacon Bi-Monthly 12** Beacon Art Projects, Lincoln
Gestures of Resistance AHRA 2012 9th International Conference
- 2011 **Walking Through Walls** performative lecture PSI#17 Utrecht - Camillo 2.0
- 2010 **Routine Procedures** Sexuate Subjects, interdisciplinary event UCL, London
Urban (col)laboratory with Diana Wesser, Metropolis Lab, Copenhagen (DK)
- 2009 **Not Building** Škuc Gallery, Ljubljana (SI)
- 2007 **Mechanical Operations in Cambourne** book launch with Lawrence Bradby, ICA London
Form Trans Inform: with Doina Petrescu, Sheffield University, Alternate Currents Symposium

Residencies / Research Projects / Professional Development

- 2016-17 **Fantastical Cambridgeshire** Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination
- 2016 **The Drawing Room** 3-day residency, Oriel Davies Gallery, Newtown, Wales
- 2015-16 **Play the City Now or Never! METAL** 2 year residency METAL with Idit Nathan
- 2016 **UNIT(e) g39** 10 week development residency/intensive g39 Cardiff Wales
- 2015 **How to Re-Make A City** residency with demolition workers, Sheffield, Yorkshire Artspace microgrant
MSB2015 three-part residency exchange: Castlefield Manchester, Bloc Sheffield, ESP Birmingham
- 2014 **AA2A** 8 month residency, Sheffield Hallam University
- 2013 **Time & Space METAL** 1 month residency Peterborough with Idit Nathan
Birdland is Everywhere - 6 month residency - Poly-Technic, Soar Works, Sheffield
AIR Celeia - 2 month residency - The Centre for Contemporary Art, Celje Slovenia
METAL Culture Lab, Peterborough, 1 week residency with Idit Nathan
- 2012 **A Day With A Duck** - 6-month residency and gallery presentation, Babylon Gallery, Ely
- 2012 **Mentoring Session** - with Caroline Wright, New Work Network
- 2011-12 **Performative Architectures** - ACE funded practice development via Escalator Live Art
- 2007-12 **taking place 6: The Other Side of Waiting: Routine Procedures** curated public arts project, Homerton Hospital Hackney, London, www.takingplace.org.uk
- 2009-2015 **Studio Artist** Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge
- 2009 **Communities Under Construction** 6-month residency, Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge
- 2004/5 **Architecture Fellowship** 9-month residency, Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany

Publications

- Books:** 2017 **forthcoming: The Day Of The Duck:** with Lawrence Bradby, Marmalade London.
 2009 **Mechanical Operations in Cambourne:** with Lawrence Bradby, Marmalade London.
- Chptrs:** 2016 **forthcoming: The Space(s) Between Us** collaborative chapter with Diana Wesser in *Odyssee : Heimat*, Natalie Driemeyer and Jan Deck eds. Transcript Verlag, Bielefeld.
- 2010 **In Between House and Home** in *Verhaktene Beredsamkeit? Politik, Pathos und Philosophie der Geste*, Veronika Darian ed., Peter Lang, Frankfurt am Main.
- 2007 **Micro-Strategies** in *Altering Practices: Feminist Politics and Poetics of Space* Doina Petrescu ed., Routledge, London, pp. 125-139.
- 2006 **Unpleasant Matters** in *Material Matters: Materiality in Contemporary Architectural Practice and Theory* Katie Lloyd-Thomas ed., Routledge, London, pp.209-224.
- Pages:** 2013 **U-Spy Deterrent Survey** in *Paper Stages* book www.paperstages.co.uk
Believers walk right in and take your seat in *Artists Cookbook*, New Work Network
Walking Through Walls in publication of the festival 'play!LEIPZIG (Dance Archive Leipzig)
Fissures in the Harbour of Knowledge (Ed. Ruhr University Bochum)
- 2010 **Mechanical Operations: Repetitive Actions as a Creative Force in New English Settlements** in *Surface*, YH485 Press, www.YH485press.org with Lawrence Bradby
- 2008 **In Between House and Home "A question(ing) of gesture"** Fotohof edition catalogue

Prizes/Grants/Awards

- 2015/16 **Arts Council England ACE: Grants for the Arts award:** with Idit Nathan: *Play The City Now Or Never!*
Yorkshire Artspace Microgrant: Flora and Fauna Tours, Castlegate, and Open Studios Sheffield
- 2014 **ACE/British Council: Artists International Development Fund** Round 6
- 2013 **RIBA LKE Ozolins PhD Studentship**
A-N Critical Writing Bursary to review b-side Festival Portland UK
A-N Go & See Venice Biennale Bursary
ACE selected Escalator Digital Arts artist (METAL Culture Lab)
- 2012 **University of Sheffield Faculty of Social Sciences PhD Fees Scholarship**
ACE Grants for the Arts award: *A Day With a Duck*, Babylon Gallery, Ely
- 2011 **ACE selected Escalator Live Art artist, ACE practice development Grants for the Arts.**
- 2010 **ACE selected Escalator Visual artist**
- 2008 **ACE Grants for the Arts award:** with taking place for *The Other Side of Waiting*
- 2007 **ACE Grants for the Arts Research & Development:** with taking place for *The Other Side of Waiting*