

The School of Creative Studies and Media Research Update – Summer 2017

The School of Creative Studies and Media has been busy over the summer. Below is a list of what it has achieved.

Publications

Books

Nathan Abrams submitted his 120,000-word manuscript to Rutgers University Press entitled *Stanley Kubrick: New York Intellectual* which will be published in March 2018. He also submitted a proposal with Ian Hunter to Bloomsbury Academic for a 150,000-word edited anthology to be entitled *The Kubrick Companion*. He is still at work on *Eyes Wide Shut: Stanley Kubrick and the Making of His Final Film* to be published by Oxford University Press in 2019. He did a significant proportion of archival work and interviewed many people who worked on the film. He has also been commissioned by Oxford University Press to write the entry on *2001: A Space Odyssey* for the Oxford Bibliographies in Cinema and Media Studies.

A revised edition of Gregory Frame's monograph, *The American President in Film and Television*, will be published in paperback form in January 2018.

Andy McStay submitted his book *Emotional AI: The Rise of Empathic Media* (London: Sage, 2018).

Ifan Morgan Jones published *Dadeni* (Talybont: Lolfa) in June 2017. He is also currently in discussions with press about publishing two books – one creative work and one based on his research into nationalism and the Welsh language press in the 19th century.

Eben Muse has secured a contract with Cambridge University Press to edit a series of monographs on bookselling industry and culture. This will be part of a larger collection of "Gatherings" edited with UCL and presented as collections of short monograph length outputs, all with the potential to be extended via additional online paratexts, each focused on a particular area of publishing or book culture, Eben has also won another contracted with CUP for a monograph titled *The Fantasy of the Bookstore* due for publication in Summer 2018.

Vian Bakir completed the final draft of her 115,000-word monograph on *Intelligence Elites and Public Accountability: Relationships of Influence with Civil Society*, Routledge Monographs. It will be published in 2018.

Lyle Skains secured contract with Cambridge University Press for monograph titled *Modern Authorship: From Drafting to Bookselling* - likely publication Summer 2018. Also, she is co-editing (with DeAnn Bell) a short fiction anthology *Normal Deviation*, to be published Spring 2018.

Kate Lawrence secured a contract with Palgrave Macmillan for monograph titled *Site-specific Dance: Moving People* likely publication early 2019.

Journal Articles

Nathan Abrams, 'What was HAL? IBM, Jewishness and Stanley Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey* (1968)', *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, vol. 37, no. 3 (2017), 416-435. Published online: 28 Jun 2017.

Vian Bakir & Andrew McStay (2017). [Fake News and The Economy of Emotions: Problems, causes, solutions, Digital Journalism](#) Pages: 1-22 | DOI: 10.1080/21670811.2017.1345645. This 9,000-word journal article is on the very new phenomenon of fake news (identified as of political and social concern in the 2016 US presidential election of Trump, and the UK Brexit campaign). It is the first academic piece examining this phenomenon in depth, and with practical recommendations for the communications industries and regulators.

Gregory Frame, "'The Lincoln Memorial Was Too Crowded": Interpreting the United States' memorial landscape through film and television', accepted in *Journal of Popular Film and Television* (forthcoming).

Melissa Kagen, "Zombie *Parsifal*: Undead Walkers and Postapocalyptic Stagings," *Opera Quarterly* (forthcoming in Autumn 2017).

Lyle Skains, (forthcoming). Creative Practice as Research: Discourse on Methodology. *Journal of Media Practice*. [online] To be available at:
<<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14682753.2017.1362175>>

Lyle Skains, (under review). Dissonant Fabulation: Subverting Online Genres to Effect Socio-Cognitive Dissonance. *Textus*.

Skains, L., 2017. Creative Practice as Research: Discourse on Methodology (Living Resource). *The Disrupted Journal of Media Practice*. [online] Available at:
<<http://scalar.usc.edu/works/creative-practice-research/>>

Book chapters

Greg Frame completed a chapter entitled 'You've got to decide how you want history to remember you': The Legacy of Lyndon B. Johnson in Film and Television' for a forthcoming edited collection about presidential legacies, to be published by Edinburgh University Press.

Lyle Skains (with Astrid Ensslin) published 'Hypertext: Storyspace to Twine.' In: J. Tabbi, ed., *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Electronic Literature*. London: Bloomsbury, 2017. pp.293–307.

Other academic outputs

Vian Bakir & Andrew McStay (2017). *Subject Association paper: Combatting fake news: analysis of submissions to the fake news inquiry*, Three-D Issue 28. This 3000-word submission for Media, Cultural Studies & Communication Subject Association newsletter summarizes and assesses the approx. 80 written submissions to the UK Parliament's Fake News Inquiry. It provides an important overview of the Inquiry's findings, and assesses which of the proposed solutions are most needed and likely to be of most use.

Bakir and McStay wrote 800 words for Bournemouth University 2017 General Election Special report: 'Was it 'AI wot won it'? Hyper-targeting and profiling emotions online': <http://www.electionanalysis.uk/uk-election-analysis-2017/section-5-the-digital-campaign/was-it-ai-wot-won-it-hyper-targeting-and-profiling-emotions-online/>
Steffan Thomas has had a paper accepted in the *International Journal of Music Business* (forthcoming October 2017).

Promotions, Prizes, Awards, Honours

Andy McStay was promoted to professor in June.

Grants

Nathan Abrams and Greg Frame submitted an application to establish a cross-college Center for Film, Television, and Screen Studies, which has been approved by the College of Arts and Humanities.

Dyfrig Jones submitted applications for the Theodore C Sorensen Research Fellowship and Moody Research Grant to fund archival research at the Lyndon B Johnson Presidential Library and John F Kennedy Presidential Library.

Kate Lawrence has won a Creative Europe grant awarded with Vertical Dance Forum (VDF) and an Arts Council Wales research and development grant (£5000) awarded as match funding for the above to host the first VDF summit at Pontio July 2017, entitled 'Vertical Conversations', which hosted 12 international vertical dancers, 6 international VDF members, 3 local digital artists, 3 local riggers, National Poet of Wales collaborating on 'Vertical Conversations'. Included a public performance showcase using the interior and exterior spaces of Pontio, a seminar and performance of VDKL's Porth 2.0 plus public workshops introducing vertical dance. Short promotional film here: <https://vimeo.com/227252373>

Andy McStay submitted two separate bids to the Information Commissioner's Office on Rights of Childhood: IoT, Affect and Protection Rights (£88,623) and Emotional AI: Living with Technologies that Feel (£77,916).

Lyle Skains submitted an ESRC-IAA application for the Opening Up Digital Fiction Competition. It has been shortlisted, and is still under review.

Steffan Thomas and Eben Muse won a KESS 2 PhD Scholarship in partnership with the Gwynedd Archeological Trust starting in October 2017. The project will develop a digital

communications model for promoting, disseminating, and archiving of heritage sites in Gwynedd, as well as a practical application of that model for public engagement with heritage organizations.

Joanna Wright submitted an application to Arts Council of Wales for research into artist's use of immersive technologies, and to undertake archive research at the Smithsonian (£20000) Wright was awarded funding by the BBC/ Arts Council Digital platform *The Space* <https://www.thespace.org/> to produce a digital extension of collaborative project *Two Itinerant Quilters* (£30000) <https://www.thespace.org/artwork/connecting-threads> She has also been commissioned to produce a new 360 video installation for the True/ False documentary festival in Columbia, USA in 2018. <http://www.documentary.org/magazine/festival-focus-truefalse-film-festival>

Impact and Public Engagement Activities

Lyle Skains organized & hosted the Opening Up Digital Fiction Competition in May 2017. Taught workshop on e-Publishing at the Anglesey Writing Festival in September 2017. Established an independent publishing company, Wonderbox Publishing, for research purposes into commercial models of digital fiction.

Kate Lawrence was commissioned by Circomedia to produce *Host* performed in July in Bristol for Bristol Harbour Festival (<https://vimeo.com/228808925>) and in August for Worthing Summer of Circus (<https://vimeo.com/236397307>) inspired by Wim Wender's film *Wings of Desire*. Repeat Performance and workshops of *Vertical dance and Light Experience* collaboration with Photonics scientist Ray Davies PAWB at Pontio in July (<https://vimeo.com/232942208>)

Kate Lawrence collaborated with Bethesda band 9Bach, Lleuwen Steffan, Cor y Penrhyn, Martin Dawes and others on *Llechi*, performed in Pontio as part of the Eisteddfod 2017. She also staged *Gwymon* at Sessions House in Boston, September 2017 and earlier in the year it was staged in Garuda Wishnu Kencana Cultural Park in Bali for the International IBM conference. She also performed in the Katuit Festival in Dendermonde, Belgium.

Abrams introduced a screening of *The Fly* at JW3: The Jewish Community Centre in London in June 2017, has been commissioned by *The Jewish Museum* in London to contribute to its Jewish biographies series.

Dyfrig Jones was part of the working group that produced the Institute of Welsh Affairs' (IWA) response to the Ofcom Consultation *Holding the BBC to account for the delivery of its mission and public purposes*. [<http://www.iwa.wales/news/2017/08/iwas-response-ofcoms-consultation-bbc-performance/>]

Dyfrig Jones was a member of a discussion panel organised by Teledwyr Annibynnol Cymru (TAC) at the National Eisteddfod in Anglesey. Dyfrig Jones completed and published online the three short films produced as part of the ESRC-funded DATA-PSST project: *Sousveillance*:

Utah, Veillance: Mutual Watching and Empathic Media: Emotiveillance in Retail and Marketing.

Vian Bakir wrote an 18-page Final Report for the [DATA-PSST!](#) (Debating & Assessing Transparency Arrangements - Privacy, Security, Sur/Sous/Veillance, Trust DATA-PSST ESRC Seminar Series (2014-2017) and sent it to all 100 participants. The report is hosted online. It reminds people of the key issues regarding contemporary data privacy, security and mutual watching. It defines different disciplinary perspectives on what constitutes transparency today. Based on seminar discussions and our research, it articulates what sort of transparency arrangement we want. It asks whether oversight of surveillant governmental and commercial entities is sufficient. Finally, it outlines DATA-PSST's five interventions, including a Special Issue in *Big Data and Society* (2017), 3 documentaries by Dyfrig Jones (SCSM) (2017), an art installation, *Veillance* (2017), with Ronan Devlin (Pontio), Jein Devlin (Modern Languages & Cultures), and multiple end user reports.

In August 2017 Vian Bakir's concept of a 'veillant panoptic assemblage' (Bakir 2015) was cited as part of a decision by the Indian Supreme Court on 24 Aug 2017 that privacy is a constitutional right worthy of protection. Her concept was brought to their attention via a commentary written by Yvonne McDermott Rees for Bakir et al's Special Issue in *Big Data and Society* that she co-edited (with Andrew McStay (SCSM) and Martina Feilzer (Criminology)). See Bakir (2015). [Veillant Panoptic Assemblage: Critically Interrogating Mutual Watching through a Case Study of the Snowden Leaks](#). *Media and Communication* [OPEN ACCESS.] and McDermott-Rees, Y. 2017. [Conceptualising the right to data protection in an era of Big Data](#). *Big Data and Society* [OPEN ACCESS]. Bakir's (2015) concept of 'veillant panoptic assemblage' and McDermott's (2017) application of this to understanding data protection and the nature of consent in the contemporary information age, clarified for India's Supreme Court the nature of contemporary data surveillance and its impact on privacy, enabling it to reach its landmark judgment that that privacy is a constitutional right in India, and as such, must be protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty (under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of India's Constitution). India's Supreme Court ruling was in response to a constitutional challenge to the Government of India's Aadhaar card biometrics project – which is the means to see that various beneficial schemes of the Government filter down to persons for whom such schemes are intended, in accordance with the *Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services Act* [2016]. As such, Aadhaar aims to build a database of personal identity and biometric information covering every Indian resident – the world's largest endeavour of its kind. The petitioners argued that Aadhaar would violate the right to privacy, but the Union of India, through its Attorney General, objected that Indians could claim no constitutional right of privacy. The Indian Supreme Court full judgment can be found here (see pages 250-252 for relevant citations): http://supremecourtindia.nic.in/supremecourt/2012/35071/35071_2012_Judgement_24-Aug-2017.pdf

Vian Bakir progressed her ESRC/IAA Major Impact Award (2016-17) on Political-Intelligence Elites and Public Accountability; Towards a co-produced benchmark. (Interviews conducted and transcribed; key interim report produced.).

Vian Bakir and Andrew McStay were Invited Speakers at House of Commons, London. *Fake News & Digital Advertising*. Branded Content Network (AHRC-funded). (Public Talk). They

presented on the fake news phenomenon. It received media coverage from trade press: <http://www.thebcma.info/branded-content-regulation-bcma-invited-to-uk-parliament-2/>
<http://www.thedrum.com/news/2017/04/26/branded-content-regulation-recommended-parliamentary-review-advertiser-pressure>

Vian Bakir was lead author (with P. Robinson (Univ. of Sheffield), D. Miller (Univ. of Bath) and C. Simpson (American Univ.)) of a submission to the Fake News Parliamentary Inquiry for Dept. of Culture, Sport and Media. It provides practical recommendations to counter the fake news phenomenon. [*Fake News: A Framework for Detecting and Avoiding Propaganda.*](#)

Vian Bakir and Andrew McStay made a submission for MPC to the Fake News Parliamentary Inquiry for Dept. of Culture, Sport and Media. It provides practical recommendations to counter the fake news phenomenon. [*Fake News: Media Economics and Emotional Button-Pushing.*](#)

Andy McStay submitted to the House of Lords AI inquiry: “*AND THEN THERE’S EMOTIONAL AI...*” *Written evidence for the Select Committee on Artificial Intelligence.* He developed the website of his Emotional AI project: <https://emotionalai.org>. He delivered the project report ‘[Empathic Media: The Rise of Emotion AI](#)’ in June 2017. Impact quotes collected from data protection regulators, advertising regulators, NGO (Privacy International) and tech industry. He presented with Vian Bakir at Houses of Parliament on fake news and the role of advertising (press coverage [here](#)).

Over September 10th and 11th, Nathan Abrams undertook a lecture tour of Scotland, visiting Aberdeen, Dundee and Inverness to present talks on the small Jewish communities of Scotland. [https://www.scojec.org/news/2017/17ix_history/history.html]

Nathan Abrams and Geraint Ellis both conducted a Q and A session at the English and Welsh premiers of the documentary film *Destination Unknown* [<http://filmhubwales.org/blog/fhw-marketing/pontio-destination-unknown>]

When Radio Cymru's proposed expansion was announced, Geraint Ellis was interviewed about this development by news programmes on the station. He has also been in discussions with Gogledd Creadigol / Creative North Wales, in order to further develop links between the university and the North Wales Creative Industries sector.

Ifan Morgan Jones spoke with press at the launch of the National Assembly's News and Digital Information Taskforce report, of which he was a member. The report garnered significant press coverage on the BBC and Western Mail. He also spoke about this subject as part of a panel including the Speaker of the Welsh Assembly Elin Jones and BBC Wales Head of News Garmon Jones at the National Eisteddfod in August. He presented a paper on the subject of his research into the digital Welsh language press at a conference at the European Parliament and at the National Eisteddfod. He spoke about his creative writing work at venues across Wales including Gwyl Arall in Caernarfon, Abercynffig library, and the Talardd book club. He engaged in the usual press activity appearing on Newyddion 9, Taro'r Post, Bwrw Golwg etc. He launched and is editor of a website, Nation.Cymru, which provides a platform for commentary about Welsh politics. Contributors include Assembly Members Huw Irranca-Davies (Labour) and Seimon Thomas (Plaid Cymru).

Joanna Wright showed *Two Itinerant Quilters* at Ceredigion Museum, Aberystwyth, Helston Museum, Cornwall and the Newlyn Art Gallery and Exchange as part of the panel discussion for their *Craft School* exhibition. This project featured in local and national press. Wright also took part in iFLAB, a Creative Europe funded lab for interactive documentary production.

Colleagues continued to publish in *The Conversation*, including Ifan Morgan Jones, Steffan Thomas, Greg Frame and Andrew McStay. McStay also wrote pieces for the widely-read *LSE Business* blog, the *LSE Policy* blog and *Conscious Cities* (a primarily architectural journal that assesses the impact of sensing technologies on urban space). Abrams wrote several articles for the forward.com on *The Transformers* franchise, *Full Metal Jacket*, and nuclear war movies. He wrote about the 40th anniversary of *Annie Hall* for *The Jewish Chronicle* and on *Wonder Woman* for haaretz.com. He has reviewed for the *Times Higher Education*, as well as appearing in its summer reading article, and *The Jewish Quarterly*.

Conference organisation and/or participation

Greg Frame and Nathan Abrams ran the American New Wave: A Retrospective conference over 4-6 July attracting participants from all over the world. It was funded in part by the British Association for American Studies and The US Embassy. An edited collection based on the conference is being planned.

Skains, L presented a paper entitled 'Creative Hyperlinks: Writerly and Readerly Effects of Links in Hypertext Fiction' at MIX Digital, Bath Spa University, 9-12 July 2017. Bath, U.K. She also presented 'The Convergent Evolution of Hypertext: Democratizing Effects of Open-Source Platforms and Marginalized Communities' at the Electronic Literature Organization Conference, 18-23 July 2017. [online] Porto, Portugal. Available at:
<http://prezi.com/0rbblkwpqo1y/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy>

Kate Lawrence invited to speak at Mountainsides series on Composition at Leeds University, an AHRC project led by Jonathan Pitches. [Mountainsides: Composition](#)

Collaborative actions

Ifan Morgan Jones is working on an art project about Thomas Gee, one of Wales' most prominent newspaper owners and editors of the 19th century, alongside Studio Made, Denbigh for Cadw Open Doors. He is also collaborating with Glyn Mon Hughes of Liverpool John Moores University on research projects.

Research Students

The following students successfully defended their theses and were awarded their PhDs:

- Dyfrig Jones, media broadcasting history (supervisors: Vian Bakir and Andy McStay)
- Kira-Ann Pelican, screenwriting (supervisors: Jamie Sherry and Rob Ward)
- Jenni Steele, film and practice-led research (supervisors: Nathan Abrams and Eben Muse)

- Sion Griffiths, film and practice-led research (supervisors: Nathan Abrams and Eben Muse)
- Xin Zhao, comparative (China, US, UK) journalism research (supervisors: Vian Bakir and Andrew McStay)

Next update to follow in January 2018.