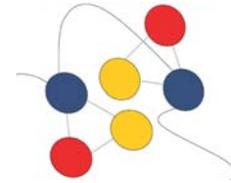


Practices, Materiality and Product Design

Workshop 6th-7th July, 2006 Durham University



Biographies of Participants

Simon Blyth

Unilever

Currently I lead the Global Consumer Insight Team for Unilever's Oral Care category, with responsibility for tactical and strategic innovation research projects – from initial insight generation to post launch evaluation.

Before this, I taught at the University of Southampton where I completed a PhD on masculinity and domestic violence.

Peter Booth

Tin Horse Design

Peter is a Design Consultant and director of Tin Horse Design. Tin Horse specialise in structural packaging innovation, working across many categories globally. They strive to understand, engage and delight people in all aspects of their work.

Peter has also worked in education, teaching on the MA Industrial Design at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, Design Studies at Goldsmiths College and Contemporary issues in design at Middlesex University.

Suzie Bowman

Glasgow School of Art

Suzie is a graduate of the Product Design Course at the Glasgow School of Art. She is interested in inclusive and user inspired design, where user based research is a fundamental and enjoyable part of the design process.

Fiona Coley

Cranfield University

Fiona Coley graduated in 2003 with a BA Honours Industrial Design and Technology Degree from Loughborough University. Through the completion of a Masters by Research in 2005 at Cranfield University she gained valuable insight into the cognitive thought processes of designers particularly compared to those of closely related disciplines such as cost engineers. With a wish to further her knowledge in design psychology and sociology Fiona is now undertaking a PhD at Cranfield University within the centre of Knowledge and Innovation Systems. The aim of the research is to identify the attributes of a Whole System Design particularly observing the social influences which enhance and/ or restrict the design process.

Tracey Crosbie

University of Manchester

The production and consumption of home, and household technologies and services are the issues of interest which link the different research I have undertaken.

The focus of my current research is the social construction of household energy consuming practices. This research forms part of a project entitled *Carbon Reduction in Buildings: A Socio-technical, longitudinal study of carbon use in buildings* (CaRB). The CaRB project is being conducted by a consortium of universities including Manchester, Sheffield, Reading, Demonford and University College London. From this work I have gained an interest in the development of interdisciplinary approaches to understanding the relationship between energy consumption, people and buildings.

Tim Dant

Sociology, University of East Anglia

Tim Dant is Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of East Anglia where he teaches social theory and the sociology of culture. He has research interests in the sociology of material culture and critical theory and has published a number of journal articles on both themes. He is the author of *Material Culture in a Social World* (Open University Press 1999), *Critical Social Theory* (Sage 2003) and *Materiality and Society* (Open University Press 2004).

Tom Fisher

Sheffield Hallam University

Tom Fisher is a Fine Art graduate who has worked as a designer and maker of furniture and has a PhD from a sociology department. His interest in consumption stems from his experience as a designer and his perspective is informed by both sociological/ anthropological approaches to the subject and a concern for the materiality of consumption experiences. He is currently Reader in Design at Sheffield Hallam university where he is supervising PhDs related to consumers' understanding of sustainability and the basis for feelings of desire for objects. Commercial consultancy has included work for packaging manufacturers to uncover consumers' interpretations of physical features of containers.

Heidi Grönman

School of Design, University of Art and Design Helsinki

Heidi has an MA in design and is currently doing a PhD about the role of design and aesthetics in the domestication of industrial design productions.

Sabine Hielscher

Sheffield Hallam University

BA(Hons) Ecodesign at Goldsmiths College, London.

Currently PhD student at Sheffield Hallam University: design for sustainability, sustainable consumption.

Charles Hill

Glasgow School of Art

Product Design graduate from Glasgow School of Art. The work that I have been involved in during my degree has led me to explore the potential in a more research initiated approach to design proposals. My interest as a designer focuses on how sociological research can positively influence the direction of design projects.

Kevin Hilton

Centre for Design Research, Northumbria University

Dr. Kev Hilton is the Design School's Director of Research at Northumbria University, working from the Centre for Design Research. He was a Co-Founder of the Centre and Express Engineering Group's product development company XPD, later re-branded Virdev. He developed the medical product design knowledge-base and the use of 3D computer modelling and animation in both.

His personal field of research is the 'Psychology of Innovation', which encompasses a number of study areas within psychology, design and business. His focus within this field is individual differences and influences. The aim is to investigate and develop intent and ability to create change and diversity, through opportunity identification, communication, problem solving and decision-making skills. His approach has been to enable people to 'understand how they understand', in order to nurture self-developmental behaviour.

Gordon Hush

Glasgow School of Art

Gordon Hush is a sociologist working within Glasgow School of Art's Department of Historical & Critical studies. He works largely with design students, in particular the Product Design students of the B.Des/MEDes programme for whom he co-ordinates a social science research programme. This is aimed at overhauling the role of the designer, shifting the focus of design activity from technical, functional and aesthetic considerations to include a greater focus upon the user participation with the objects, services and experiences of available to the inhabitants of contemporary capitalist society. In addition, he is writing-up his doctoral thesis, *The Socio-Spatial Construction of Consumption: an historical and contemporary analysis*, which proposes a critical interrogation of sociology's reliance upon concepts derived from economic theory as the means to investigate 'consumption' activities.

Jack Ingram

Birmingham Institute of Art and Design

Jack Ingram is Head of School of Product Design at the University of Central England. He works with companies in the management of new product development, and is Project Director for the Centre for High Value-Added Products, a £1.5m project to develop the role of design in SMEs in the West Midlands, part funded by the European Regional Development Fund. He is a Council member of the Design Research Society, a founder member of the European Academy of Design, and co-founder of The Design Journal.

An Jacobs

Vrije Universiteit Brussel SMIT

AN JACOBS received her Ma degree in Sociology from the Ghent University, Belgium, in 1997 and a MA in Quantitative Analysis for Social Sciences from the Catholic University Brussel in 1998. In June 2005, she obtained a Ph.D. degree in Sociology from the Ghent University. From December 1997 to May 2005, An Jacobs was research assistant with the department of Sociology from the University Ghent, where she did research on the visions of graduated sociologists on their profession and the application of their knowledge in the process of developing new consumer products. She published on this theme in reviewed journals (local and international). At the moment, she is senior researcher for SMIT (Studies on Media, Information and Telecommunication) - Previously she worked at the Department of Sociology (University of Gent). She lectures on sociology of technology at the Design Department of the Hogeschool Antwerpen. The field of integrating social research within all phases of the development process of innovative products is her core interest. Therefore An Jacobs develops research approaches and instruments for improving user research, combining both quantitative and qualitative techniques. At the moment she is managing IBBT-research projects in the field of e-government and e-health for her research centre.

Guy Julier

Leeds Metropolitan University

Guy Julier is Professor of Design and Head of Research in the Leeds School of Architecture, Landscape and Design at Leeds Metropolitan University, UK. Currently also an Honorary Professor at the Glasgow School of Art, he has lectured in Spain, Poland, Hungary, the Netherlands and Ireland. He is author of *New Spanish Design* (1991), *The Culture of Design* (2000; revised edition forthcoming), the *Dictionary of Design since 1900* (2004, revised edition of 1993 publication), a correspondent of *Experimenta* (Madrid), an Editorial Board member of the *Journal of Visual Culture* and a contributor to *2+3D* (Krakow).

Claire Leymonerie

University of Caen – Basse-Normandie

I am a Ph.D student and an instructor in contemporary history at the University of Caen in Normandy. The focus of my research is the history of industrial design in France in the field of household appliances. In particular, I dwell on commercial uses of design through some specific examples of French firms involved in that market: Moulinex, Calor, Seb. My other research interests are the history of standardization in France, the design of shop windows by retailers, the history of the “Salon des Arts ménagers”, a yearly fair dedicated to household appliances. I am although part of a project to set up an exhibition dedicated to the designer Pierre Paulin, who designed a line of products for Calor in the eighties.

Debra Lilley

Loughborough University

Debra Lilley graduated in 2000 with a BA Honours Interior Design degree (2:1). Upon graduating Debra worked for Johnson Controls Ltd, where she used a variety of consulting tools to gain customer insight to inform the design process. In 2003 she completed an MRes in Manufacturing Sustainability and Design at Cranfield University and subsequently joined Medway Council as an Assistant Sustainability Policy Officer conducting audits across council buildings to identify opportunities for environmental improvements. She is currently undertaking a PhD at Loughborough University in the Department of Design and Technology. The aim of the research is to assist manufacturers in designing products that are instinctively used in a sustainable way by identifying and applying behavioural indicators, ‘triggers’ or features within the product design to enable sustainable behaviour or block unsustainable behaviour.

John Marshall

Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen

I’m currently in the second year of a PhD study exploring the notion that there is a hybrid area of practice emerging around the convergence of sculpture, product design and architecture. I am asserting that new sets of creative, cultural and economic conditions have stimulated intriguing levels of inquiry by creative practitioners to work across two or more of these domains and to seek out and use technologies that facilitate a particular blurring between these disciplines. The research examines the notion that new sets of creative, cultural and economic conditions exist for artists, designers and architects as a result of new developments in manufacturing technologies. The research draws on contextualising existing exemplary projects from the field of enquiry and my own industrial experience as a product designer with the Evenflo Company, Inc. (the second largest manufacturer of consumer baby products in the United States) and subsequent founding of artist-run, organisations dedicated to the exploration of this art and technology interface (artcore, FAST-UK and rooftopwo).

<http://designedobjects.blogspot.com/>

Kevin Miller

University of Strathclyde

Kevin Miller is a Product Design Engineering graduate (MEng) from the University of Strathclyde and is currently a researcher in the Department of Design, Manufacture and Engineering Management. As a member of the multidisciplinary Transparent Telepresence Research Group, his work is concerned with the use of the senses in design – specifically, the cognitive and communicative roles of perceptual representations and the development of ‘embodied’ knowledge in creative practice.

His work is funded through an EPSRC studentship and stems from his previous position as RA to the ‘Multimodal Design Imaging’ research cluster – an interdisciplinary group established and funded by the ‘Designing for the 21st Century’ research initiative (the first venture in design jointly funded by the EPSRC and AHRC). As RA he organised cluster activities (including 6 workshops throughout the UK), has written and presented papers for the group (E&PDE’05, IDEC’05 and 2nd AHRA International Conference) and has recently become a member of the IDEC’06 conference committee.

Harvey Molotch

New York University

Professor of Sociology and Metropolitan Studies at New York University. He is the author of *Where Stuff Comes From: How Toasters, Toilets, Cars, Computers, and Many Other Things Come to Be As They Are*. His current research involves studies of the New York subway system, focusing on workers' perceptions of danger and users' interaction with hardware such as station turnstiles.

His prior writings include *Urban Fortunes* (with John Logan) as well as other books and articles on race, city growth, news media, and troubled social interaction.

Before coming to NYU, he taught for many years at University of California, Santa Barbara, with additional appointments as Centennial Professor at the London School of Economics and visiting professorships at North-Western University, University of Essex (UK), Lund University (Sweden), and SUNY Stony Brook.

Liz Parsons

Keele University

Liz started at Keele with the Management Group in January 2005. Previously she worked as a Lecturer in Marketing at Stirling University since Sept 2000. She completed her PhD in Human Geography at Bristol University. Liz's current research interests lie broadly in exploring the relations between consumption and culture, with an enduring interest in the practices of buying and selling secondhand goods. At present she is concerned with the construction of value (particularly in the lay sense of this term) in secondhand markets. This research takes a material culture approach to the study of consumption emphasising the social and cultural construction of the meaning of objects. It is also concerned with developing perspectives on consumption which pay attention to what we do with the things that surround us, and which acknowledge that things have lives, not just when they enter and re-enter the commodity phase. Her current project has involved interviews with second-hand and antique dealers based in Glasgow.

Carlos Peralta

Glasgow School of Art

Carlos Peralta ID MID (Domus)

Carlos Peralta was born in Colombia, graduated in Industrial design in Bogotá and obtained a Master degree from Domus Academy in Milan (Italy). Before teaching at the Glasgow School of Art, he worked as a lecturer in Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London and in the Faculty of Architecture and Design at the Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá. He is currently programme Leader and Head of the Product Design Department in GSA; he also teaches design to the 4th and 5th year BDes/MEDes PD students. Carlos' professional design experience includes work for industry, design consultancy and product manufacture. He has developed projects in different areas from Lighting products to exhibition stands, from furniture to product interface. His main current design area of interest is design for social issues. Carlos speaks Spanish, Italian and English.

Jo Pierson

Vrije Universiteit Brussels

Jo Pierson is Senior Researcher at SMIT (Studies on Media, Information and Telecommunication) - member of IBBT (Interdisciplinary institute for BroadBand Technology) - and holds a PhD in Social Sciences (Communication Studies). In the past he has worked as researcher-advisor for the Dutch knowledge institute TNO in Delft. He now lectures bachelor and master courses on socio-economic issues of the information society at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel in the department of Communication Studies. Jo Pierson also holds a part-time research position focussed on applying social science research in the design and use of ICT.

Graham Powell

Guinea Pig Design (Ltd), BIAD, University of Central England

A postgraduate 3D Designer, from the Royal College of Art/Imperial College (London) – Industrial Design Engineering (1995).

Direct and up to date experience of the total design and development process from a wide-ranging professional/product portfolio (inc. Dyson, Babysphere, Mathmos+)

Set up own conceptual design & development company – Guinea Pig Design Ltd (2001+), with the remit of challenging the expected norms and perceptions of technologically based 3D objects. Outcomes have been both exhibited and published widely (including internationally).

Also Senior Lecturer at Birmingham Institute of Art & Design – 0.6 post -MA Product Design (4.5 yrs). Previously tutoring product design at Royal College of Art, Central Saint Martins.

Michelle Shipworth

University of Reading

My research focuses on the human and social dimensions of home energy use.

In my current project, a multi-disciplinary, multi-university team is developing a Bayesian Belief Network model illustrating technical and social influences on home energy use. The architecture of the model will be developed by synthesising existing literature and conducting qualitative research. Quantitative data for the model will be generated through a questionnaire. More information is available on <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/carb/sociotechnical/index.htm>.

Elizabeth Shove

Department of Sociology, Lancaster University

Elizabeth Shove is professor in Sociology at Lancaster University and principal applicant for the *Designing and Consuming* project. She is currently interested in the sociology of practice, technology and ordinary consumption. She has written about concepts of comfort, cleanliness and convenience and has recently completed a project on sustainable domestic technologies in the kitchen and the bathroom. The *Designing and Consuming* project provides an opportunity to engage with designers, to explore the material aspects of material culture and to examine the dynamic relation between materials, images and forms of competence.

Cameron Tonkinwise

University of Technology, Sydney

Expertise in sustainability, design for sustainability, design for the environment, ecodesign, materials intensity, dematerialisation, environmental ethics, materialism, sustainable consumption, design studies, design theory, design philosophy, design history, Heidegger, Lacan, Derrida, Marx.

Matt Watson

Department of Geography, Durham University

Matt Watson is a Senior Research Associate in Geography at Durham University, and co-applicant and researcher on the *Designing and Consuming* project. His research interests address issues of practice, particularly in relation to knowledge and materiality. Research projects have explored these themes in relation to nature reserves, waste practices and domestic consumption.