

CASS Projects (The Projects Office) provides professional support to students and staff to undertake consultancy commissions and research projects, as well as providing project management support to live projects carried out by students as part of their course work.

We are committed to supporting socially engaged creative projects where students, academics and practitioners from the art, architecture and design schools can come together to deliver live projects.

This newsletter serves as an update on the work of The Projects Office in 2014, and the exciting projects we are developing for 2015.

04 Festive newsletter



Above: Zoetrope at Museum of London



Middle: Made In Hayes sewing club

Zoetrope at Museum of London

BA Animation exhibited their live brief '3D Zoetrope' to a full house at the Museum of London late event 'Digital London' in May 2014. The project turned badges into 8 frame digital loops and placed them on the drum of a Zoetrope, brought to life at the Museum of London Clore Learning centre. The event was popular with visitors and curators as a method of reinterpreting one of the Museum's medieval collection: the Thomas Becket Pilgrim badge collection. This year BA Animation are working on two other live briefs – Christmas lights at Surbiton Station and animating the Baobab fruit for a commercial client. We look forward to the fruits of their labours!

More Made in Hayes

CASS Projects has continued to extend relationships that were established through the Made in Hayes cross Faculty project in 2012. BA Architecture Studio 3 and BA Jewellery and Silversmithing Studio 4 have both won funding to continue their community work in Hayes. Architecture students have worked on the Austin Estate, curating and delivering engagement events for the residents, funded by Hillingdon Community Trust and student Susan Kudo won funding to start a Sewing Club for the residents funded by Heathrow Community Trust. Jewellery and Silversmithing hosted two workshops with the Hayes YMCA; one at the YMCA and one at the CASS. They developed a brief

with their clients to design and fabricate a 'mobile information point', funded by the local councillor Gardener and his Hillingdon Ward Budget. The final piece was presented at a screening at the Old Vinyl Factory in Hayes in June 2014.

CASS Image Walls

Photographs of work by CASS students were used to form a wall of images in Aldgate. Sponsorship from our neighbours Brookfield Multiplex and Algate Tower meant the work of the following students appeared on the hoardings of Braham Street Park: Clelia Giannouli, (Foundation Art and Design), Dan Cates (BA Fine Art), Joseph Bodansky (Professional Diploma Architecture), Alice Shepherd (Professional Diploma Architecture), Nicole Becker (BA Illustration), Sandra Harris (BSc Musical Instruments) and Alastair Knowles-Lenoir. Hoardings on Whitechapel High Street displayed the work of CASS student prize winners, including images by: Selena Grasso, (BA Interior Design), Gwen Anderson (MA Fine Art), Kate Long (MA Photography), Ellie Corp (BA Jewellery and Silversmithing), Bianca Francesca Balducci (MA Product Design) and Amy Perkins (Professional Diploma in Architecture).

Boiler House study

CASS Projects was appointed by the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSH) at London Metropolitan University in July 2014 to prepare design options to support their bid for Met2020 funding to develop a new cultural space, employability hub and improved facilities in the existing Holloway Road campus buildings. FSSH are submitting these proposals along with the Faculty of Life Sciences and Computing. Natalie Simmons, a Cass graduate of architecture, joined the Projects Office for the summer and carried out investigation work and consultation with the various parties to establish a project brief. Natalie developed an options study and series of sketch designs to suggest how the existing facilities could be improved. Design ideas centred around making improvements to the Holloway Road elevation, a new route to the theatre and improving links between classrooms and existing inner courtyard.

Grundtvig TimeCase Project

TimeCase: Memory in Action is a network of cultural organisations and practitioners from across Europe involved in a two-year programme of research into participatory cultural practices. The project explores the

Below: Cass Image Walls





Above: The Huguenot Project, Fournier Street and Christ Church, Spitalfields. Credit: Julie Asis and Abi Baker.

role of participation and cultural memory in building more cohesive communities. Cecile Tshirhart and Jen Ng have participated in a number of workshops/symposia/conferences on Participation at the European partners' sites. Future events are 'Participation on Trial' at Castrum Peregrini, Amsterdam and Participate! a symposium on participatory methods at the Cass in October 2014. More information at: timecase.org

Huguenots

Inspired by the rich history of the Huguenots, many of whom settled in and around East London, studios and units across the Schools of Art, Architecture and Design have been invited to contribute to the 'Huguenot Summer 2015' festival, a festival organised by the Huguenots of Spitalfields in partnership with the City of London. This cross-Faculty project for the academic year 2014/2015 was inspired by Gina Pierce (Course Leader for BA Textile Design) who is organising an exhibition and symposium at The CASS in July 2015 that will explore the Huguenot influence on modern textile design. The Huguenots were French protestants who fled from religious persecution in Catholic France mostly in the seventeenth century. They were the first so-called 'refugees' and their culture and skills travelled with them. In London Huguenots settled in Spitalfields and nearby in Bethnal Green, Shoreditch, Whitechapel and Mile End. They included silk weavers, goldsmiths, silversmiths, tailors, clock and furniture makers. Cass Projects has developed the project brief and offered research skills. Projects are being developed Year 1 Architecture BA, MA by Project, Jewellery and Silversmithing BA, Interior Design BA, Interior Architecture and Design BA and Interior Design MA.

Meet the Makers

As part of the cross-disciplinary Huguenot project, Year 1 undergraduate architecture students have been working on a Making Furniture project. Inspired by the traditional of Huguenot craftsmanship students have been

meeting the makers in the CASS – spending brief sessions with the skilled technicians and tutors in the Faculty to observe techniques and methods of making including casting, weaving, metal work, silversmithing and textiles. Considering method, technique and material students worked in groups to produce full-scale installations. Abi Baker and Julie Asis are graduates of London Met who have joined the Projects Office under the University-wide interns programme. Together they have been creating short films of the Meet the Makers sessions to record and capture this cross-discipline project.

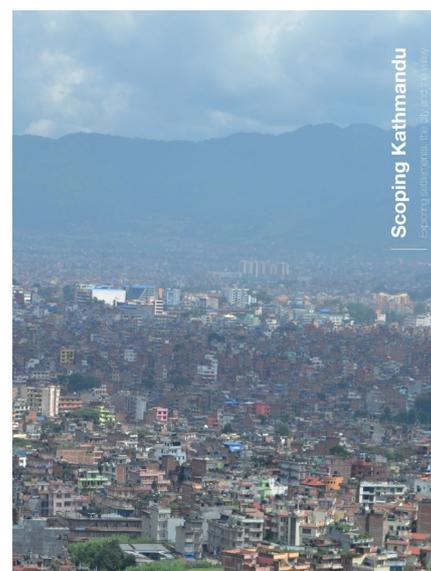


Above: Meet the Makers Crit Exhibition. Image credit: Ellie Jones

ARCSR in Nepal

In August 2014, the Architecture of Rapid Change and Scarce Resources (ARCSR) research cluster launched an exciting venture in Nepal. Led by Dr Bo Tang (ARCSR Research Coordinator/Lecturer), a group of five diploma students spent 4 weeks in the Kathmandu Valley, investigating 'sukhumbasi' – squatter settlements - along three major rivers that run through the city. This trip has resulted in a new research publication "Scoping Kathmandu: Exploring Settlements, the City and the Valley" In November 2014, two groups of CASS architecture students from Diploma Unit 6 and Degree Studio 7, MA Architecture and MA by Project (ARCSR) courses returned to Kathmandu for a second visit. Two groups undertook cultural and physical surveys in four riverside settlements:

Balaju, Shanti Nagar, Central Ghats and Manohara 16. Engaging closely with local communities, students uncovered a range of complex political, social, cultural and environmental issues affecting sukhumasi residents in Kathmandu, which will form the basis of their studio design projects. A publication produced by current students will be published in January 2015. Funded by the Water Trust, this is the start of a long-term research project in Nepal that will open up opportunities for live research projects for students enrolled on ARCSR courses at the CASS.



Above: ARCSR in Nepal

CASS Short Courses

The CASS Short Courses team has had another busy year creating an expanded programme of creative short courses. We're pleased to announce we have a new range of Fashion, Restoration and Polymer short courses. We're also in the process of developing a wider range of Software courses, such as 3DS Max, SolidWorks and Visualisation. We are always on the look out for new and exciting courses to offer so welcome any proposals from staff. New courses are being created regularly so keep your eyes on the website or contact us to join our mailing list. CASS staff and students are eligible for a 20% discount. www.thecass.com/short-courses or contact us at: TheCass.ShortCourses@londonmet.ac.uk

Short Courses Winning Success

The hard work and dedication of the short course staff Anna O'Brien and Maeva Khachfe was recognised this autumn, with their jointly winning the Team category of the University Staff Annual Award Scheme. Their "exceptional commitment to the Faculty and University, their commitment to improving the Short and Professional Courses and dedication to the University's values and priorities" was recognised and their successes acknowledged through the Annual Awards Scheme. Congratulations to Anna and Maeva.