

Katya O'Grady – Fine Artist / Designer (installations / exhibitions)

Tuesday 8th October 2013, 11am, University of Winchester, Winchester

The interview with Katya will relate to her experience in the development / build of the Riddle Route QR application for Winchester Cathedral and her involvement with the Chronicles of Light.

Questions relating to the design of her interpretation of the original brief and how it then answered the brief, how it might have been designed differently if more time and budget had been available, what changes would have been made and why will be asked.

Discussion regarding the effects of cultural influences and external interests affecting Katya's work will be planned and how the visitor/audience is placed with regards to her art work.

Background information:

1. I would like to start by asking you about your role / craft as a Fine Artist / Designer
2. What led you to study Fine Art and then choose to work on projects such as the Riddle Route (education / work)
3. Has your role changed over the time you have been working with art and design? If so, what were the influencing factors?
4. Can you tell me about your work?
5. What or who has influenced your involvement in art / design?
6. Do you feel you are a creator through your design work or a curator (shaping what the audience views)?
7. Which do you feel is the more important role, artist, designer, exhibition curator? Or are they intertwined?
8. Do you feel that there is sometimes a conflict between your different roles: artist, designer, curator?

Designer – Designing Riddle Route Cathedral project:

1. During the design of the Riddle Route for the Cathedral, would you explain the work you did? (i.e. from a first year project to the educational app)
2. What were your thoughts / opinions of the original project as a whole – i.e. was it something that you felt would be a good addition for visitors/children to use at the Cathedral?
3. I remember that your work to develop the original project was very thorough, reflecting on the way the design worked and how children would work through the riddles. How did working this through match with previous work you have done?
4. The project led to you working with other students and the Cathedral. How did you find working with other students / directing them and curating the build of the project?
5. How did you find working with the Cathedral (i.e. the education team)?
6. Can you remember if the project had to change from your initial concepts due to external influences? (i.e. skills available, budget, technology?)

7. What was the client's response when you presented the final outcome? (i.e. were they happy with the outcome?)
8. Were you happy with the outcome?
9. As this was part of your MA, if you had been given this project outside of studying, would it be a project you still would have taken on? (i.e. did it appeal to your own interests?)
10. As an important historical building in Winchester, did you find the research aspect of this project more time consuming than other projects, or were you able to work with an archivist / curator?

Other projects:

1. I am interested in any other projects you have done. Are you able to tell me about some of the other work / projects you have done or been involved with?
2. Have they been for other people / clients / organisations or for yourself?
3. If in teams of others, how big have the teams been and how has this compared with the Riddle Route project where it was just two of you?
4. Do you prefer to work in small teams i.e. is it easier to relate to each other, more or less cohesive? Or do you prefer to work on your own?
5. Have you found there to be many cultural differences in the way you work with others or how you approach your own work? (i.e. styles, influences?)
6. As an artist, do you think your work is / has been driven by your personal interests, or what someone else may be interested in buying?
7. Then as a designer, do you feel that you need to consider the client first or the company/stakeholders / directors?
8. If you could choose, which role(s) would you prefer to relinquish (keep) if required?

Thank you.