

# Experiential Design – Rethinking relations between people, objects and environments

# • Paper / Proposal Title:

**EXPERIENTIAL BOUNDARIES** 

# • Author(s) Name:

Andy Programme Director, Interior

Milligan Environmental Design

Nigel Programme Lead, Design,

Simpkins Culture & Society

Dr Rod Associate Head of Design,

Adams School of Design

### • University or Company Affiliation:

Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee, Scotland

UCLAN University of Central Lancashire, Preston, England

University of Northumbria, England

#### • Abstract (300 words):

The door has a long history as a strategic boundary device used to control points of entry, egress or exclusion to a city or inner sanctuary. However, the scenarios which unfold on the door-step are seldom used to reflect upon the relationships between people, objects and environments in a way that extends 'experience design' beyond service design frames of reference. The door remains the architectural micro-site of serendipitous social interactions, transactions and occasional transgressions but it is also the psychological threshold seen, increasingly, in exclusive gated-communities who are security conscious and technologically dependent, steeped in anxieties of encroachment in what Smith and Topham (2012) described as unwittingly "paving the way for domestic designs that imprison free inhabitants in alarmed paradises." Van Eyck explored the design of the door from two distinct faces-inside or out, raising the question of what one would design first. This inherent doubleness in the door reflects what Bourdieu, (1977) describes as plane(s) in which the world reverses itself...', the door is presented as an origin point for discussion about the experiential city on a threshold (stage-set) in which urban acts and transaction play-out as new digital services suggest a new language for the doorway. Signifying 'dual phenomena' of outer/inner, public/private interdependencies, simultaneously present and absent, the door, despite its ubiquity, is hidden in plain sight, often overlooked in the wider urban debate yet presents an interesting context in which to explore how experience design plays out at the front door.

# • Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

#### Andy Milligan FRSA FHeA

Andy is a senior academic, researcher and Programme Director of Interiors at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, University of Dundee. His funded research includes pro-environmental behaviour change in the workplace, ageing / dwelling and urban green space alongside published work on interior pedagogy. He initiated the Interiors Forum Scotland [IFS] interiors research group, and is co-editor of Interior Tools Interior Tactics: Debates in Interiors Theory & Practice, and Thinking Inside the Box: a Reader in Interiors for the 21st C (both Libri Publishing). His published book chapters include The Handbook of Interior Architecture & Design and was an invited panel member in the British Council's 'What's the Future of Domestic Life?' lecture. Since 2009 he has been an international coordinator for GIDE- a network of eight EU/Chinese design schools who collaborate annually. He is a Trustee for the UK Interior Educator network and leads on internationalisation.

Nigel Bruce Simpkins has a background in research and higher education leadership initially as an Interior Design lecturer at Leeds Beckett and as the Head of Interior Design at UCLan for many years. Nigel worked in industry for 25 years as an interior architectural design specialist. From his postgraduate interior and architectural study of critical theory and methodologies at the Bartlett School of Architecture, London his capacity as an experienced educator (UK and China) and researcher, he has developed critical thinking and learning programmes at UCLan that link closely with his research into interior architectural contexts and concepts.

#### Dr. Rod Adams - Associate Head of Design University of Northumbria

Dr. Rod Adams is the Associate Head of Design, a researcher, PhD supervisor and a senior academic at the School of Design, University of Northumbria where he is Director of International Development and Recruitment. His work develops new interdisciplinary research that connects education and the professional practices of design. His research PhD thesis "A Spatial Narratology - Explaining a productivity relationship between humans and the interior work environments they inhabit." reflects a sustained commercial design practice and research consultancy specialising in workplace design, feasibility, project planning and exhibition design supported by a background in Design Research. Central to his academic practice is a continual enrichment of a designed society powered by original creative knowledge. His work focuses on the places of work through examination of design anthropology and the social sciences. Rod is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Rod is also authoring a new book 'Global Interior Design Perspectives Textbook" published by Routledge due in Dec 2018