@katemclean | sensorymaps.com

I research smells Urban smells I map smells

My friends call me "smelly Kate"





Invisible, Erratic, Ephemeral: Lives of Urban Smells

Why the senses matter in my work/research...



Taste map of Edinburgh (2011) – the cumulative fat intake of a slightly exaggerated day of a typical Scottish diet. Lard.

Unlike sight, we cannot turn voluntarily turn smell off. There is no blindfold for the nose nor earplugs.

Olfactory dataset = ON 24,000bpd = 1,000bph = 133bpp

Kate McLean "Smellmap: Glasgow" (2012)

smellscape: form, structure, height, texture...

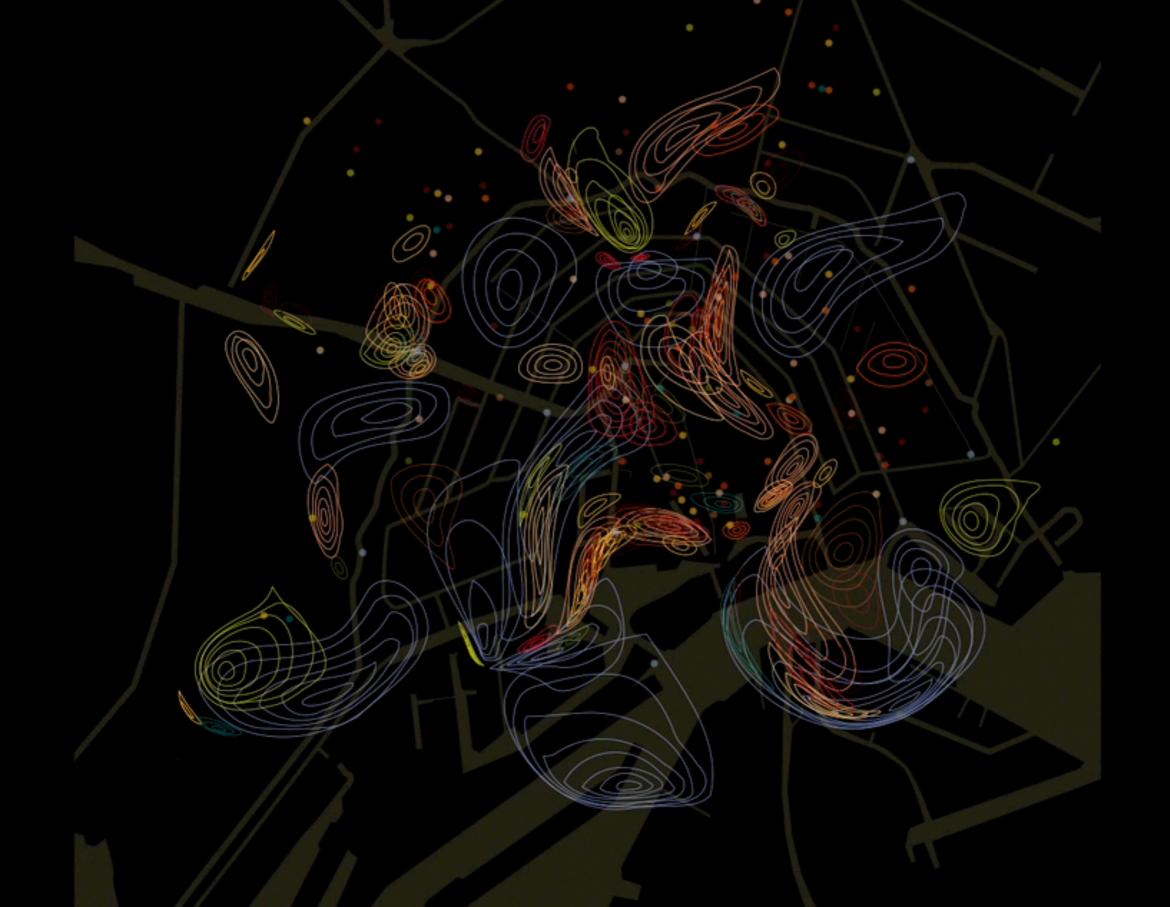


An exploration of the patterns generated by human olfactory perception of urban space. DSAA Students, Marseille (2015)

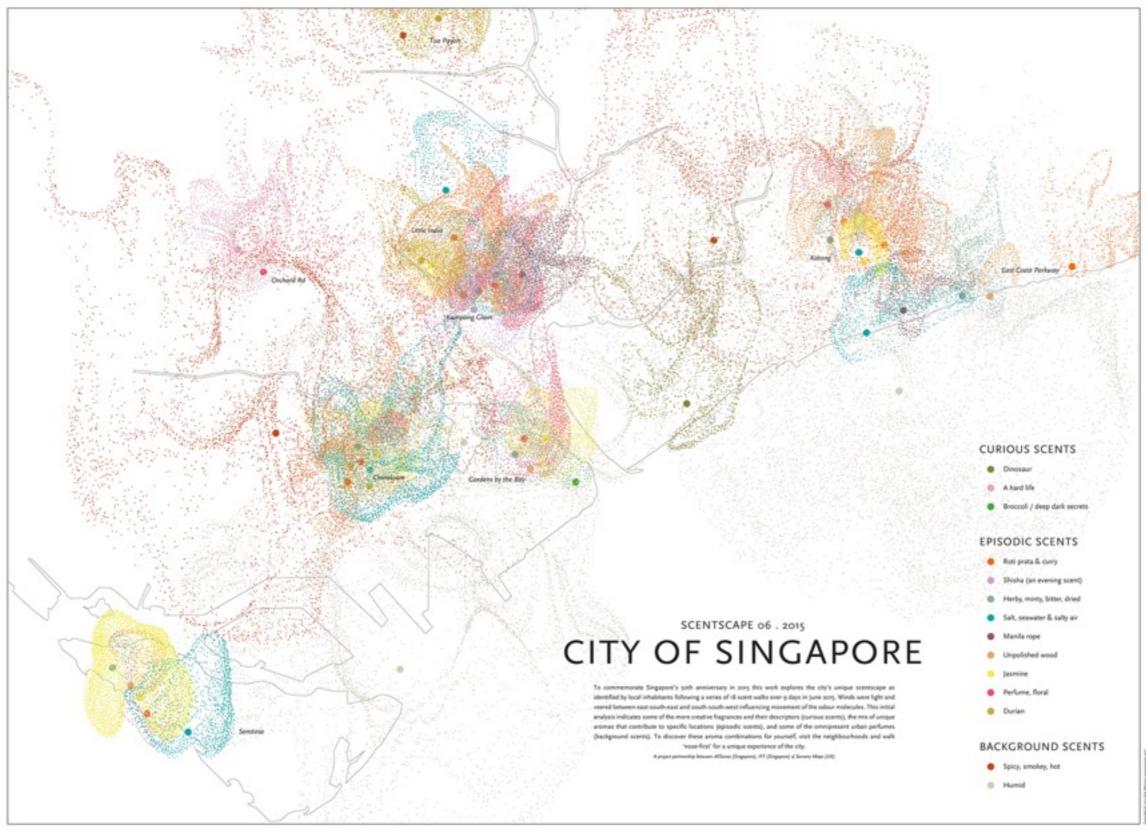
How I take the senses into account in my work

We are multi-sensory beings and smells form a part of our knowing they are quixotic and discontinuous. And something we frequently dispute and contest. They are often more pleasant than anticipated.

smells are unruly hitch-hikers with evanescent qualities...



Designing for sensory experience: 2. Visual



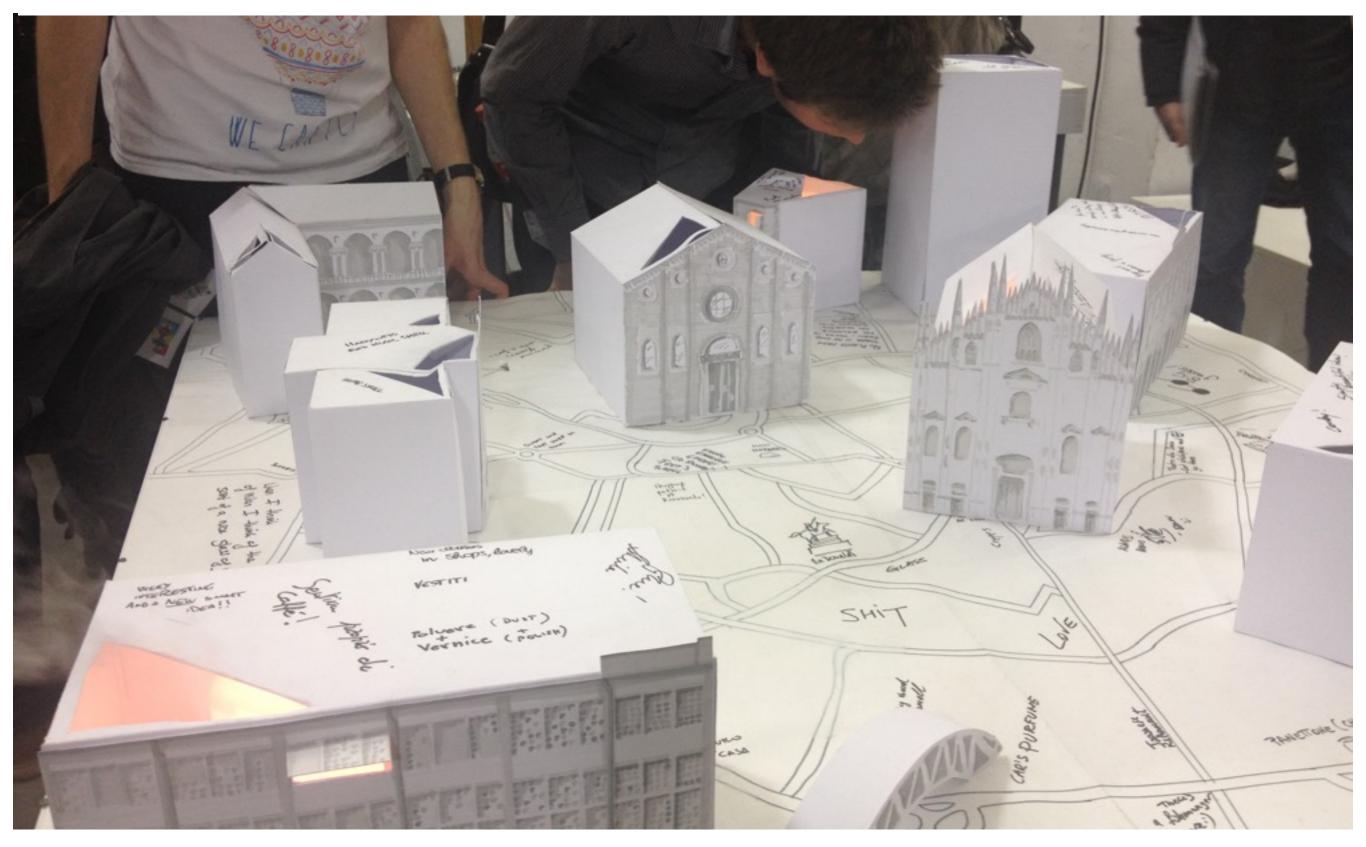
Scentmap Singapore. Kate McLean (2015)

Designing for sensory experience: 3. Interpretive



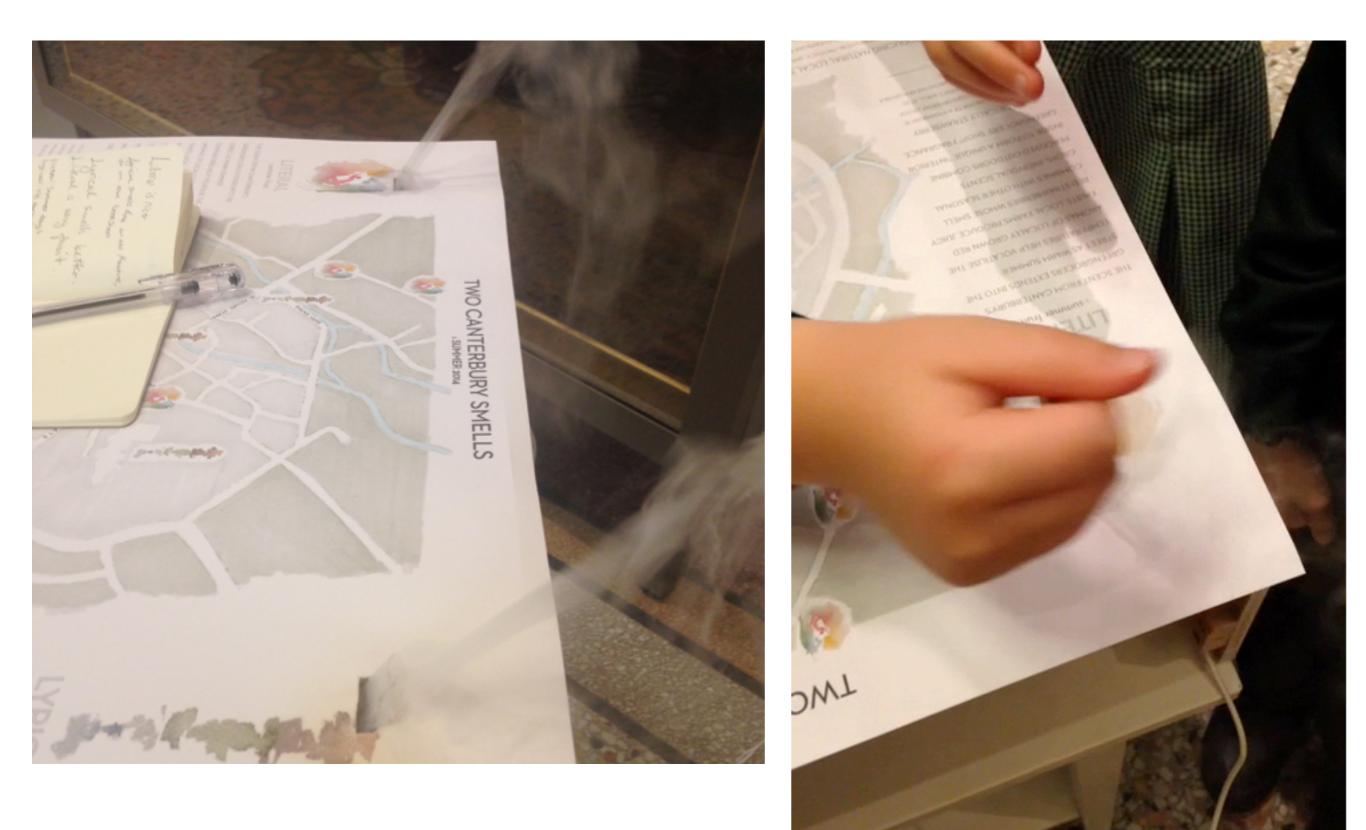
Smellmap: Amsterdam, exhibited at Mediamatic, Amsterdam. Kate McLean (2014)

Designing for sensory experience: 4. Experiential



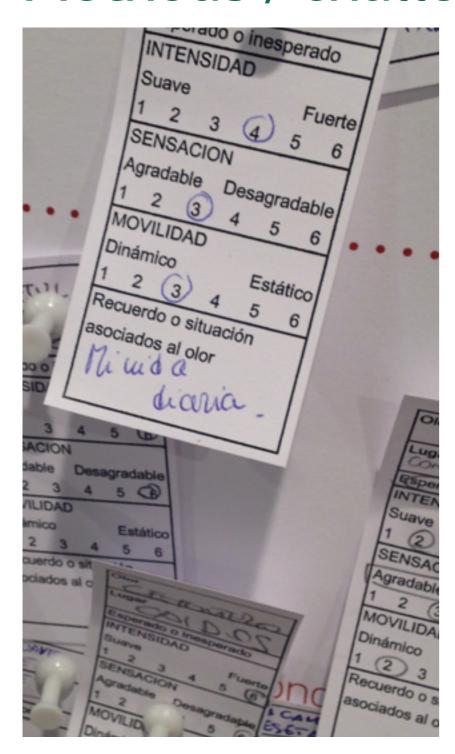
Smells of Milan. Participatory installation in Milan Design Week. Olivia Alice & Kate McLean (2013)

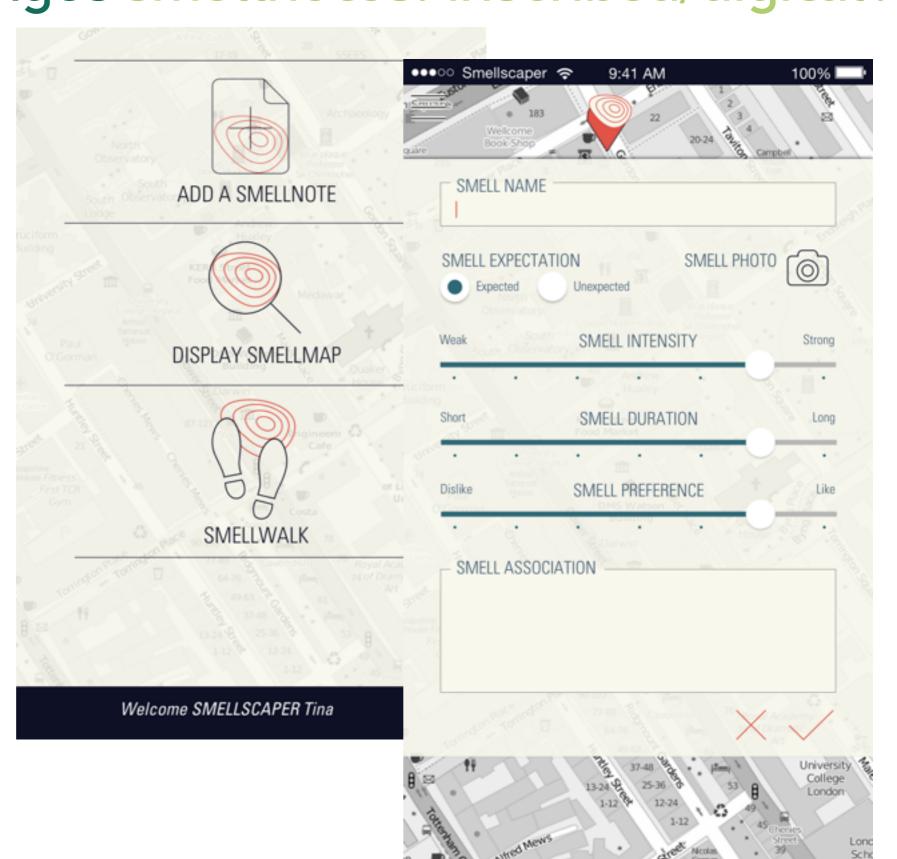
Designing for sensory experience: 5. Physical manifestation



Two Canterbury Smells. Installation at The Beaney. Kate McLean (2014)





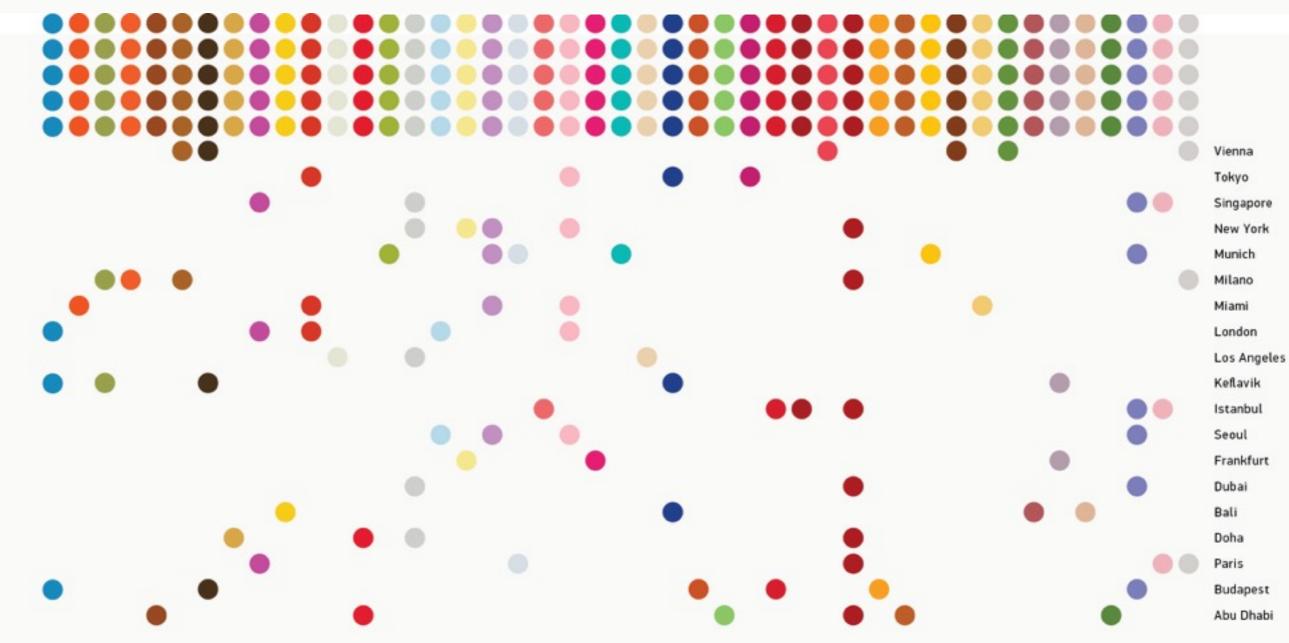


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Smellnotes for Pamplona & Smellscaper App design. Kate McLean (2014 – 2015)

creative methods: data visualisation



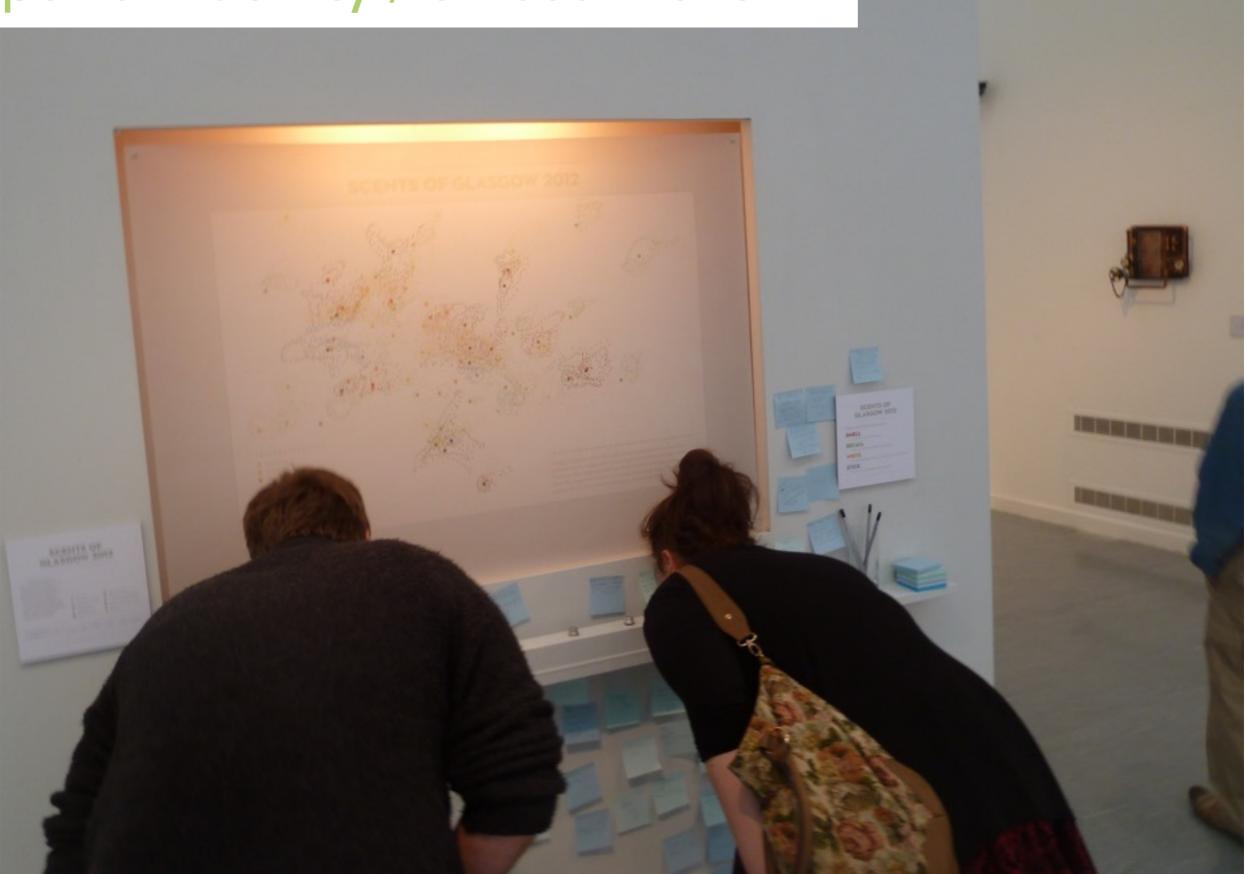
Individual Heart Notes in Colour •19 World Cities

Aquatic accord	Blood orange	Cardamom	Carrot	Cedar	Cinnamon	Cloves	Coriander	Cyclamen	Frangipani flower	Freesia	Gardenia	Geranium	Green tea	Jasmine	Jasmine water	Juicy apple	Lilac	Lily of the valley	Litchi	Lotus flower	Magnolia flower	Marine flowers	Orange blossom	Ozonique flowers	Paprika	Patchouli							ŝ		U1		anspa	Tuberose		Violet	Water Flowers	e" (2	012	2)
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cartographic methods: selection, classification, simplification & symbolisation



performativity / embodiment



Challenge of working with urban sensory experience

skepticism / suspicion / quant&qual



"We had a smell but we lost it." Smellwalker. Pamplona, 2014

the bad smell	funk of 40,000 years (chlorinated)			food / sewage	hot air soap
			leafy green cucumber		
			SS		
	sweet smell of childhood (burnt caramel)	coffee / glue	freshness / lushness		wheatgrass
	클욱		fresh	5	
		sidewalk spearmint	deep restful green		
garlic / tarmac	garlic			shattered dreams	dust

the smell of shattered dreams a.k.a. stale beer on the sidewalk

Smell colour and descriptors: a Brooklyn block, Kate McLean (2014)