

## Leverhulme Artist-in-Residency Online Archive



**Context** The aim of the proposed mini-project is to produce an online archive of materials generated as part of a Leverhulme Artist-in-Residency project which is currently based in the Morgan Centre for Research into Everyday Lives, School of Social Sciences. We are very fortunate to have observational artist and 'urban sketcher', Lynne Chapman, working with us for two days a week throughout the academic year 2015-16. Through the medium of reportage sketching, Lynne is working in situ to visually document a year in the life of our centre in its tenth anniversary year, whilst also running sketching workshops with Morgan Centre staff and encouraging us to explore the possibility of using sketching as a tool for sociological research. The residency has created a genuine 'buzz' in the Centre, as well as within our academic networks and Lynne's artist networks.

Five months in, the project has already produced a multitude of images, mainly sketches by Lynne produced in her distinctive concertina sketchbooks, plus art work produced by Morgan Centre staff, and photographs of workshops and of sketching taking place. We are storing these images in a digital format (specifics??), and whilst we are able to share a small proportion of these images - via our project blog: [www.manchester.ac.uk/sketching-research](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/sketching-research), Lynne Chapman's personal blog: <http://lynnechapman.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/residency> and via @morgancentre and @lynnepencil on twitter – most of them are not publicly available. We know that our respective audiences are interested in the images, but they are difficult to find once a post is older, and there is nowhere to see all the work together in any kind of organised or searchable format – or indeed in a way that captures the scale and dynamism of the project and its associated artwork.

We believe that the online archive would be of interest to other urban sketchers and to academics interested in innovative and creative research methods, as well as providing an important permanent record of the project for Lynne and for the Morgan Centre. The archive would also be a complementary resource for a possible book based on the project, as well as for planned exhibitions of Lynne's work.

**Outcomes** The student will work with us to create an online platform for the images, including the tagging of images with metadata to produce a searchable archive. We are open to any other ideas that the student might have about archiving the project data. The output would be an image archive.

**Next steps** The mini-project will help extend the reach of our Artist-in-Residency project to a wider audience, especially in conjunction with other planned forms of dissemination. Part of the reason for applying for funding is also that we would like to explore how digital archives might work for other projects in the future, including other Morgan Centre projects involving the generation of forms of visual data.

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