

## Participant Information Sheet

### Researcher:

#### Principle Investigator:

Dr. Bernardo Pereira Nunes is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Computing and Sub Dean (academic integrity) at the College of Engineering, Computing and Cybernetics (CECC), ANU.

Email: [bernardo.nunes@anu.edu.au](mailto:bernardo.nunes@anu.edu.au)

Phone: 61261254952

Dr. Sergio J. Rodríguez Méndez is a Research Fellow in Knowledge Graph Engineering and Lecturer in the School of Computing (SoCo) at the College of Engineering, Computing & Cybernetics (CECC), ANU.

Email: [Sergio.RodriguezMendez@anu.edu.au](mailto:Sergio.RodriguezMendez@anu.edu.au)

#### Other Investigators:

Can Yang is a PhD student in the School of Computing, CECC, ANU.

Email: [can.yang@anu.edu.au](mailto:can.yang@anu.edu.au)

**Project Title:** Art Expert Interviews: Insights into Automated Artwork Image Captioning.

### General Outline of the Project:

- **Description and Methodology:**

This research project aims to gather valuable insights and guidance from experts in the field to inform the development of an automated system for creating captions for artwork images. The objective is to understand what such a system requires, identify potential challenges, and learn how to make it as effective and accurate as possible. Our approach consists of two types of interviews: (a) Open: These will involve open-ended discussions where experts share their opinions about essentials in artwork captions and their thought processes, and (b) Directed: We will present our preliminary design to experts and ask them to identify problems or areas for improvement in our conceptual model. The participant will only need to participate in one type of interview. The outcome of this research is a framework outlining the key elements and concepts for generating artwork captions. We expect to identify specific requirements and potential challenges, refining our model based on expert feedback. No personal or sensitive information will be requested for this research.

- **Participants:**

The participants in this research will consist of individuals who are over 18 years old and have art backgrounds. 20 participants are expected to be involved in this study.

- **Use of Data and Feedback:**

The collected results from the interview will be analysed by the researchers involved in this project and reported in aggregate only. It could be shared with fellow researchers in related fields, or the data might be used in secondary research that builds upon our initial findings. Any future usage will be subject to appropriate ethical approvals. The Outcomes may be made available within 6-12 months after the feedback is collected and analysed. The research outcomes will be presented in a PhD thesis to be submitted to the School of Computing in the ANU and potential future publications. And a copy of the research outcomes will be sent to you via email.

### Participant Involvement:

- **Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal:**

Your participation in this research is voluntary. You can, without any consequences, decline to take part, or withdraw from the research at any time. Also, you can refuse to answer certain questions. If you do withdraw, your data will be destroyed and will not be used anywhere. However, it will not be possible to

withdraw your answers after it has been analysed and published; please consider your involvement in this research within 60 days; after that, we will be unable to remove your answers. At the end of the interview, you will be asked if you would like to review the transcription or the interview notes before they are used for analysis. After the interview, the primary investigator will download the transcription from MS Teams and do an error check. Notes will be compiled into a document. If you agree to review the transcription or interview notes, they will be sent to your e-mail, and you will have one week to review them and correct anything. If there is no response after one week, I will proceed with the data analysis. It is unlikely that you will personally benefit from participating in this research, but with the results of this analysis, we expect to discover that carrying out this research will enhance our understanding of how human experts create captions for artworks and further contribute to the development of an automatic captioning system for artworks. The interview will be conducted by Dr. Bernardo Pereira Nunes, Dr. Sergio J. Rodríguez Méndez or Mr. Can Yang. You are welcome to contact any of us if you have any questions or concerns regarding this research.

- **What does participation in the research entail?**

You will take part in an online individual interview to create caption for the painting examples and answer some following questions to express the thought process. Before the interview, you will be asked to fill in an consent form 1) to provide your consent for the interview, 2) to make sure that you are eligible for the interview, 3) to grant permission for the audio-recording of the interview. At the beginning of the interview, we will ask your basic personal identifier such as name or professional roles, to ensure you has all the necessary background information. During the interview, you will be asked to create captions for the painting examples and express your thought processes. After that, you will be asked a few questions to better understand the reason behind your opinion. As introduced in the Description and Methodology section, there are two types of interviews: (a) Open and (b) Directed. You will only need to participate in one type of interview. In this interview, you will be asked to create captions for examples of four artworks, and there will be some questions (approximate 15 questions, with possible follow-up questions based on your answers) that need to be answered.

Your responses will be recorded by the researcher only if you consent to it. If you do not consent to having the interview recorded, I will be taking notes during the interview. At the end of the interview, you will be asked if you would like to review the transcription or the interview notes before they are used for analysis. After the interview, the primary investigator will download the transcription from MS Teams and do an error check. The recording will then be deleted. Notes will be compiled into a document. If you agree to review the transcription or interview notes, they will be sent to your e-mail, and you will have one week to review them and correct anything. If there is no response after one week, I will proceed with the data analysis. And the data will be de-identified for further analysis.

- **Location and Duration:**

The research will be conducted online at any time using Microsoft Teams.

Duration of Experiment: 1 hour (up to 6 mins break is allowed upon request).

- **Risks:**

No personal identifying details are required, and researchers will keep the participants' identities confidential as far as the law allows. Participants are allowed to withdraw at any time and their participation will be discarded. Published results will only be reported in aggregate, and you will be anonymous within published outputs. In case the participant feels any discomfort or distress, please feel free to contact [bernardo.nunes@anu.edu.au](mailto:bernardo.nunes@anu.edu.au), [Sergio.RodriguezMendez@anu.edu.au](mailto:Sergio.RodriguezMendez@anu.edu.au) and [can.yang@anu.edu.au](mailto:can.yang@anu.edu.au) or ANU Wellbeing and Support Line (1300 050 327 (voice) or 0488 884 170 (text)).

- **Benefits:**

- (1) It will help the development of automated artwork captioning and could pave the way for future technological innovations in art interpretation.
- (2) This project has the potential to make art more accessible to a wider audience, thus promoting inclusivity in art appreciation.
- (3) It is unlikely that you will personally benefit from participating in this research.

### **Confidentiality:**

- **Confidentiality:**

The basic personal identifiers will be collected at the beginning of the interview with experts to ensure the participant has all the necessary background information. And then it will be replaced with unique codes for further analysis. The data will be stored on ANU secured cloud infrastructure, which is password-protected, and the password will be owned by Can. The data accessibility is for the researchers in this project only. All data is stored in an encrypted format. Published results will only be reported in aggregated form and participants will be deidentified within published outputs. Additionally, confidentiality will be protected as far as the law allows.

### **Privacy Notice:**

In collecting your personal information within this research, the ANU must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at [https://policies.anu.edu.au/pp1/document/ANUP\\_010007](https://policies.anu.edu.au/pp1/document/ANUP_010007) and it contains information about how a person can:

- Access or seek correction to their personal information;
- Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

### **Data Storage:**

The data will be stored in ANU secured cloud infrastructure, which is password-protected. It will only be accessed by the researchers involved in this research. The data will be kept on file for at least five years from the date of any publication arising from the research. After that time, the data will be securely de-identified and archived.

### **Ethics Committee Clearance:**

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Project H/2023/1399). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager  
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee  
The Australian National University  
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427  
Email: [Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au](mailto:Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au)