

Ghost Bikes of Queens: A Digital Memory Project

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERVIEW

Project Title: Ghost Bikes of Queens: A Digital Memory Project

Project Investigator: Brianna Caszatt

Project Advisor: Aránzazu Borrachero, PhD

The purpose of this consent form is to provide you with a clear explanation of the nature of this project and your role as participant.

You are being asked to participate in a **digital memory project** being conducted by Brianna Caszatt, a master's student in the MA in Digital Humanities program at the Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY), to fulfill the final capstone requirements for graduation.

Purpose:

The goal of this digital memory project is to document, preserve, and analyze the ghost bike memorials erected near the locations where cyclists have been the victim of traffic violence in the borough of Queens. This interview will supplement a map of all ghost bikes in the borough, including pop-ups with the victims' names and information about the crash sites, and multiple visual/art activist components—a video collage of footage collected from selected ghost bike locations, an interactive text of all the ghost bikers' names, and an examination of problematic headlines for stories about traffic violence.

Procedures:

The interview will be conducted via email and completed at your convenience over the course of two weeks. The interview comprises questions pertaining to your experiences traversing the streets of Queens and your work with the creation and placement of ghost bikes.

The interview will be a written one. Your interview will appear on the Internet within an open-access website created specifically for this project. The information of your interview might be used in future research and scholarly work by the project investigator and other researchers.

Risks and Benefits:


The risks associated with participation in this interview are minimal. Nevertheless, it is possible that certain answers may raise painful memories for you. If you experience any discomfort during the interview, you may discontinue it if you wish. If you would like to receive some emotional support after participating in the project, the investigator will inform you about the public counseling services that are available in your city or town.

By sharing your experiences for this project, you will help broaden awareness of the importance of ghost bikes and their role as both sites of memory and a call to action to address the root causes of traffic violence—not individual responsibility, but rather an unsafe built environment.

This project seeks to understand ghost bikes in the collective sense, while also ensuring that each individual who was killed is remembered and not overlooked as just a statistic.

Confidentiality:

You can remain anonymous in the interview if you so choose. If your name is included in the interview materials, it could also be quoted in other materials or texts that this project may generate, such as publications or presentations.

Your initials here  indicate that you give permission to be identified with your name in the interview, as well as other materials or texts that this project may generate.

In case you **do not want** to be identified with your name in the interview or other materials or texts that this project may generate, write your initials here _____.

Once you sign this consent document, you will be asked to sign a release authorization to grant the project investigator permission to make public use of your interview. All the information collected during the research phase will remain strictly confidential until the moment you sign the authorization and once you have reviewed the materials of your interview. If you do not wish to sign the authorization, all materials and recordings you have provided will be destroyed.

Voluntary participation:

Your participation in this interview is voluntary. Even if you decide to participate, you may withdraw at any point during the interview without adverse consequences. You can also remove your permission from participating in the project within fifteen (15) days after signing this consent form. If you remove your permission, any material you have provided to the project will be destroyed.

You will not receive any financial benefits from participating in this study.

Contacts and questions:

If you have any questions about this project or interview, feel free to contact Brianna Caszatt via email at bcaszatt@gradcenter.cuny.edu or brianna.caszatt@gmail.com.

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact Rebecca Banchik, director of the Human Research Protection Program (rbanchik@gc.cuny.edu), or Maribel Santana (msantana@gc.cuny.edu); or the Research Integrity and Compliance Team, part of the CUNY Office of Research (Research_Agreements@cuny.edu or HRPP@cuny.edu).

Statement of consent:

I agree to participate in this interview, and to the use of this interview as described above.

DocuSigned by:

0417C4BD7C7B429
Interviewee's Signature

2/25/2024

Date

DocuSigned by:

554D869A2730429
Project Investigator/Interviewer's Signature

2/25/2024

Date

[Source: This form was adapted from a consent form written by Loyola University of Chicago and available at <http://www.luc.edu/irb/>]

Ghost Bikes of Queens: A Digital Memory Project

INTERVIEW RELEASE FORM

Note about this form: This project involves conducting an interview on a voluntary basis with the intention of creating a historical document that will be preserved for the use of future researchers. We do not view this copyright as being granted exclusively to the project investigator. Each of the parties to the interview has the right to use their own works as they see fit.

Agreement

In consideration of the digital preservation of “Ghost Bikes of Queens: A Digital Memory Project,” I the interviewee, Steve Scofield, hereby grant, assign, and transfer to the **project investigator/interviewer, Brianna Caszatt**, the rights, including all literary and property rights, to publish, duplicate, or otherwise use and dispose of the interview conducted via email in February, 2024, or any other materials, such as photographs, I have provided or will provide to the project. This includes the rights of publication in print and in electronic form, such as placement on the Internet/Web for access by that medium, the right to rebroadcast the interview or portions thereof on the Internet and in other electronic formats, and permission to transfer the interview to future technological mediums. I (the interviewee) hereby give the project investigator the right to distribute the interview transcription to any other libraries, archives, and educational institutions for scholarly and educational uses and purposes.

Likewise, I the project investigator/interviewer of “Ghost Bikes of Queens: A Digital Memory Project,” Brianna Caszatt, hereby agree to preserve the products of this interview according to accepted professional standards of responsible custody and agree to provide the interviewee and the interviewer with access to the transcribed interview.

DocuSigned by:



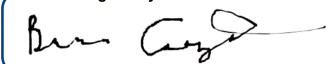
0417C1BD7C7B429...

Interviewee's Signature

2/25/2024

Date

DocuSigned by:



554D869A2730429...

Project Investigator/Interviewer's Signature

2/25/2024

Date

[Source: This form was adapted from a release written by the Oral Histories of Science Project, available at <http://www.foothill.edu/~marasco/OHSP/release.htm>, and from the American Historical Association website]