**Participant Information Sheet for Professional Peers (BIOME Collective) and Peer Participants**

**STORYMAKER WORLD**

You are invited to take part in a formal feedback round for the research project Storymaker World. Before you decide whether or not you would like to participate it is important that you read the information provided below. This will help you to understand why and how the research is being carried out and what participation will involve. Please let the researcher who gave you this information know if anything is unclear or you have any questions.

**Who is conducting the research?**

Principal Investigator (PhD Candidate): Fruzsina Pittner | [fpittner@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:fpittner@dundee.ac.uk)

Academic Supervisor: Professor Christopher Murray | [c.murray@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:c.murray@dundee.ac.uk)

**Who is funding the research?**

SGSAH (Scottish Graduate School of Arts and Humanities) on behalf of the AHRC (Arts and Humanities Research Council).

**What is the purpose of the research?**

This research project is a scholarly and practice-based examination of the depictions of Africa and othernesses, with an emphasis on literature, film, comics and interactive media. Parallel to a scholarship-based analysis of colonial and postcolonial approaches to Africa in various media, this project investigates the role of creative practice and the creative industries in combating entrenched beliefs and fostering understanding and empathy, particularly through a consideration of interactivity. The thesis is accompanied and informed by a multifaceted creative project, produced through an iterative design process, the outcomes of which are presented in the form of an **online exhibition**that foregrounds creative practice as a tool that enables nuanced understanding through the act of making and interactive play. These creative works are multimedia and create an overarching narrative that encompasses a changing, speculative image of Africa.

Together, the critical, creative and practical research encompasses the representation of the changing image of Africa in multimedia narratives and addresses the constructors, makers and consumers of these narratives. It extends to individual and communal practice in which the audience becomes player, maker and actor in stories designed to make a difference.

**Why have I been invited to take part?**

You have been invited to take part because you have either been acting as a supporting figure or worked adjacent to this project (BIOME Collective), or expressed interest at a former informal discussion (peer group).

**Do I have to take part?**

No. Taking part in this study is voluntary, choosing not to take part will not disadvantage you in any way; and you may choose to withdraw from the study at any time before completing the survey without explanation and without penalty. If you decide against taking part, you can do so by sending an e-mail, not engaging with the material or not engaging with the survey. **Please note** that data stored after completing the survey is anonymous, and therefore withdrawing your answers after completing and sending it **will not be possible** as there will be no identifying information attached to your answers.

**What will happen if I take part?**

If you choose to take part, you will be provided with a link to an online exhibition and a questionnaire. You will be asked to go through the exhibition space by playing a short game (4-5 minutes total), scrolling through a gallery of illustrations accompanied by a short text, and view another gallery of AR (Augmented Reality) animated illustrations through the website and using an additional downloadable smartphone application. Using the smartphone application is optional, access will be provided to the fully animated pictures on the exhibition website itself. Additionally, you will be able to read through a project sketchbook. This is optional. Engaging with the exhibition will take 15-30 minutes total.

After the exhibition, you will be asked to fill out a feedback form. This is a long-form answer survey which will ask your thoughts about both the functionality of the exhibition, and the themes and narratives within. You may give as short or as long answers to the questions as you wish. Filling out this survey will take about 10-20 minutes.

You can complete any of these components in your own time, at your home computer in your browser. Installing the mobile phone application Artivive (links provided on the exhibition website) is recommended, but not necessary. You will be able to access each component of this study in your browser.

**Are there any risks in taking part?**

There are no known risks for participants in this study.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

You will take part in a study that aims to present actionable, practical solutions to educational institutions in using interactive media (engagement and creation both) in combating systemic prejudice against a variety of othernesses such as race, gender and sexuality.

**Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?**

No personal data will be collected from any participant during this study. You may disclose details of your participation at your own discretion. Since feedback gathered is subjective, qualitative and focused on the exhibition artefacts, re-identifying participants after the study is completed will be difficult. There is a data management plan in place to ensure the security of all data collected during this study.

**What will happen to the information I provide?**

Data will be stored in open document spreadsheet format on the University of Dundee OneDrive. Since the data gathered is text- based, it will not take up more than the 1TB of allocated free storage space. Data is protected under the UoD Information Classification Scheme.

Data is backed up in cloud storage using the University One-Drive. The project supervisor will also have access to the data.

Data will be stored for 10 years starting at the completion of the project, in accordance with university policy. It will be saved and stored in an open document format on a UoD secure platform by the project supervisor, and will be subjected to the institution's data management policies. The key output (PhD thesis) will be open access through UoD's research repository.

Data will be stored and made accessible through the University's Institutional Repository Discovery. This will ensure that data is available for verification if necessary. Access can be restricted, metadata records will indicate what conditions must be satisfied for access to be granted.

**Data Protection**

There will be no personal data collected and processed in this study. The University respects your rights and preferences in relation to your data and if you wish to update, access, erase, or limit the use of your information, please let us know by emailing fpittner@dundee.ac.uk. Please note that some of your rights may be limited where personal data is processed for research, but we are happy to discuss that with you. If you wish to complain about the use of your information please contact the University’s Data Protection Officer in the first instance(email: [dataprotection@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:dataprotection@dundee.ac.uk)). You may also wish to contact the Information Commissioner’s Office(<https://ico.org.uk/>).

You can find more information about the ways that personal data is used at the University at:<https://www.dundee.ac.uk/information-governance/dataprotection/>.

**Is there someone else I can complain to?**

If you wish to complain about the way the research has been conducted please contact the Convener of the University Research Ethics Committee (<https://www.dundee.ac.uk/research/governance-policy/ethicsprocedures/ethics/contacts/>).