

John Rea – HOSPES.

In the creation of the HOSPES project, I have spent nearly a year visiting organisations, and meeting people in the communities that surround the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, also those who work tirelessly in the Infirmary itself.

My goal was to give a sense of the Infirmary's relationships with these communities, also placing it within an historical context. What grew from the encounters with those who live in Adamsdown, Splott, and Tredegarville is a sense of what modern urban Welshness could be. This is represented in the digital legacy of the work: www.hospescardiff.com

I specifically spent time in the places that offer much to these communities, and list these below. The 'video portrait' aspect of the work, I see a modern form of monument, a digital one, but in celebration of a community, not an individual, and in the creation HOSPES, I have recorded and filmed over 50 conversations, with around 40 being a part of the final online iteration of the work.

Organisations:

Cardiff Royal Infirmary.
Oasis, Splott.
Oasis One World Choir.
Tredegarville Church In Wales Primary School, Tredegarville.
Eastmoors Youth Centre, Splott.
Seren In The Community, Splott.

In the realisation of the project, I have collaborated with singers, and music makers in the creation of the video portraits, from Eastmoors Youth Centre, and Oasis, also photographers and cinematographers, archivists, historians, film makers and designers in the overall delivery of the final work:

Creative Support: Installation:

Huw Talfyn Walters: Photography & Cinematography
Nic Finch: Editing support.
Oliver Norcott: Design
Gerald Tyler: Voice Recording
Jonathan Stevens: Surround mixing in The Atrium, USW.
Josh Tyrrell: Mastering of video portrait audio.
Oasis One World Choir: Voice recording
Lucy J. Morgan: String quartet contractor.

Research/Technical:

Glamorgan Archives: research support and archive images and text.
Spartan Audio, Cardiff: Video Installation Technical Support.
Spike Island, Bristol: Audio equipment support.

Installation Showing: October 18 – 25.

I felt it very important that the work be shown site-specific in the 'Capel I Bawb' in the Infirmary, to root the work in its 'sense of place', and to make it easier for those communities who feature in the work to attend. I was very pleased that the response was extremely positive, with over 200 people visiting in total over the six days.

These included special visits from pupils and staff from Tredegarville Primary School, Eastmoors Youth Centre, and Oasis in Splott. In addition, I arranged for music students from The USW, and Bridgend College to attend in order to discuss my approach to creating immersive sound experiences.

I have visits planned to discuss the work to pupils in Tredegarville Primary School, and students of the music courses in Eastmoors. In addition I have shared the project specific archives with both of these organisations.

Personal Journey:

The journey I have undertaken in realising HOSPES has been a fascinating learning experience for me, and I have gained a deeper understanding of the City where I live, and the place I where was born: the "CRI".

Creatively, I have investigated the Guy Debord idea of *dérive*, or psychogeographic approaches to investigating a sense of place, and in utilising immersive techniques to sound, combined with ambient musical elements, and abstraction in the use of moving image. The online iteration of the installation film is mixed using binaural surround-sound, something that I intend to develop further in future.

I have found that Cardiff is truly a place of potential, where a 'new urban Welshness' is to be found, in all its glorious diversity.

HOSPES Online Legacy: www.hospescardiff.com

