

CV Micheál O'Connell / Mocksim

Statement

I describe myself as a systems interference artist.

Since one initiative, *Contra-Invention*, culminating in 2010, which involved re-appropriating images from municipal council car parking contravention systems, I have initiated similar projects. The original aim was to find items of data and other materials of interest to re-present but I also share methods and documentation. Thirdly, elements from the investigations are included in the short looping experimental films I term *simupoems* which have been a consistent feature of my practice.

Courier company parcel tracking 'point of delivery' signatures were compiled into books, I discovered that supermarket self-checkout machines could be used to buy nothing, and a short [instructional video](#) was produced to demonstrate how. I sent money flowing unnecessarily between bank accounts (daily via standing order), a mobile phone handset was set up as speed camera, and symphonies were created through simultaneous use of sat-nav/maps-app devices. When opportunities arise to present physical work, I typically make selections from relevant acquired items. For instance, I was 'onboarded' as a Deliveroo rider and now present the entire rider-kit in its pristine state. Estate agent 'Sold' signs were collected and exhibited as part of work relating to housing markets and systems. In 2019, whilst completing a residency at the West Cork Art Centre, Rep. of Ireland, I initiated a new series of work connected with the more artificial and prominently technological aspects of the countryside, specifically golf courses and wind-farms.

Summary Biography

My work has been shown in project spaces, online and in established locations such as the Whitechapel Art Gallery, Lighthouse (Brighton) and Wandesford Quay Gallery (Cork City, Ireland). *Contra-Invention*, for example, was invited to *Les Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie d'Arles*, subsequently nominated for the *Deutsche Börse Photography Prize* and part of *From Here On* at Arts Santa Mónica, Barcelona. In recent years I have been selected to join both ABC Artists' Books Cooperative and The London Group, and, since completing a practice-led PhD in 2017 I have been actively exhibiting and disseminating work again. In 2019 I was awarded an Arts Council, *Develop Your Creative Practice* (DYCP), grant.

Art Education

2010-2017 Practice-led PhD, *Art as 'Artificial Stupidity'*, School of Media, Film and Music, Uni. of Sussex
2004-2006 MA Fine Art (Distinction), Uni. of Brighton
2001-2004 Portfolio, then Art & Design Foundation course, City College Brighton & Hove

Exhibitions, Screenings and Events Sample

2020 *In the Dark*, The Cello Factory, London
2019 *Printing Plant*, Looiersgracht60, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Out(Law), SEAS, Brighton, UK
West Cork Arts Centre/Uillinn, Ireland: https://www.westcorkartscentre.com/micheal-o_connell
Stuff Everywhere walk and talk, Skibbereen, Co. Cork, Ireland

- Have a Great Time, Cool! Grand*, Billboard, Bridge Street, Skibbereen, Ireland
Self-Service, Old Crypt, London
 ABC Artists' Books Collective, *Offprint*, Tate Modern, London
Soft Power 3, 75A, Brighton, UK
- 2018 *Povera*, The Cello Factory, London ([The London Group funded](#))
- 2017 *Failure in Chrome*, Online residency and event
- 2016 ABC Artists' Books Collective, *Offprint*, Tate Modern, London
#LowTechLabLondon2016, Saatchi Gallery, London
- 2015 *Delivering a Paper*, Impact, Lighthouse, Brighton, UK
- 2014 *Rearing*, Matt's Gallery, London
 ABCEUM, *Offprint*, Beaux-Arts de Paris, France
Turtle Salon, Article Gallery, Birmingham
 ABCEUM, Grand Parade Gallery, Brighton Photo Biennial, UK
Missing You & From Jacquard to JPEG, Macclesfield, UK ([Arts Council England funded](#))
- 2013 *Visual Urbanism*, British Library, London
Contra-Invention, From Here On, Arts Santa Monica, Spain
- 2012 *Contra-Invention Plus, Over and Out*, Lincoln, UK
Boundary Work II, Wandesford Quay Gallery, Cork, Ireland ([Cork Crawford/CiT funded](#))
Disruption II, Elysium Gallery, Swansea, Wales
Contra-Invention Plus, Marburae Gallery, Macclesfield, UK ([Arts Council England funded](#))
Trainofthoughts, The Horse Hospital, London
Turtle Salon, Meter Room, Coventry, UK
Art of Architecture, The Public, West Bromwich, UK
- 2011 *Les Recontres D'Arles*, Atelier de Mécanique, France ([Les Recontres D'Arles funded](#))
- 2010 *Contra-Invention*, Friese-Greene Gallery, Brighton, UK
- 2009 *Makeshift*, Fusina, Venice ([Camping Fusina funded](#))
- 2008 *Feed Lack Loop*, Lighthouse, Brighton and Second Life, online ([Multiple funding sources](#))
- 2006 *Rearing*, at Whitechapel Gallery, London

[Groups/Collectives](#)

- ABC Artists' Books Cooperative (international)
- APEC Artists' Studios (Hove, UK)
- The Art/Law Network
- The London Group
- Visual Artists Ireland