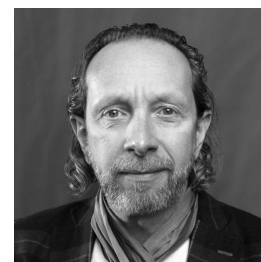Paul Sermon
School of Art and Media
Centre for Arts and Wellbeing
Cities, Injustice and Resistance Research and Enterprise Group
Email: P.Sermon@brighton.ac.uk

Research interests

Since the early nineteen-nineties my work in the field of telematic arts explores the emergence of user-determined narratives between remote participants who are brought together within shared telepresent environments. Through the use of live chroma-keying, video projection and videoconference technology these geographically divided audience participants are composited live in intimate social spaces. This is essentially how all my installation projects function, where the public participant plays an integral part within these telematic experiments, whose engagement within them makes the 'Work' and their shared experiences of them creates the 'Art'. As an artist I am both designer of the environment and instigator of the narrative, which I determine through the social and political context that I choose to play out these telematic encounters.

"Sermon aims at expanding the senses of the user, while it is obvious that the other cannot really be touched but that only swift, decisive, possibly tenderly reactive movements can experience the suggestion of touch - a moment of contemplation, as many users observed. The synaesthetical, sensual impression lets the hand and the eye fuse, and it is this effect that characterizes his work." Oliver Grau, Media Art Net

Qualifications

PhD, A phenomenology of empathy and presence through telematic art practice, University of Brighton
1 Oct 2018 → 30 Sept 2019
Award Date: 10 Feb 2020

Master, Master in Fine Art, University of Reading
1 Oct 1989 → 4 Jul 1991
Award Date: 6 Jul 1991

Bachelor, Fine Art, University of South Wales
Sept 1985 → Jul 1988
Award Date: 23 Jun 1988

Employment

Professor of Visual Communication
School of Art and Media
University of Brighton
13 Jul 2017 → present

Centre for Arts and Wellbeing
22 Sept 2019 → present

Cities, Injustice and Resistance Research and Enterprise Group
1 May 2018 → present

Selected subject expert for Forth EqUIP Symposium hosted by the AHRC/ESRC Social Transformation, Cultural Expressions, Cross Cultural Connections
EqUIP/AHRC/ESRC held in Gurgaon
India
28 Jun 2016 → 29 Jun 2016

AHRC Creative Lab Brazil Fellow
Peoples Palace Project, Rio de Janeiro
Brazil
25 Oct 2015 → 4 Nov 2015

AHRC UnBox Fellow
National Institute of Design
Ahmedabad , India
24 Feb 2014 → 7 Mar 2014

RCUK DE2013 Programme Co-Chair, RCUK Digital Economies Conference: Open Digital, MediaCityUK
University of Salford
United Kingdom
4 May 2013 → 6 Nov 2013

Visiting Professorship MA Media Art Histories, Center for Image Science
Danube University Krems
Austria
1 Mar 2007 → present

Contributions Reviewer, International Journal of Performance Arts and Digital Media
Intellect Journals
United Kingdom
1 Jul 2004 → present

AHRC Peer Review College and Fellowships Panel Member
Arts and Humanities Research Council
United Kingdom
1 Apr 2004 → 31 Mar 2014

Research outputs

Reframing Videotelephony through coexistence and empathy in the Third Space
Sermon, P., 19 Mar 2024, In: International Journal of Performance Arts and Digital Media. p. 1-22 22 p.

Empathy and presence in telematic art practice, from the gallery to the street
Sermon, P., 10 Mar 2024, (Accepted/In press) *Arts, réseau, société'.* Paris

The Dreaming in Telematic Dreaming and Other Stories
Sermon, P., 10 Mar 2024, (Accepted/In press).

The enduring telematic vision of a coexistent third space
Sermon, P., 23 Feb 2024.

RESET: MAR MENOR: Fuera de la vista, fuera de la mente
Sermon, P., Gould, C. & Ambrose, J., 1 Dec 2023, *RESET MAR MENOR: Laboratorio De Imaginarias Para Un Paisaje En Crisis.* Boj, C. & Diaz, D. (eds.). First ed. Valencia, Spain, p. 176-177 2 p.

Telematic re:sources to counter the climate emergency: coombe hill or high water!
Sermon, P., 15 Sept 2023.

Coombe Hill or High Water
Sermon, P., 13 Sept 2023

A Telepresence Story: Come Hill or High Water
Sermon, P., 26 May 2023.

Telematic Vision, Techne Shenzhen: Topologies of the Real: Techne Shenzhen
Sermon, P., 1 May 2023

Art is the Trigger: The Perception Podcast
Sermon, P., 21 Dec 2022, online

Telepresence Stage Showreel
Sermon, P., Dixon, S., Popat-Taylor, S., Gill, S. & Packer, R., 24 Jun 2022

Telepresence Stage Handbook
Sermon, P., Dixon, S., Popat-Taylor, S., Packer, R., Gill, S. & Branch, B., 23 Jun 2022, University of Brighton, UK. 230 p.

Coming Together: A film from the pandemic and beyond
Sermon, P., 20 Jun 2022

Media Art: Paul Sermon's participatory interactive media art installations
Sermon, P., 9 Jan 2022, (Accepted/In press) *The encyclopedia of new media art: History and Theory.* Bloomsbury, Vol. 1. 18 p. (The encyclopedia of new media art).

A Telepresence Stage: or how to create theatre in a pandemic–project report
Sermon, P., Dixon, S., Popat-Taylor, S., Packer, R. & Gill, S., 19 Dec 2021, In: International Journal of Performance Arts and Digital Media. 18, 1, p. 48-68 21 p., 4.

Breaking the fifth wall: creating theatre on a telepresence stage
Dixon, S., Sermon, P. & Popat-Taylor, S., 21 May 2024, *The Pandemic and Beyond: Bridging Distance in the Creative Industries.* Aebischer, P. & Nicholas, R. (eds.). First ed. Manchester: Manchester University Press, Vol. 3. p. 65-89 24 p. (The Pandemic and Beyond).

EPISODE 12: DIGITAL PERFORMANCE BEYOND THE PANDEMIC: PANDEMIC AND BEYOND PODCASTS
Sermon, P., 2 Dec 2021

Telematic LASER: ALL THE WORLD'S A SCREEN
Sermon, P. & Gill, S., 2 Dec 2021

Fusion solutions for remote performers: A Telepresence
Sermon, P. & Dixon, S., 5 Nov 2021.

Telematic Quarantine for Digital Art Collection
Sermon, P., 1 Oct 2021

Telepresence Stage Website: Collaborative Solutions for the Performing Arts
Sermon, P., Dixon, S., Popat-Taylor, S., Gill, S. & Packer, R., 1 Mar 2021

Telematic Dreaming: COVID-19 Version
Sermon, P., 29 Jan 2021

Telematic LASER: @ THE CROSSROADS
Sermon, P., Dixon, S. & Packer, R., 16 Jan 2021

"The Immersive environment as a mechanism for change; addressing the 'Out of Sight Out of Mind' impacts of the Anthropocene on the Mar Menor, Spain. "
Gould, C. & Sermon, P., 1 Dec 2020, p. 141-161. 20 p.

Telematic Quarantine: Telepresent Stories of Self [isolation]
Sermon, P., 7 Nov 2020

Out of sight, out of mind (Valencia Exhibition)
Sermon, P., Gould, C. & Ambrose, J., 28 Oct 2020

Pandemic Encounters: BEING[TOGETHER] IN THE DEEP THIRD SPACE
Sermon, P., Packer, R. & Kuhn, G., 23 May 2020

Shared Objective Empathy in Telematic Space
Sermon, P., May 2020, *Shifting Interfaces: An Anthology of Presence, Empathy, and Agency in 21st-Century Media Arts.*
Aldouby, H. (ed.). Leuven, Belgium: Leuven University Press, Belgium., p. 75-90 15 p.

Out of sight, out of mind - ISEA2019 Panel
Gould, C., Sermon, P. & Ambrose, J., 22 Jun 2019, (Accepted/In press).

Touched, a penumbra keyboard projection
Sermon, P., 22 Jun 2019, (Accepted/In press).

Out of sight, out of mind - Installation
Sermon, P., Gould, C. & Ambrose, J., 9 May 2019

Out of Sight, Out of Mind
Sermon, P., Gould, C. & Ambrose, J., May 2019

Out of sight, out of mind - Gallery Workshop
Sermon, P., Gould, C. & Ambrose, J., 14 Mar 2019

AHRC Design Research for Change Showcase: 3x4: Exploring metaspace platforms for inclusive future cities
Sermon, P. & McAndrew, C., 20 Sept 2018

Reset> Mar Menor, Research Project Residency: Out of site, out of mind
Sermon, P., Gould, C. & Ambrose, J., 20 Sept 2018

The Imbued Agency of Performer Driven Narratives in Telematic Environments
Sermon, P., 1 Aug 2018, *Moving Images, Mobile Bodies: The Poetics and Practice of Corporeality in Visual and Performing Arts.* Avram, H. (ed.). Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars, p. 14-30 17 p.

Virtually No Exit: An interactive 360° live video performance presented at LASALLE College of the Arts, Lord Puttnam Film Studio, Singapore, 19th and 20th July 2018
Sermon, P., Gould, C. & Dixon, S., 20 Jul 2018

Telematic Vision: For Art in Motion. 100 Masterpieces with and through Media. An Operative Canon
Sermon, P., 13 Jul 2018

Touched - EVA V&A Digital Futures Showcase
Sermon, P., 9 Jul 2018

From Edwardian Selfie to Telepresent Comic
Sermon, P., 28 Feb 2018, In: IAFOR Journal of Cultural Studies. 3, 1, p. 39-54 16 p.

3×4: a telematic/architectural hypersurface
Sermon, P. & McAndrew, C., 23 Nov 2017, p. 0-0. 1 p.

3×4 exploring metaspace platforms for inclusive future cities
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C. & Janu, S., 20 Nov 2017, In: India Habitat Centre Visual Arts Journal. 13

From Edwardian selfie to telepresent comic
Sermon, P., 10 Oct 2017, p. 0-0. 1 p.

Bio-encounters
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 5 Sept 2017

Digital Encounters
Sermon, P., 5 Sept 2017

Touched: an installation for the British Science Festival Digital Encounters Show
Sermon, P., 5 Sept 2017

Hyperlocal Imaginaries
McAndrew, C. & Sermon, P., 31 May 2017, p. 0-0. 1 p.

Performing Architecture
McAndrew, C. & Sermon, P., 17 Nov 2016, In: Urban Pamphleteer. 1, 6, p. 33-35 3 p.

Metaspace futures
Sermon, P. & McAndrew, C., 1 Nov 2016, In: Metaverse Creativity. 6, 1-2, p. 55-65 11 p.

BDF Screen Machine
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 4 Sept 2016

Peoples Screen - Linked between Guangzhou Light Festival, China and Northbridge Piazza Perth, Australia from 15 to 29 November 2015
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 4 Sept 2016, p. 0-0. 1 p.

Occupy the Screen. Peoples Screen
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 1 Aug 2016, *What urban media art can do: why when where and how?.* Stuttgart: Av Edition Gmbh, p. 246-249 4 p.

Over one hundred years of telepresence
Sermon, P., 1 Jul 2016, p. 0-0. 1 p.

Forth EqUIP Symposium: Social Transformation, Cultural Expressions, Cross Cultural Connections and Dialogue
Sermon, P., 30 Jun 2016, Gurgaon, India : Gateway Resort, Damdama Lake.

Artitute Interview with Paul Sermon
Sermon, P., 5 Jun 2016, Singapore : LASALLE College of Arts.

Peoples Screen - Artist Talk
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 18 May 2016, *International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA) ISEA2016HK Cultural Revolution.* Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong, ISEA, Vol. 2016. p. 0-0 1 p. (22nd International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA2016HK)).

Screen Machine
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 13 Feb 2016

3x4: Exploring metaspace platforms for inclusive future cities
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C., Janu, S. & Muthuramalingam, V., 30 Jan 2016, p. 13-14. 2 p.

Peoples Screen
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 14 Nov 2015

Social Change Through Creativity and Culture - Brazil
Sermon, P., 4 Nov 2015, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil : Peoples Palace Project.

3x4: Exploring metaspace platforms for inclusive future cities
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C., Janu, S. & Muthuramalingam, V., 14 Aug 2015, *Proceedings of the 21st International Symposium on Electronic Art.* Vancouver: ISEA2015, Vol. 2015. p. 0-0 1 p. (International Symposium on Electronic Art).

Occupy the Screen: A case study of open artworks for urban screens
Gould, C. & Sermon, P., 14 Aug 2015, *Proceedings of the 21st International Symposium on Electronic Art.* Vancouver: ISEA015, Vol. 2015. p. 0-0 1 p. (International Symposium on Electronic Art).

3x4: Exploring metaspace platforms for inclusive future cities at the Web We Want Festival 2015
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C., Janu, S. & Muthuramalingam, V., 28 May 2015

3x4: Exploring metaspace platforms for inclusive future cities at the Alchemy Festival 2015
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C., Janu, S. & Muthuramalingam, V., 15 May 2015

3x4 at UnBox LABS
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C. & Janu, S., 12 Dec 2014, New Delhi and London : Khoj Studios; Southbank Centre.

3x4: Exploring metaspace platforms for inclusive future cities at the UnBox Festival 2014
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C., Janu, S. & Muthuramalingam, V., 12 Dec 2014

Screen Test
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 14 Nov 2014, Riga : Egle Amusement Park, Riga Carnival.

Screen Test at Staro Rīga
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 14 Nov 2014

Occupy the Screen at Urban Reflections, Berlin and Riga
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 11 Nov 2014

Occupy the Screen
Sermon, P., 11 Sept 2014, Berlin and Riga : Supermarkt, Berlin and Riga2014 Esplanade.

Urban Screen Encounters
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., Sept 2014

3x4 Metaspace
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C. & Janu, S., 7 Mar 2014

3x4 at UnBox LABS
Sermon, P., McAndrew, C. & Janu, S., 24 Feb 2014

All the World's a Screen, featuring: The seven stages of man
Gould, C. & Sermon, P., 1 Sept 2013, In: International Journal of Performance Arts and Digital Media. 9, 2, p. 231-246 16 p.

The Neural String Network
Sermon, P., 1 Sept 2013, In: Technoetic Arts. 11, 1, p. 71-83 13 p.

All the World's a Screen
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 11 Jun 2013, *Proceedings of the 19th International Symposium on Electronic Art, ISEA2013, Sydney.* Sydney, Australia: ISEA International, Australian Network for Art & Technology, University of Sydney, Vol. 2013. p. 0-0 1 p. (International Symposium on Electronic Art).

Site-Specific Performance, Narrative, and Social Presence in Multi-User Virtual Environments and the Urban Landscape
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 25 Feb 2013, *Digital Media and Technologies for Virtual Artistic Spaces.* Harrison, D. (ed.). Hershey PA, USA: Information Science Reference, p. 46-58 13 p.

Experimental application workshop and exhibition - Exquisite Network
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 17 Nov 2012, Shanghai, China : Shanghai University.

(Dis)Embodiment
Sermon, P., 1 Nov 2012, *Intimacy Across Visceral and Digital Performance.* Chatzichristodoulou, M. & Zerihan, R. (eds.). Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, p. 173-186 14 p. (Palgrave Studies in Performance and Technology).

The Neural String Network: an interactive collaborative drawing 'machine'
Sermon, P., 11 Sept 2012, *The Proceedings of the 2012 Drawing Research Network Conference.* Loughborough University: TRACEY, p. 425-441 17 p.

Mirror on the Screen
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 4 Sept 2012

Neural string network
Sermon, P., 1 Mar 2012, Manchester, UK; Shanghai, China; Loughborough, UK

All the World's a Screen, at MadLab Manchester
Gould, C. & Sermon, P., 28 May 2011

All the world's a screen
Sermon, P., 28 May 2011, Manchester, UK; Barcelona, Spain : MACBA Study Centre.

Liberate your Avatar: The Revolution Will Be Socially Networked
Sermon, P. & Gould, C., 25 Apr 2011, *Creating Second Lives Community, Identity and Spatiality as Constructions of the Virtual.* Ensslin, A. & Muse, E. (eds.). London: Routledge, p. 15-31 17 p. (Routledge Studies in New Media and Cyberculture).

Telematic Dreaming, Extimacy Exhibition
Sermon, P., 28 Jan 2011

Shang-pool, Picnic in Arcadia (Urban Picnic)
Sermon, P., 23 Oct 2010

The Emergence of a User Determined Narrative In Telematic Environments
Sermon, P., 16 Oct 2010, *ISMAR 2010 The 9th IEEE International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality.* Seoul, Korea: ISMAR/Korea Institute of Science and Technology, p. 0-0 1 p.

Front room
Sermon, P., 1 May 2010, Manchester, UK; Sao Paulo, Brazil : FutureEverything Festival 2010.

Picnic on the screen
Sermon, P., 24 Jun 2009, Glastonbury, UK; Liverpool, UK; Shanghai, China; Salford, UK; Shanghai, China : BBC Village Screen.

The Teleporter Zone - Interactive media arts in the healthcare context
Sermon, P., 30 Aug 2008, In: Leonardo. 40, 5, p. 426-431 6 p.

Headroom - a space between presence and absence
Sermon, P., 25 Jul 2008, *ISEA 2008 Singapore - the 14th International Symposium on Electronic Art.* National University of Singapore, p. 0-0 1 p.

Peace games (liberate your avatar)
Sermon, P., 28 May 2008, Vienna, Austria; Belfast, UK (Northern Ireland); Nottingham, UK : GAMES: Kunst und Politik der Spiele.

Headroom
Sermon, P., 4 Apr 2006

Activities

Design History and Practice: New Perspectives from University of Brighton, Gwangju Design Biennale
Yunah Lee (Organiser), Megha Rajguru (Participant), Paul Sermon (Participant) & Catherine Moriarty (Participant)
15 Oct 2015 → 13 Nov 2015

Awards

Telepresence Stage for Disability Performing Arts
Sermon, P., Lloyd, J. & Dixon, S.
AHRC: £102,079.00
1/12/23 → 30/11/24

Projects

Collaborative Solutions for the Performing Arts: A Telepresence Stage
Sermon, P.
UKRI
30/11/20 → 29/05/22

Out of sight, Out of mind
Sermon, P. & Gould, C.
1/09/18 → 31/03/19

Telepresence Stage for Disability Performing Arts
Sermon, P., Lloyd, J. & Dixon, S.
AHRC
1/12/23 → 30/11/24