

# PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET – WALKING STORIES PROJECT

## **Opening statement**

My name is Anthony Walker and I am a researcher at Leeds Beckett University.

Thank you for your interest in this research project. Please read the following information carefully before considering participating.

## **The title of the research project**

Performative Perambulation (Walking Stories): the walk as a series of performances with unknown and unique narratives.

## **Introduction**

You are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide to participate, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether you wish to take part.

## **What is this project about?**

This practice-based research study seeks to understand how walkers create, and simultaneously perform, a series of unique narrative texts.

Central to the study is exploration of unintentional, implicit, and embodied performance. This refers to the idea that narratives can be created and/or 'performed' without conscious thought or deliberate intention.

## **Who is doing the research?**

This project is being conducted by Anthony Walker, who is studying for a Professional Doctorate in Creative Arts at Leeds Beckett University.

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## **Why have I been chosen?**

You have been selected to participate in this study as you have a personal interest, awareness, knowledge, or experience in walking or walking related activities.

## **What do I have to do and what will happen to me if I take part?**

There are multiple phases to this study.

The initial phase will involve a short survey, where you will be asked about your thoughts, feelings, experiences and motivations related to your personal walking history. You will also be asked to contribute a creative output (*e.g., a poem, painting, audio recording, video, photography or multimedia*) that documents or represents one of your own walks.

You have the freedom to create as many outputs as you choose, and in whatever format you feel is appropriate. These creative outputs may then be included within a public exhibit at the end of the project.

Following this, you may be asked to undertake a walk and/or series of walks. The dates / times / walk location and walk length will vary based on individual participants.

## **What are the possible risks of taking part in this study?**

The most notable risks to you as a participant relate to the location(s), environments, and the physical / mental stamina required to undertake the activity.

Although the researcher will not engage with, or encourage, any activity that puts themselves or participants at risk of harm, the fundamental nature of the activity and other variables (walk locations, weather, participant decisions) means it is not possible to mitigate against every risk. Indeed, the unknown or unexpected aspect of some of these variables are intrinsic to the study itself. However, participants will not be asked, or expected to, undertake any activity which they feel pose an unacceptable level of risk.

## **Will there be any issues regarding confidentiality?**

Participant personal data (including opinions, emotions, decisions) will be collected during this study. In most cases, it is envisaged that participants will be identifiable through the outputs they create. If participants wish to remain anonymous, this does not necessarily preclude them from being involved, with the possible exception of the

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final phase of the study, where it is hoped the captured performances / outputs will be presented for public engagement. Therefore, there are some limits relating to anonymity and anonymisation of results, as well as confidentiality.

### **Do I have to take part in this research?**

Taking part in this project is completely voluntary. If you choose to participate, you can omit answers to any questions or discontinue your participation in the study at any time without penalty. To do so, you can simply stop answering the questions or end the activity.

### **What happens next?**

If you decide to take part in this research, you will be invited to complete an initial online form, alongside the creative submission of your chosen walk story. This should take between 10 – 20 minutes to complete (excl. any time taken to produce your creative walk story).

You are encouraged to ask the researcher any questions if you require clarification before you decide whether to take part. To discuss this study in more detail, please feel free to contact me or my research supervisor:

Researcher's name and email address:

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Research supervisor's name and email address:

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