

Nicola Plant

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Nicola is a researcher, movement artist and coder about to finish a Ph.D in Media Art and Technology at the School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science, Queen Mary University of London. Her research interests are human movement and expression, embodiment, intersubjectivity and the vicarious experience of empathy. Specialising in motion capture, interactive installation design and HCI, she makes movement-based interactive installations and environments, physical computing and electronics projects and real-time applications of technology for performance and installation. Her work has been presented at exhibitions and conferences worldwide. Currently she is resident at Fish Island Labs: a creative platform for emerging artists and technologists run by the Barbican Centre and The Trampery.

Nicola is a Research Assistant for Teaching London Computing Project, at the Education Lab at the School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science, Queen Mary University of London. She develops teaching resources and applications and delivers courses and workshops to inspire and engage school teachers and students in computing and with new technologies. She is particularly interested in the interdisciplinarity of computer science education and creative fields, in terms of pedagogical practices but also as an anchor for diversity in computing and engineering. She has over 6+ years of experience in peer-to-peer computing teaching and leading creative coding workshops.

Professional Positions

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| 2014-2015 | Research Assistant: Teaching London Computing Project
School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science,
Queen Mary University of London. |
| 2014 | Front End Developer for Mobile Publishing Platforms
Short Internship with Kaldor, London. |
| 2010-2013 | Teaching Assistant for Undergraduate and Masters Modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Web Design and Authoring (UG & M)- Graphical User Interfaces (UG & M)- Procedural Programming (UG)- Algorithms and Data Structures in Object Orientated Programming (UG) School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science,
Queen Mary University of London. |
| 2011-present | Senior Tutor and Workshop Leader: Creative Programming in Processing
Popup Pixels, London. |
| 2010 | Research Placement: Untethered Human Computer Interaction
Initiation, London. |
| 2006-2008 | Technical Assistant, Audio Engineer & Video Editor
Birmingham Conservatoire. |
| 2005 | Sound Technician
Symphony Hall, Birmingham. |

Academic Qualifications

- 2010 – 2015(present) **Ph.D Media and Arts Technology** (EPSRC Digital Economies DTC Scholarship)
Thesis: Intersubjectivity, Empathy and Nonverbal Interaction
Supervisors: Prof Pat Healey and Dr Martin Welton.
Cognitive Science Research Group,
School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science,
Queen Mary University of London
- 2009 – 2010 **MSc(Res) Media and Arts Technology**
Untethered Human Computer Interaction: hosted by Inition (inition.co.uk)
School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science,
Queen Mary University of London
- 2007 – 2008 **MA Digital Arts in Performance**
Birmingham Institute of Art and Design and Birmingham Conservatoire:
Birmingham City University
- 2004 – 2007 **BSc (Hons) Music Technology**
Birmingham Conservatoire and Technology Innovation Centre:
Birmingham City University

Technical Skills and Training

Skills

Programming Languages: Java // C++/OpenFrameworks // Python // MATLAB // HTML5 // CSS3 // Javascript

Motion Capture: Autodesk MotionBuilder // Vicon Blade/iQ // Organic Motion Stage // Phasespace // Microsoft Kinect // Leap Motion Controller

More: Max/MSP/Jitter // Physical Computing Projects using Arduino // Logic Pro // ProTools // Final Cut Pro // Microsoft Office // ELAN

Teacher Training

Supervision of Undergraduate/Msc Projects & Teaching Your First Session
Learning Institute, Queen Mary University of London.

Professional Training

Apple Certified Final Cut Pro and ProTools HD Training,
NTI Birmingham.

Composing for Film and Visual Media,
Birmingham Conservatoire.

Publications

Healey, P. G., Plant, N., Howes, C., & Lavelle, M. (2015). *When Words Fail: Collaborative Gestures During Clarification Dialogues*. In 2015 AAAI Spring Symposium Series.

Curzon, P., Plant, N., McOwan, P. W., & Meagher, L. R. (2014). *Introducing teachers to computational thinking using unplugged storytelling*. In Proceedings of the 9th Workshop in Primary and Secondary Computing Education (pp. 89-92). ACM.

Plant, N. and Healey, P. (2013) *Surface Tension*. ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, CHI. Paris, France.

Plant, N. and Healey, P. (2012) *Empathy and Feedback in Conversations About Felt Experience*. The Interdisciplinary Workshop on Feedback Behaviors in Dialog. Portland, USA.

Plant, N. and Healey, P. (2012) *The Use of Gesture to Communicate about Felt Experiences*. The 16th Workshop on the Semantics and Pragmatics of Dialogue. Paris, France.

Exhibitions and Workshops

- 2015 **VR Installation:** *'Movements of Being'*
 Interfaces, Fish Islands Labs Showcase @ Barbican Centre, London.
- 2013 **Installation:** *'Surface Tension'*
 ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Paris.
- 2012 **Installation:** *'Headache: A Study of Expressive Gesture'*
 Digital Shoreditch Festival, London.
- 2012 **Workshop Leader:** *'Conductive Textiles and Thermochromic Inks'*
 Central Saint Martins, London.
- 2011 **Workshop Leader:** *'T.Hack with G.Hack'*
 Space Studios, London.
- 2011 **Collaborative Installation:** *'Sound Mapping London Tea Houses'*
 London Design Festival, V&A Museum, London.
- 2011 **Interactive Installation:** *'Mirror Being'*
 Digital Shoreditch Festival, London.
- 2011 **Workshop Leader:** *'Just a Switch'*
 V&A Museum, London.
- 2011 **Collaborative Installation:** *'Threads and Yarns'*
 Wellcome Trust 75th Anniversary Symposium, V&A Museum, London.
- 2008 **Live Electronics and Media Installations:** *'The Architect'* & *'The Materialisation of Sound'*
 BIAD Degree Show, Birmingham, UK.
- 2008 **Performance:** *'Faceless, Trapped by Technology'*
 New Generation Arts Festival, Birmingham, UK.
- 2007 **Live Electronics Performance:** *'LRRH'*
 Technology in Performance Concert, Birmingham Conservatoire, UK.