



SOMAESTHETIC INTERACTION DESIGN WORKSHOP

Explore how somatic sensibility influences design quality

This two-day workshop explores the intersection between somaesthetics and interaction design – an emerging area of design research. Shusterman's Somaesthetics is a branch of pragmatist philosophy concerned with attunement of mind-body (the soma) and the aesthetics of embodied living.

The focus of the workshop is to explore through practical exercises how a somatic sensibility can influence the design process and outcomes. How can enhancing awareness of the dynamic organisation of, and qualitative feeling states in, the moving body enrich and refine a designer's sensory appreciation, creativity and conceptual thinking?

The design component will explore novel ideas for interactive technologies to enhance movement quality, creativity and well-being in the home, public space and the workplace.

The workshop is open to anyone with an interaction design background interested in working with the body as a generator of design creativity and quality.

When

Thurs 25th and Fri 26th February 2016

Where

University of Sydney

RSVP

To secure your place, please email an expression of interest with a short description of your background and previous experience related to the workshop, by 10th Feb 2016.

We will send you a confirmation email with details.



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What you will learn

- How to pay attention to the complexity of the body in motion and stillness
- How to register subtle differences in feeling states of the body
- Translation of somatic and movement qualities and concepts into interaction design concepts and materials
- Communication and documentation of somatic-based experience prototyping
- New ways of accessing creativity through the body

Design research

This workshop is part of a design research project, investigating the impact of somatic knowledge on interaction design practice. Participants will be invited to contribute documentation of their experience of the workshop and provide feedback through interview and questionnaire. A separate Participant Information Sheet and Consent Form will be provided prior to participation.

Instructors

Richard Shusterman holds the Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar Chair in the Humanities at Florida Atlantic University and is a professional practitioner of the Feldenkrais Method®, an educational and therapeutic discipline to enhance body awareness and performance.

Lian Loke is an interaction design researcher, performance artist and Director of the Master of Interaction Design and Electronic Arts, University of Sydney.

More information

Dr Lian Loke
Faculty of Architecture, Design + Planning
E lian.loke@sydney.edu.au
T 02 9351 4108
M 0414 577 972

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