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Alternative Unknowns

Organized by Elliott P. Montgomery and Chris Woebken November 5- December 19, 2015

Counterclockwise from right

Miriam Simun and Nanu Al-Hamad

Emergency Intake, 2015 Massage table, floor mat, clipboard, intake sheet, space pen

Emergency Intake attends to the interpersonal, psychological, and emotio-physiological needs of those undergoing an emergency. The intake personnel, a licensed critical stress management clinician, lies down on the ground level of the Emergency Intake system, ready and equipped to listen and process, while the individual being 'processed' gets on top and gets comfortable. The Emergency Intake Processing System design thus nudges users to abandon distraction and prepare for emotional rescue.

Dr. Natalie Jeremijenko

With Fernando Cremades and Niels Bak

AN XRAT COLLABORATORY HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN THIS STATION. IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING, 2015 Acrylic, mixed nuts, video channels, ultrasonic sound emitter, custom electronics, vaporizer and fungus spores

Your observations of these mutualistic organisms contributes to intelligent monitoring of shared environment and creates a participatory early warning, health monitoring and spore deployment system. NYC rats (xRATS) are engaged to Monitor, Warn and Improve our shared urban environment. Thank you for your collaboration. [operation MWI], 2015 Proposed participatory paradigm to establish baseline rat behavior and reinforce existing mutualisms

Fabien Caperan

L-Hero, 2015 Wood and Plexiglass

L-Hero will dispense tickets to help you quickly find the person you need, or "Local Hero," in an emergency. The object plays with the codes of super-heroes to create a more positive message.

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Clay Kippen

Discreet Diagnostic Device, 2015 Wood, acrylic, glue, museum board, acrylic ink on paper

This device is designed to be a low-cost, offline option for personal diagnosis and health monitoring. The idea is to maintain an individual's privacy in a pandemic scenario and give him/her the agency to take action by getting medical help or self-quarantining. The long, thin prints are test-strips that show risk levels of a contagion (from low-threat to life-threatening).

Sam Hart

Fog of War, 2015 Paper brochure and map

Fog of war is a booklet and map that assist in locating individuals within the space of the alternative unknowns: a real-time simulation where pre-figurative uncertainty unfolds under the specter of state-determined quarantine.

Matt Jones

With Matt Delbridge and Isaac Blankensmith *Citibikefrastructure,* 2015 Plywood, wheel, light

The Citibike share program is a series of data and power supply points installed throughout the city with very secure locking mechanisms. What if in times of emergency we used them to house and power modular systems of essential equipment? Here we've imagined one such module that could provide a charging station and emergency data for people's phones.

Lost Cause, Inc.

The Red X, 2011 Paper, ink, staples

The purpose of an infection checkpoint is to identify individuals who could pose a threat to public health. But it's also an easy way to target people who are perceived as a threat for other reasons. "The Red X: How to be (or not be) a target," is a field guide for managing the additional scrutiny of law enforcement during a pandemic.