

# REF2021

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**MAUREEN GAMBLE:**

OUTPUT 1

**OUTPUT TYPE:**

INSTALLATION & EXHIBITION

**OUTPUT NAME:**

'WORD OF MOUTH'

**DEPARTMENT:**

SCHOOL OF ARTS

# RESEARCH PROCESS:

## WHAT ARE MY RESEARCH CONCERNS?

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- My work is practice-based research examining the relation between social and private space in public spaces and their underlying systems. For over a decade, I have undertaken a number of artist residencies in sacred and historical spaces, and created situations for the public to respond to through intervention and performance to inform my practice.
- My research concerns are the role of space and place and in capturing the here and now by recording shared real-time experiences of people using the same space at a particular time.
- I attempt to uncover new meanings about a place by giving significance to everyday, unspoken and private experiences using the archive as trope within contemporary art practice.



# RESEARCH METHODS:

## HOW DO I NEGOTIATE CONCEPTS OF SPACE AND PLACE IN MY ART PRACTICE?

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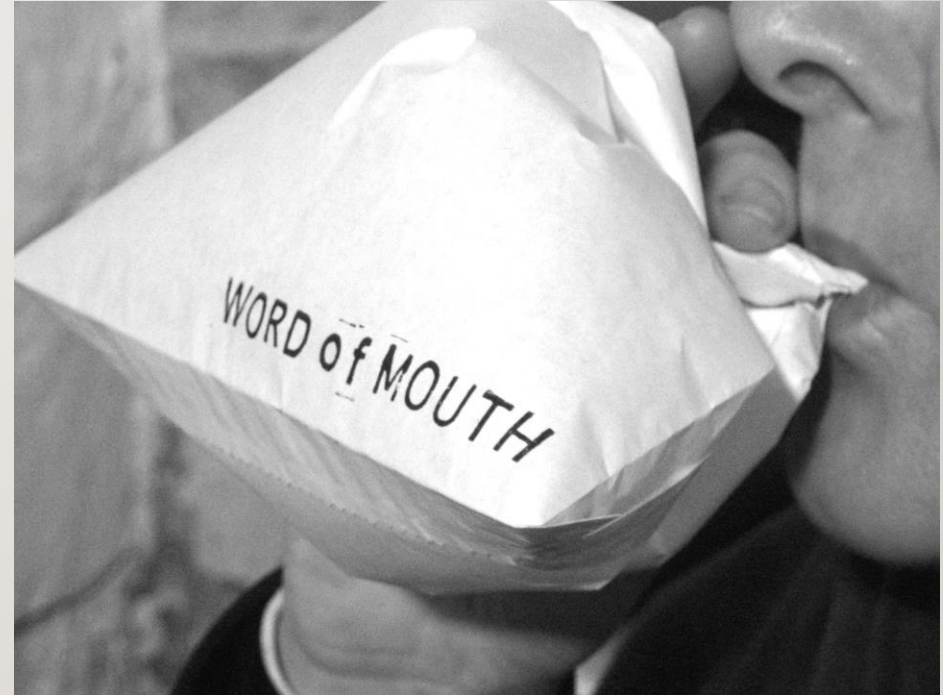
### Instructions for work:

1. I select a place and research it to identify an appropriate space within it.
2. I visit the space and record everything I see, hear, discuss.
3. I document and record it through image, drawing, intervention and written text.
4. I collect together all my findings objects, prints, sculptures and interactive installations.
5. I re-present my findings and create a new archive and body of work.





# WORD OF MOUTH(WRITTEN):BOCA A BOCA(ESCRITO)



# RESEARCH OUTCOMES: ORIGINALITY

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I was invited to exhibit '*Word of Mouth*' in the category of 'other print disciplines' and allocated a space for the installation at the IMPACT10 Encuentro, Encounter & International Multidisciplinary Print exhibition and conference at Biblioteca Central Cantabria in Santander, Spain, September 2018.

The space enabled visitors to participate by following a set of instructions and: writing down a word on a paper strip; folding it; placing inside a bag; breathing into it; sealing it, and positioning in the space.

*WORD of MOUTH* explored how words can be expressed yet still remain private, and shared yet undisclosed. Where unspoken and written words were given validity, whilst still remaining unheard.

The installation of individual breath-filled bags, represented the voice of individuals when placed together in one place. *WORD of MOUTH* captured this moment in time, space and place and it became a collective experience of that particular space.

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# RESEARCH OUTCOMES: *SIGNIFICANCE*

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- *Word of Mouth* (written) *De boca a boca* (escrito) was exhibited at the Biblioteca Central Cantabria in Santander and the work was created by artists, delegates at the conference and the general public between 1<sup>st</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.
- Visitors were invited to interact with the work and over 240 different people contributed to the continuously evolving installation. Interacting with the work, helped to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the subject.
- The conference proceedings were conducted in English and Spanish with over 40 languages spoken.
- *Word of Mouth* was selected because it offered a new way of reading (encountering) an original print which was borne out by those who interacted with it
- The work was regularly photographed by visitors during the exhibition period who shared it on social media, and an image of the evolving installation as it enhanced their knowledge and understanding of the subject.
- Images of the installation were selected for the digital exhibition catalogue and UWE website.





# RESEARCH OUTCOMES: *RIGOUR*

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- Invited to install *Word of Mouth* in the category of 'Other Disciplines' at the IMPACT10 Encuentro, Encounter & International Multidisciplinary Print exhibition and conference in Santander, Spain.
- The work was selected by a panel of artists, academics, researchers and members from the international print community, and the event was organised by the Centre for Fine Art Print Research (CFPR) UWE, Bristol.
- The exhibition built on previous work undertaken during funded artist residencies in public spaces.
- My attendance at the exhibition and conference was financially supported by the School of Arts, University of Worcester.



# IMPACT10 ENCUENTRO ENCOUNTER EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

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# WORD OF MOUTH: AB PRESS PUBLICATION

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Following the Word of Mouth installation, I was invited to work with AB Press, Bristol, on a follow-up artist printed book publication in July 2019 using the 240 original responses left behind inside the printed bags.

The words that emerged have been divided into 5 different chapters and the work will be bound to include the original bags. Individual private responses will be included, yet will still remain unseen.

CHAPTER 1: Lost for words

CHAPTER 2: Beyond words

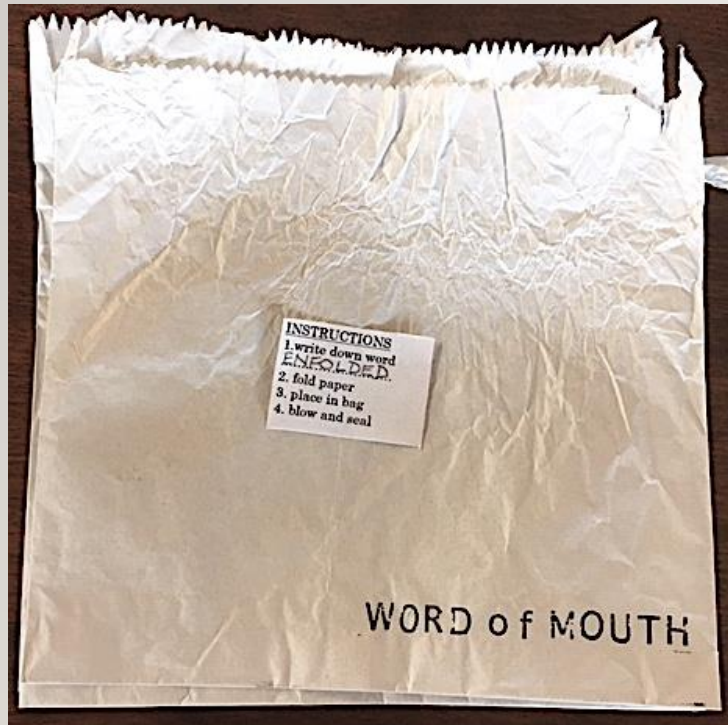
CHAPTER 3: Word for word

CHAPTER 4: Spoken word

CHAPTER 5: Without words



# WORD OF MOUTH: ARTIST BOOK PUBLICATION



# EVALUATION OF PROJECT

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- The words collected revealed commonalities across language and culture and broke down barriers and cultural differences
- The work evidenced the connections between different nationalities
- Each participant brought their own experiences to the work
- The work captured shared moments in time, space and place
- There are different words that connect us, as evidenced by the five themes that emerged

