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Press Release: 1st April 2011

Station Stories - live performances at Manchester Piccadilly Station to a private audience in headphones, in a very public place, taken on a trip of conspiracy, murder, love and revenge...

When: Thursday 19th May - Saturday 21st May 2011

Where: Manchester Piccadilly Train Station

Book Tickets: www.stationstories.com

You are at Manchester Piccadilly Railway Station

You are wearing headphones.

You are with a group other people, also wearing headphones

The stations is crowded, people rushing everywhere.

You can hear someone speaking in your headphones. She is telling you a story. It's about the station. The other headphone wearers can hear it too

The reader of the story is somewhere in the crowd, she is reading the story now, it s live. You can hear the sounds of the station behind her voice.

You try to pick her out from the crowd, try to spot a woman with a microphone.

Eventually she comes into view. She 's a long way away but you can see her walking towards you. She continues to tell the story. She talks to rail travelers around her They don't know she is telling a story. They don't know she is transmitting live.

They don't know about us.

This is story telling with a difference.

This is performance with a difference

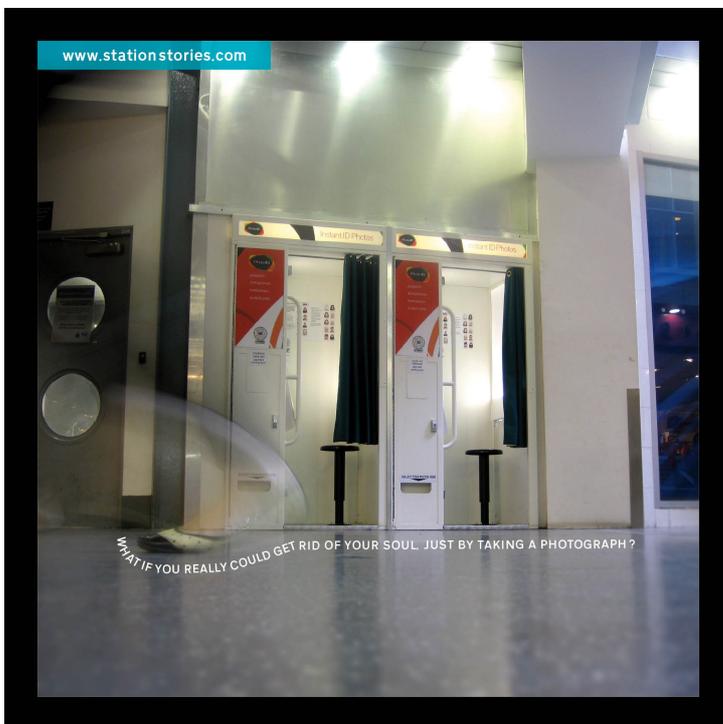
This is

Station stories
May 2011
Manchester Piccadilly Railway Station



David Gaffney, lead writer for the project explains;

“Station stories will take people on a literary journey It will explore the day-to-day life of the station - its platforms, its workers, the journeys people take, the waiting, the encounters, the thrill, the loneliness, the joy, and it will express the peculiar, unique qualities of the station - a marginal, in-between world, where anything can happen and often does. I’ve read all the specially commissioned stories now and they are amazing - funny, moving, and special, and all unique to the station setting..”



Notes for Editors:

In partnership with Manchester Literature Festival and the Text Festival, The Hamilton Project present - Station stories; a unique, site specific, live, literature performance event using digital technology and improvised electronic sound. From platform to platform, café to café and shop to shop, six writers take you on a creative trip at Piccadilly station and read specially commissioned stories inspired by the station and the people who use it and work there.

Audiences are linked to the writer’s microphones by headsets using wireless technology, making the event unobtrusive and ensuring the audience hear every single word, whilst still



experiencing the live ambience of the location. A musician accompanies the writers and improvises music using sampled live sounds from the station, manipulating these sounds and playing them into the audience's headsets between and underneath the text. The writers interact with passing members of the public who may be unaware that a performance is taking place.

For each performance the audience will experience all six of the Station Stories writers telling their stories at various locations throughout the Station. You will be guided from one viewing location to another, from the upper concourse to the ends of platforms, where the stories will play out accompanied by the improvised sounds. Each story is approximately 5 minutes long, the entire performance lasts approximately 1 hour.

Our published and award winning writers include: David Gaffney, Jenn Ashworth, Nicholas Royle, Peter Wild, Tom Jenks and Tom Fletcher. Sound Musician: Daniel Hopkins

Alongside the performances is an exhibition in 10 lightboxes at Manchester Piccadilly metrolink station with photography and words inspired by the stories. The exhibition will run from the 9th April until 16th July 2011.

Station Stories main supporter is Arts Council England, through their grants for the arts programme.

The Hamilton Project are a North West based creative agency, who specialise in managing and developing public realm projects. The public exhibition space at the metrolink site is programmed by The Hamilton Project, changing on a 3 monthly basis. For more information on what we do and people we work with visit – www.thehamiltonproject.co.uk

There will be a special VIP and press performance at 7pm on Friday 20th May - for more information please contact:

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