

# Lost Luggage

by **Osbert Parker, Gavin Fernandes and Peter Thomas at Middlesex University, Art & Design**

**Project commences:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Project location:** Middlesex University | The Grove Building | The Burroughs | London | NW4 4BT

'Lost Luggage' is a student engagement project that opens up learning dialogues between groups from different discipline backgrounds at different stages of their learning. It is a structured brief that offers the potential for diverse and divergent outcomes; emphasizing the role of collective creative enquiry and convivial learning. 'Lost Luggage' is an intensive one-week long workshop leading to continuing and open forums for active play, intelligent speculation and co-creation.

The initial enticement invites student participants to work in new collaborative teams. They are confronted with completely unexpected and random collections of artefacts and rich data in the form of real-life, unclaimed lost luggage physically positioned in the Atrium of The Grove Building at Middlesex University, fashioned in the scenario of an airport terminal. Students are asked to establish both a problematic enquiry and a relational objective within the course of the first day leading to an exhibition of tangible outputs by the end of one week.

Our goal is to meet and work with students and staff from different subjects and disciplines across the Schools of Art and Design and Media and Performing Arts, in order to understand the potential contribution of collaborative and convivial learning around specific themes of identity and personal heritage within 'Hidden Narratives.'

One purpose is to influence student perspectives on the significance of teamwork, play, taking risks and being fearless, particularly when working in creative groups of different disciplines. At present, the undergraduate programmes that are including their students onto the project are Animation (Year 3); Fashion Communication & Styling (Year 3); Film & TV (Year 2); Fine Art (Year 1); Graphic Design (Year 1); Illustration; Interior Architecture (Year 2); Interior Design (Year 2); Music: Photography (Year 2); Psychology; Theatre Arts (Year 1&2).

Students will experience new studio environments of different departments for the first time, where they will be encouraged to participate with experimental process using material based learning. Students may use 'Lost Luggage' and/or its content as inspiration for the development of compelling and exciting narratives outside of their normal habits of production and aside from the normal curriculum.

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**Gavin Fernandes**, Senior Lecturer in Fashion Communication & Styling / Photography

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