



Award Winning *O&P Works* interactive app based experience, 'Call/Waiting' invites the public of Poneke to head out on their own 'pick-a-path' adventure around Te Aro!



Urban Dream Brokerage, with the support of Wellington City Council, are pleased to announce the first of their commissioned public activations for 2023. <u>O+P Works</u> is an award-winning collaboration between Olivia Mahood and Poppy Serano, who make live performance and installation work with a focus on interaction, accessibility and public spaces, Olivia & Poppy present the public experience that is '*Call/Waiting*' to the people of Poneke for two weeks from March 31st running through til April 9th from 106 Courtenay Place. Real Time updates <u>HERE</u>

"In all of our work, we aim to give the audience the freedom to play, the space to bring their own perspective and the permission to curate their own experience." O+P Works

'Call/Waiting' is an app-enabled interactive experience which invites the participant to dial into a curious series of voicemails while they make their way around Pōneke, taking the public through Courtenay precinct to Te Aro Park, on a 30 minute experience that is part pick-a-path novel, part audio tour. The work begins when the user accesses the app, where they control their experience and how much time they spend in it.

The interactive performance installation allows participants to make 'phone calls' which prompt them to explore their way through transitional spaces, becoming part of the performance, with phones to their ears moving with purpose. Participants are prompted to 'make a phone call' initiating a pre-recorded piece of audio. Some of the instructions will be specific and clear, others are more open-ended or abstract, allowing for different kinds of experiences.

The instructions could have participants moving through space, looking at/interpreting features of the building/street around them, engaging with each other, or finding things in the space (that O&P have placed). The options are endless but guided by the user! *'Call/Waiting'* is a brand new work made in collaboration with <u>Pickpath</u>, an innovative new platform originally developed by theatre company <u>Binge Culture</u>.

The app/platform, a new digital experience-creation tool, was developed as a way to make app based narratives more accessible to creative makers and to deliver an artist-friendly solution to the high-cost and inflexibility of app development. Pickpath will be having its 2nd public outing with this activation.

"We began utilising digital technology in 2020 in order to continue to present interactive work under changing circumstances. It has continued to play an important role in our work, as a way to increase accessibility and open up new possibilities for interactivity. We first encountered Pickpath in 2022 and immediately saw the potential of the platform for use in our work. The opportunity to utilise Pickpath to design and build a technology-enabled interactive experience opens up huge potential for O+P works, both for Call/Waiting and future projects." O+P Works

https://www.urbandreambrokerage.org.nz/callwaiting

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<u>O+P Works</u> is an award-winning collaboration between Olivia Mahood and Poppy Serano. Olivia and Poppy are based in Tāmaki Makaurau and Pōneke respectively and have been collaborating since 2015. Together they make live performance and installation work with a focus on interaction, accessibility and public spaces. Their work has been presented at Auckland Arts Festival (2021), What if the City was a Theatre (2021), The Performance Arcade (2018, 2019), Expressions Gallery (2018), Auckland Fringe Festival (2018, 2019), Little Andromeda (2020) and at BATS Theatre as part of the 2021 major STAB commission. <u>www.instagram.com/oandpworks/</u> www.facebook.com/oandpworks

This forward thinking, interactive performance installation, is the first activation from <u>Urban</u> <u>Dream Brokerage's 'Lets Get Wellington Dreaming'</u> Program for 2023. Their upcoming series of commissions, with the support of Wellington City Council, aims to continue their work to enliven the city centre, giving artists space to embed themselves in the city & grow new audiences through

public participation.

The series highlights an exciting & diverse range of activations that set out to shine a light on what our city's' future could be.

https://www.facebook.com/UrbanDreamBrokerage https://www.instagram.com/urbandreambrokerage/

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