FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Participant Information Sheet and Consent Form

Project: Nocturne
Researcher: Briony Hartley
Date: 3 September 2026

Introduction

I am a designer and lecturer. I would like to invite you to take part in my research for a project. Before you decide, I would like you to understand why the research is being carried out and what it would involve for you. I will go through the information sheet with you and answer any questions you have.

What is the purpose? To gather information on people's attitudes towards **night**, and record any feelings or special memories they may have about it. This information will be collated with other people's and used to create a book or installation.

Why me? You are welcome to participate because I am keen to hear a broad range of voices from different backgrounds.

Do I have to take part? It is up to you to decide to join the research. You are free to withdraw consent at any time, without giving a reason.

What will I have to do? You will share a night memory. This can be completed anonymously, you do not need to share any personal information unless you wish to be credited.

Will I be paid? No, I will be very grateful for your participation. When the project is finished you may be shown the final outcome.

What are the risks? None, but if you share a memory be aware you may see this presented in an installation or book, however this can be anonymous so your name will not be shown unless you want it to be.

What are the benefits? Your insights will help shape the project, creating an up-to-date record of current attittudes to night and add to the memories bank which can be shared to people who see the finished work.

Will there be further contact? No, you will not need to participate again but if you are keen to get involved I would be happy to discuss this.

Can I withdraw? If you change your mind about sharing your memories after completing the questionnaire please email me Briony Hartley briony@goldustdesign.co.uk and I will remove your content.

What if there is a problem? Please email me, Briony Hartley briony@goldustdesign.co.uk

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential? Yes. The information you do provide will be stored in a Wix database until the project is completed in 2026, then all records will be deleted.

What will happen to the results of the research study? The attitudes and memories of night gathered from participants will be collected and highlights may be used to in a small book or installation to inspire people to seize the night.

Contact details

Briony Hartley (Researcher) briony@goldustdesign.co.uk

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Consent Form

Project: Nocturne
Student: Briony Hartley
University: Falmouth University
Course: MA Graphic Design (online) GDE750

1. I confirm that I have read and understand the information provided above dated.....(version.....) for the research study. I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and I have had these answered satisfactorily.

2. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason, without my legal rights being affected.

3. I agree to take part in the above study.

Participant name: Date:

Participant signature:

Person Taking Consent: Date:

Signature:

Contact details
Briony Hartley (Student/Researcher) BH306260@falmouth.ac.uk
Dan Brackenbury (Tutor) dan.brackenbury@falmouth.ac.uk

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Application for research ethics approval

Part A – Overview of the project		
Student	Name: Briony Hartley Course: MA Graphic Design Module: GDE750	
2	Title of the project: Nocturne	
3	Briefly summarise the project's aims, objectives and methodology. The aim of this project is to explore and identify changing attitudes to night. The objective is to create a graphic design nocturne to reconnect modern, digitally focussed, electricity-bathed indoor audiences with the beauty and magic of night.	
Part B – Does the project require research ethics approval?		
4	Does your research involve participants of any type, ie. humans or animals, directly or indirectly? Review the questions in Part C as a guide.	❑Yes If Yes or don't know, continue to Part C.
Part C – Details of the research		
5	Give a brief reflection/overview of the ethics issues in this project. Participants will be invited to share their attitudes and memories of nigh through anonymous questionnaires. This information will be collected and curated to inspire a nocturne such as an exhibition, narrative experience or book.	
6	Who will the participants be? Identify specifically any vulnerable groups or individuals and address any special measures you intend to take to accommodate them. Audience has not yet been identified. Ideally, I need to hear from a broad range of voices and age groups. The project does not specifically target vulnerable individuals.	
7	How will participants be recruited and how many will be involved? The questionnaire will be shared in online community groups, to my friends and family and students at a local university.	
8	What will participants be asked to do? To complete a questionnaire anonymously. They will be asked their age, location and experience, attitudes towards and memories of night.	
9	What potential risks to the interests of participants do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks? A participant's interests include their physical and psychological well-being, their commercial interests; and their rights of privacy and reputation. Risks are low. Participants may share very personal stories, but these will be anonymous.	
10	Will you be obtaining personal information from any of the participants? E.g. name, personal opinions, address, recorded images or audio, date of birth, notes and observations.	❑YES **If you answer 'Yes', please give details.** Personal memories, age and location. Information will be stored on my laptop and in Microsoft Forms. Some of these stories will be displayed in an exhibition or book. Data such as age and location could be presented in charts / infograpohics, but will be anonymous. It will be deleted when the project ends in August.
11	What potential risks to yourself do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks? Eg. does your research raise issues for your personal safety, especially if taking place outside working hours or off University premises? Risk to myself involves being outdoors at night to observe and document, I will not do this alone, bringing a friend with me. I will notify someone where I am going and will check in when I get back	

	home. I will not go to high risk areas in my local area, such as Boscombe, where there are addicts on the streets. If curate an exhibition using text and images in the public domain I will need to check copyright carefully and seek permissions where necessary. If I need to build/install and exhibition I will need to consider my own and others personal safety from injury and a full risk assessment would be done in advance. If I work with a site to install and exhibition I would need to see their insurance and health & safety documentation.	
12	What potential risks to the environment do you foresee and what steps will you take to minimise those risks, eg. does your research involve plants or soil? I might create an outdoor narrative experience in a forest, this would have to be done very carefully to ensure no damage to plants or animals, and a full risk assessment of the site would be done in advance.	
13	Will payments or in-kind contributions be made to participants?	❑ NO
14	Will any restrictions be placed on the publication of results?	❑ NO
15a	Declaration of student if activity is out of scope.	I confirm that the form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and it does not fall under the scope of the Research Integrity and Ethics Policy for Taught Courses. Signature: Date:
15b	Declaration of if activity is in scope.	I confirm my responsibility to conduct my research project in accordance with the University's Research Integrity and Ethics Policy for Taught Courses. In signing this form, I am also confirming that: a) The form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. b) I undertake to conduct the project as set out in the application unless deviation is agreed by the University and to comply with any conditions. c) I agree to keep all ethics issues in the project under review and to re-submit a new application for ethics approval should any new issue arise or significant change occur. d) I understand and accept that the ethical propriety of this project may be monitored by the University. e) I have included the following documents: ❑ An information sheet (compulsory) ❑ A consent form (compulsory) ❑ Copy of the full proposal/application (compulsory) ❑ Other relevant information Signature: Date:

16	Approval for low risk project from Module Tutor:	I have reviewed the project with the student and confirm it does not fall under the scope of the Research Integrity and Ethics Policy for Taught Courses. Name: Signature: Date:
17a	**Approval for medium risk project from** Course/Department taught course research lead:	I have reviewed the medium risk project with the student and give approval for them to undertake the research. Name: Signature: Date:
17b	Review for high risk project from Course/Department taught course research lead:	I have reviewed the high risk project with the student and give support for them to submit the proposal to the Research Integrity and Ethics Committee. Name: Signature: Date:
18	RIEC use only	