

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGIES

What we're about -

We are a research institute working at the leading edge of creative technologies. Through our unique research environment, we aim to develop cultural and creative horizons by fostering previously undiscovered connections between people and technologies, crossing traditional boundaries, and forming communities around shared ideas and aspirations, rather than around disciplines or geographical locations.

Our research themes focus upon -

Quality of Life - using creative technologies to enhance and improve quality of life in all its aspects and for all sectors of the community, including virtual models and real-world applications. The focus is on design and innovation of real and virtual spaces and environments.

Cultural Horizons - this identifies, maps, explores and creates present and future local, national and international cultural horizons, including practical and creative work as well as critical and reflective research. The focus is on creation of networks and environments to enable social networking and changing patterns of living.

The themes are explored using collaboration and cooperation, creativity and innovation and trans-disciplinarity – we work at the intersection of science, technology, the arts and humanities.

Our expertise extends across a wide network of researchers and professionals with strong track records in our research themes, including high profile Visiting Professors. We would be delighted to talk to you about our research projects and commercial opportunities.

Contact

Professor Andrew Hugill, Director, Institute of Creative Technologies, De Montfort University, The Gateway, Leicester, LE1 9BH.

For information, discussion and showcase material

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Project HaRT (Humans and Robots Together)

A PROJECT AT THE LEADING EDGE OF CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES, DEVELOPING FUTURE CULTURES.

HaRT is the name of the IOCT's resident Animatron – it is a robot that represents a basic neck-head structure, including a stereoscopic vision system. HaRT allows us to undertake trans-disciplinary research projects involving human-robot interaction and collaborative robot behaviours, where HaRT is working with other robots. HaRT is currently being used to study ways for looking at and reacting to the environment, including people and objects.

The project's aims and objectives are for HaRT to be an intelligent, inquisitive and creative Animatron that engages in societal behaviour. The project is likely to be of interest to technologists, social scientists and artists:

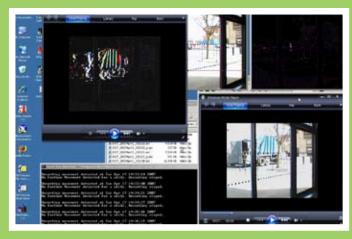
From the technology perspective, anyone who is working in the field of artificial intelligence using robotics and human interaction as the basis for understanding evolutionary behaviour will find this a technically challenging research project.

More social-focused people will find the project an interesting field of research to see how artificial systems can respond to humans and, more interestingly, how humans perceive and interpret this behaviour.

People interested in an artistic aspect can interact with HaRT by guiding its behaviour – it is a creative way to represent a range of perceptions using audio, video and 3D motion.

HaRT can be seen live through our website. Those located on DMU's campus can see the movement detection system as well as browse clips recorded by the Animatron. The rest of the World, can see a live view of everything HaRT sees, so visit the website at and have a look at life through HaRT's eyes!





www.ioct.dmu.ac.uk
If you are interested in getting involved with this project,
please contact the IOCT.



