Data Stories
Producing stories *about* and *with* property and planning data

Artist/writer-in-residence posts

Prof. Rob Kitchin, Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute

Art work: Stanza

What info session covers

The project

The roles

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Q & A

The Data Stories project is investigating the underlying evidence base for housing, property and planning.

These data are central to how places are understood and managed.

They inform government policy, shape public perception, and guide billions of euros of investment relating to land use and development, public and private housing, homelessness, commercial real estate, and infrastructure.

As well as traditional research methods, the project is using a research-creation approach working with artists and creative writers.

Data art & creative writing work
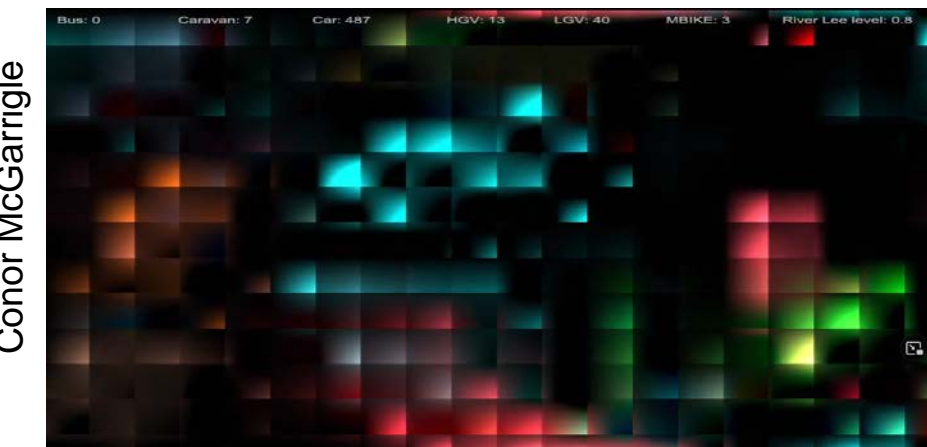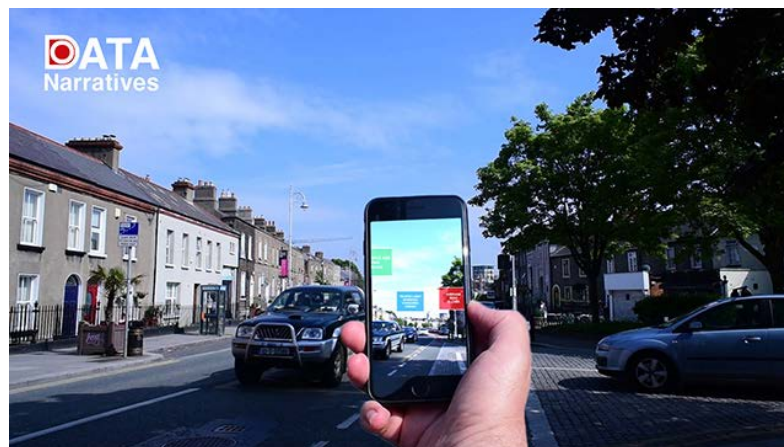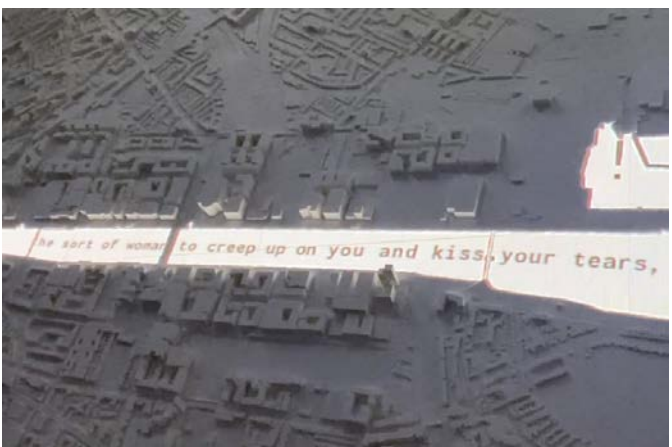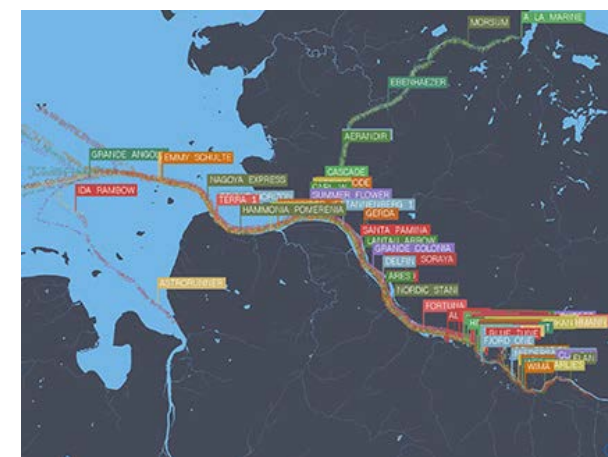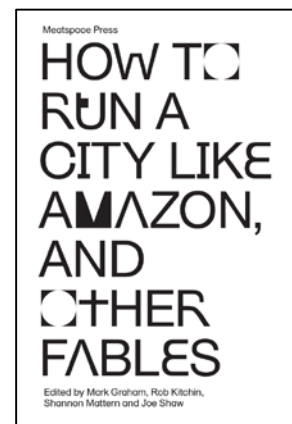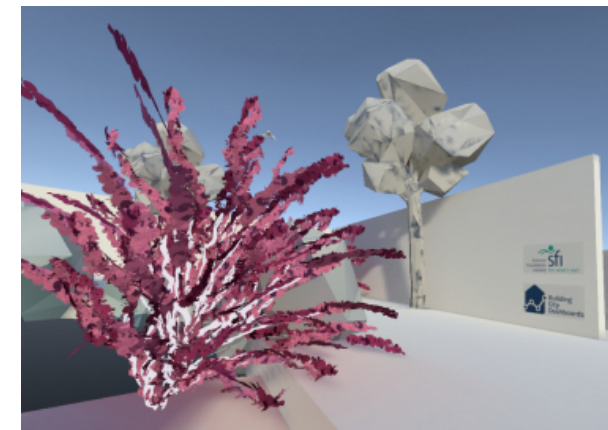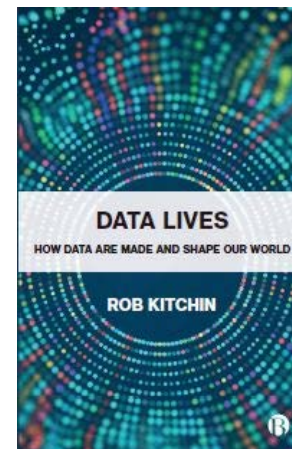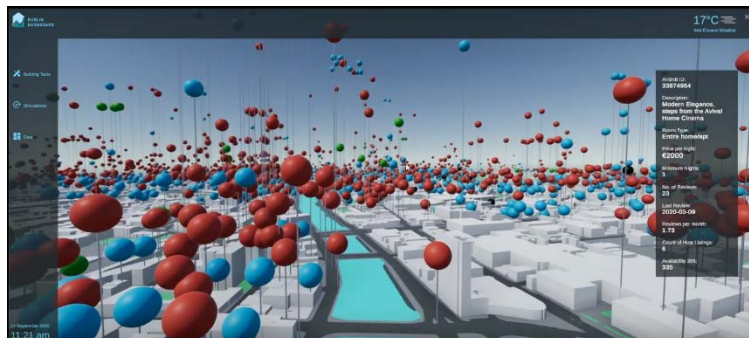
Cordula Hansen

Maria Mencia

Jeneen Naji

Conor McGarrigle

Jeffrey Weeter

Data Stories: Project Design

	State	Business	NGOs/civic society
PHASE 1 — Mapping the DATA ECOSYSTEM	Interviews, data audits, documentary sources		
PHASE 2 — Data stories ABOUT	Government Department; Statistics Agency	Real Estate Company; Industry Lobby Group	Housing Cooperative; Asylum Accommodation Service
	Interviews, walk-through observation, ethnographies, research-creation		
Data stories WITH	Homeless Agency; Tenancies Board	Housing Platform; Landlords Association	Homeless Service; Tenants Union
	Focus groups, creative media, visualisation, research-creation		

Phase 1: Planning and property data ecosystem
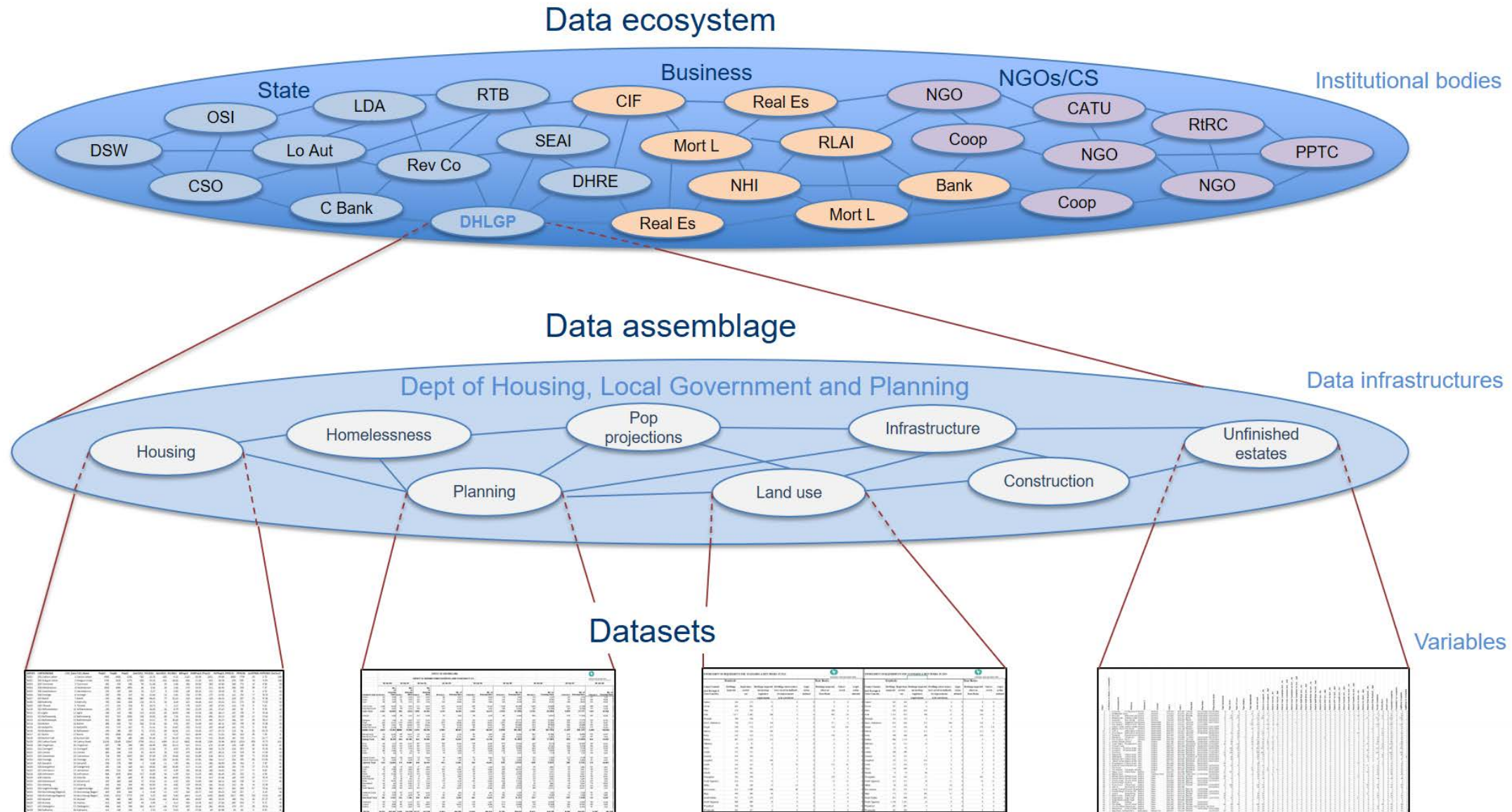
Phase 2: Data Stories

Min 3 per case study

Team
PI
Lecturer/researcher
Creative technologist
3 Postdocs
3 Creative writers and 3 artists

Data Story 1. Research team + A/CW
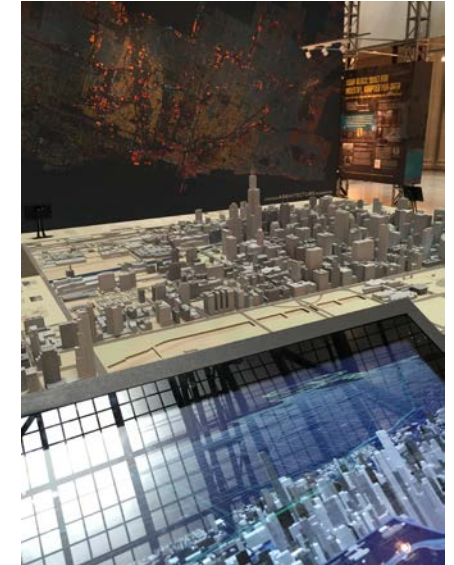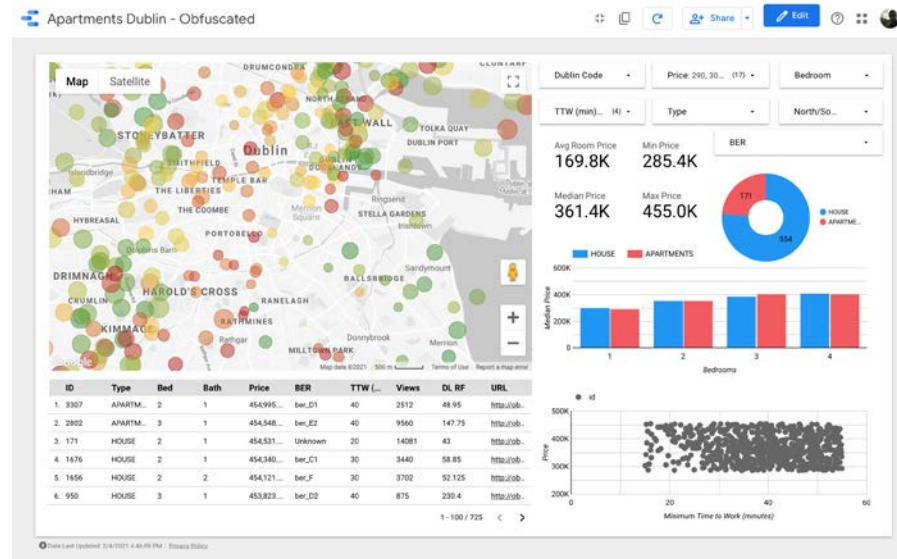
Data Story 2. Creative Writer/Artist

'But I'm not actually behind with my rent right now, am I?'

'I'm afraid you're three days late. This is the third month in a row you've been late. In that sense you're a risk to the City and there are others on the housing waiting list who deserve city-supported housing.'

'So, you're going to evict us because of what some bullshit algorithm thinks might happen?'

'That's one way of looking at it.'

'One way! It's the only way. I've a wife and three kids. Where are we meant to go?'

'That is your issue, Mr Jenkins. There are a wide variety of other housing options in the city from short term and long-term private rental through to home ownership.'

'And homelessness!'

'We don't tolerate homelessness, Mr Jenkins.'

Data Story 3. Stakeholder team + A/CW
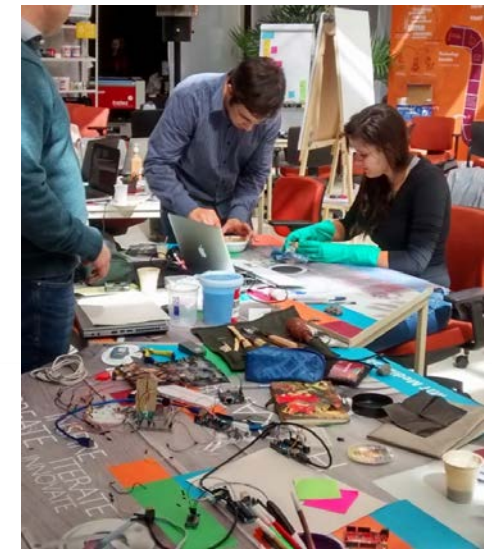
The Roles   **3 Artist/creative writers-in-residence**

August 2023 – July 2024, average 3 days a week

To work on two assigned case studies (scheduled for 6 months each).

To aid the research team to produce a data story relating to planning and property in Dublin.

To produce at least one data story for each case study through their own creative practice

To produce at least one data story for each case study in collaboration with a sector stakeholder using a research creation workshop approach.

To help with the artistic direction in public exhibitions of the produced data stories.

To document creative practice on the project and take part in public events.

A contract-for-services fee of €32,000 inclusive of expenses is offered for the 12 month period, with €16,000 payable for each case study.

Eligibility

Applicants must have:

An established track record of artistic or writing practice, including public exhibitions and published work.

A commitment to using creative practice to explore social, political and technical issues.

Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to be an active workshop facilitator.

Experience of working collaboratively on creative practices.

Good project management skills.

Good communication skills.

Ability to work autonomously and responsibly to meet project goals.

Highly Desirable:

Experience of employing a research-creation approach and producing data stories.

Experience of reflecting on housing, planning, property issues.

Experience of handling and working with planning, property or spatial data more broadly.

Terms and conditions

The fee is inclusive of expenses.

The project will provide advice and help with accessing data, cover costs of research-creation workshops, procure exhibition space and help defray publication costs where possible.

Work will be assessed after 3 months and end of each case study.

Progress to the second case study will be dependent on successful delivery of the first.

Ireland-located candidates will be self-employed persons for tax purposes in Ireland and will be solely responsible for all income tax, PRSI and other such payments. Candidates located overseas will be responsible for all tax matters in their own jurisdiction. All suppliers to Irish public sector bodies must obtain Revenue tax clearance.

Payment of fees will comply with the University Finance rules.

The candidate will interact regularly in person with the research team and stakeholders.

Do not need to live in Dublin, but must be prepared to visit regularly during the case study fieldwork and to facilitate the workshops.

Will maintain the intellectual and creative rights to the works produced.

Maynooth University and the project will have the right to publish about and exhibit the commissioned work.

Display and publication of the produced works must acknowledge the project funding, including all necessary logos.

The University has the right to terminate the contract due to poor performance.

Application procedure

All applications must be made via the MU Online Recruitment Portal at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/vacancies

To make an application, you should provide, <u>within a single document</u>

A cover letter explaining: your key achievements to date; why you would like to be considered for the role; your facilitation experiences; and indicative ideas of what you would like to work on (no more than 3 pages).

A CV and portfolio of previous works (no more than 15 pages).

If there is an issue with uploading please contact recruitment@mu.ie

Key Dates

Closing Date: 23.30hrs (local Irish time) on Monday 13th February 2023

Interviews will be held early March 2023.

Kitchin, R. (2023) Arts-based methods for researching digital life. *Data Stories Working Paper 1*. https://mural.maynoothuniversity.ie/16870/

Q&A