

# Narratives in Design - toolkit

Silvia Grimaldi



where it comes from  
D&E conference 2012  
submitted reworked version of my  
RF3

Had lots of interesting conversations  
that started quite a few longer term  
partnerships

One of these was with Steven  
Fokkinga



Grimaldi, S., 2012. *Cinematic Narratives of Product Interaction Experiences. Methods for Cross-Media Fertilisation of the Design Process*, in: Proceedings of 8th International Design and Emotion Conference London 2012 Central Saint Martins College of Arts & Design. London.



## TU Delft Study Trip November 2013

Steven organised the workshop inviting also Ioana, and organising a series of meetings with researchers at Delft about the project as well as skype meetings with other researchers.

“PhD car wash” for our individual PhDs as well.

Presented this project and our PhDs at the end of the third day to the ID Studiolab in TU Delft.



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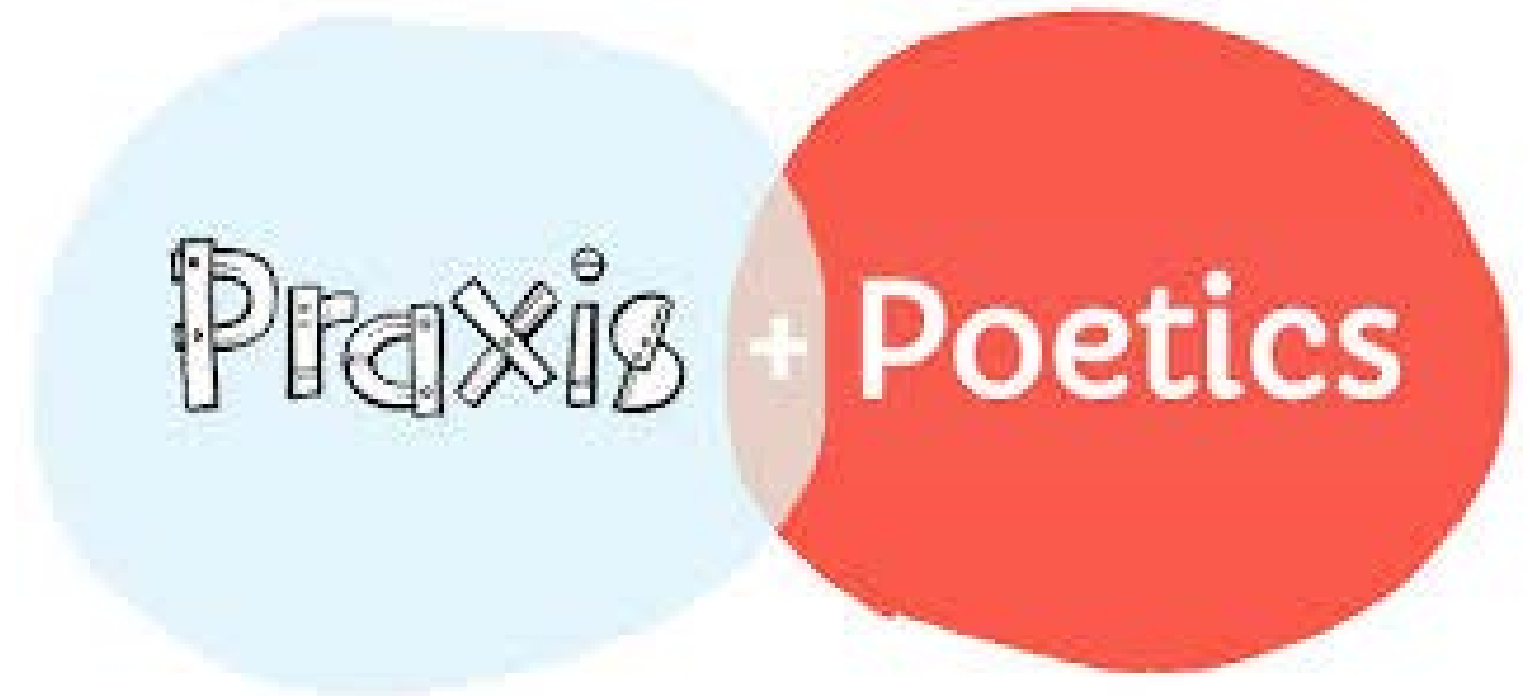
[ioana.ocnarescu@gmail.com](mailto:ioana.ocnarescu@gmail.com)

## DPPI 2013

Then continued to work through Google Hangouts to write paper

Paper submitted to CHI 2013 (not got in) and to DPPI 2013 (got in)

Great feedback there - decided to bring it further . Steven and Ioana were busy getting their PhDs, so I carried it further



Grimaldi, S., Fokkinga, S., Ocnareescu, I., 2013. *Narratives in Design : A Study of the Types , Applications and Functions of Narratives in Design Practice*, in: *Praxis + Poetics DPPI2013*. Presented at the DPPI 2013 Designing Pleasureable Products and Interfaces, ACM, Newcastle upon Tyne & Gateshead, UK, pp. 201–210.

# Narratives in Design Toolkit

2014

reframed the project from a pedagogic and research point of view - the idea is that it should be a tool for designers to aid in the design process.

Research project grant from LCC to turn it into a toolkit and test it





## Testing the Toolkit

2014

with:

MA Narrative Environments, CSM  
MDES Service Design Innovation, LCC  
MA Information Experience Design,  
RCA  
MA Graphic Design, LCC  
Workshop, Ateliers UX, FLUPA, Paris  
Design Fictions course for MA Design  
students, Kolding Design School, DK

basis of Erasmus teaching exchange  
with Kolding Design School, DK



## **Next steps**

2014

The original paper was reworked into 2 chapters for my confirmation document (practice review and part of the literature review).

Journal paper (in progress).

Promote it to be used on courses.

# Narratives in Design - toolkit



**Who** (creator and audience)

**When** (design process or user experience)

**Where** (internal to artefact or external)

**Why** (what does the narrative do or achieve)

**What** (what type of narrative is used)



**Dunne and Raby**  
Nipple Chair

part of the Placebo Project



# Dunne and Raby Nipple Chair

part of the Placebo Project



# WHO

CREATOR → AUDIENCE

User → User

User → Designer

Designer → Designer

Designer → User



# Dunne and Raby Nipple Chair

part of the Placebo Project



WHEN

In the design process

In the user experience





# Dunne and Raby Nipple Chair

part of the Placebo Project



**WHERE**

Internal to the object

External to the object



# Dunne and Raby Nipple Chair

part of the Placebo Project



## WHY

Communication & Conveying Information

Evoking Reflectivity

Showing & Teaching Values

Empathy, Identification & Bypassing Social Structures

Imagination & Creativity

Memorability

Engaging & Delighting

Persuading

Cohesion & Comprehension



# Dunne and Raby Nipple Chair

part of the Placebo Project



# WHAT

Minimal Narrative

Sequenced Narrative

Logically Sequenced Narrative

Value-Laden Narrative

Entertainment Narrative





# Examples to analyse in the workshop

**Studio Weave**  
Freya and Robin



**Gaver, Dunne, Piacenti**  
Dream Recorder

part of the Cultural Probes





**Glenn and Walker**  
Rubber Band Gun

part of the Significant Objects Project



**Rokos**

My Other Half



# Narratives in Design - toolkit



More info at <https://narrativesindesign.wordpress.com/>

Any questions or comments or to order toolkits to use in your classes [s.grimaldi@lcc.arts.ac.uk](mailto:s.grimaldi@lcc.arts.ac.uk)

Original paper at [https://www.academia.edu/4506199/Narratives\\_in\\_Design\\_a\\_study\\_of\\_the\\_types\\_applications\\_and\\_functions\\_of\\_narratives\\_in\\_design\\_practice](https://www.academia.edu/4506199/Narratives_in_Design_a_study_of_the_types_applications_and_functions_of_narratives_in_design_practice)