

## Andrew McNiven - Crypto-erotic Promenade

The participant(s) will be provided with an audio recording of an erotic short story and will walk the street listening to this privately on headphones for the duration of the story (c. 5 minutes).

The participants will be situated within everyday space but will, it is hoped, be provoked into a state of arousal by the story. This altered state will not be perceived by others in the street, affording the participant an intimate and sensual experience, traversing the invisible barrier between the private and the public, the taboo and the acceptable.



*Audio file: Crypto-erotic Promenade*

### Reports:

#### **Steef:**

The experience was narrative. It didn't feel so much like something that happened to me, but rather something that was told to me.

I didn't feel part of it. Because it was someone else's experience, but also because it was an experience from a very different cultural (American) background. I could not empathise with the narrator.

In addition, the experience with earplugs seems to be private in itself. You are aware that this is not audible to those around you, so it doesn't really become embarrassing or uncomfortable. The two worlds are and remain separate.

I think a publicly audible form works more intensely. Discussing something so private openly would make it more vulnerable and uncomfortable.

This form remains too safe and creates too much distance. A distance between speaker and listener, but also a distance between listener and surroundings.

#### **Safanja:**

There were technical problems, so I could only listen to the first few minutes. It was a strange experience because I felt a little naughty. It became embarrassing when I looked a child in the eyes. I quickly looked away at the paving stones.