

HUT: CREATING AN AUTHENTICALLY HUMAN SMART HOME

How can technology improve our living conditions? How will we interact with tomorrow's smart housing? What information can and should be shared? What is the regulatory context for data?

The Human at Home (HUT1) project focuses on these questions through an "apartment-observatory," lived-in since October 2018. As a member of the research consortium, Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole supports this project, which fits naturally into the Smart City initiative.

HUT is a unique scientific project, notably thanks to a broad diversity of involved partners, the variety of disciplines represented, and its global approach revolving around people.

Two volunteer students moved into an "apartment-observatory", a living lab for about sixty researchers, including legal specialists, economists, electronic engineers, computer scientists, architects, and specialists in language and behavioral sciences, marketing, and health. While they do not physically enter the space, the researchers carefully analyze the data produced by the live-in "HUT-mates."

- ◆ In the apartment, pressure sensors installed under the flooring, and motion detectors present in some rooms, are used to evaluate the occupants' movements and gestures in their living space, providing information that interests both architects and health professionals.

- ◆ Other sensors for monitoring pollution, cupboard and window opening-closing, and water and electricity consumption will be very helpful for imagining new

types of services. Linguists and cognitive science specialists will study how the occupants interact with "smart" systems.

- ◆ Research also focuses on managing the data produced by connected objects, both in technical terms and with respect to ethical and legal aspects.

The first residents will move out of the apartment in the summer of 2019. It will then be "reformatted" based on results from the first phase and new ideas for research, before being offered again free-of-charge to two new volunteer students.

In parallel with the long-term experiment carried out in the HUT apartment-observatory, the consortium also benefits from a modular platform at the "Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Sud" (House of Human Sciences, South), set up in several rooms for conducting experiments during the day.



The HUT research project consortium unites a variety of stakeholders, including public authorities (Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole), nine companies (Delided, EDF, Nexity, OCEASOFT, SensDigital, Synox, Weda, Enedis, Ikea), a dance association with an artistic research-creation project ("Comme ça"), alongside the "Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Sud" (House of Human Sciences) and 12 University of Montpellier research laboratories.

The project benefits from support from the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Sud, as well as funding from the CNRS Mission for Interdisciplinary Actions and Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole.

An independent ethics committee was also set up to protect the privacy of the live-in "HUT-mates".

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“FABRE AND THE CITY” – A NEW WEB SERIES THAT TALKS ABOUT THE MUSEUM DIFFERENTLY

Fabre and the City is a digital web series that brings visitors and curiosity seekers behind the scenes at the Fabre museum, right into the intimate lives of artworks. This project further anchors the museum to its territory in an innovative manner, while immersing us in its history.

The Montpellier illustrator Cédric Bez, known as Cé Pé, was inspired to launch this project by the exhibition “The Museum before the Museum, the Montpellier Fine Arts Society,” bringing us back to experience the times of the Montpellier Fine Arts

Society and Montpellier during the Age of Enlightenment. The museum developed a graphical web series that combines fiction with a scientific narrative to present the story in several episodes to reach as many people as possible, and to present itself with a modern and dynamic image.

After all the episodes have been released, a second application will be launched to give people access to a geolocated tour guided by Abraham Fontanel, art merchant and founder of the Fine Arts Society in Montpellier’s artistic 18th century. The tour offers a fifteen-stop immersion into

the Age of Enlightenment, enriched with historical texts, illustrations from the period, and works of art that come to life to talk about their experiences back in that time.

Content will be relayed to the application through beacons installed close to the historical sites in question. Developed as part of the Smart City concept, application content is deployed throughout the city via NFC (near-field communications) tags and beacons, a technological backdrop for the Smart City, implemented around the territory by Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole.

This journey through time is possible thanks to the Smart City’s digital mesh connectivity:

- ◆ A web application that relays the 7 episodes in the series via NFC tags installed along public transportation lines and stations around the area. A genuine graphical web series, the web application stages a selection of artworks presented during the “Museum before the Museum” exhibition. We follow their encounters and flashbacks, during which they recall their history and the scenes they experienced in various places in Montpellier during the Age of Enlightenment.
- ◆ A geolocated mobile web application (available for free on online app stores) providing access to the episodes in the series, along with a tour of Montpellier’s historical sites and monuments from the 18th century. A fifteen-stop journey into the Age of Enlightenment, enriched with historical texts and vintage illustrations!

For the broadest possible distribution, the mechanism was designed with a cross-media focus, with each social network having its own editorial content providing complementary details:

- ◆ On Twitter, a quiz to determine which artwork character in the series most closely resembles the person answering questions.
- ◆ On Instagram, regular posts offer a behind-the-scenes look at how the series was made and illustrations created.
- ◆ On Facebook, real testimonials by Fabre museum employees will showcase changes in the museum’s activities, and more generally, differences between artistic life in the 18th century and today.

Partners: Opixido, Synox, Connectings, and Montpellier universities.



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