College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences

Department of Film and Television Research

****

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

**Online Survey**

The research ethics approval has been obtained from the relevant Research Ethics Committee.

# Study title

Windows of Fantasy: The Significance of Science Fiction and Fantasy Film and Television Posters

You have been asked to partake in my PhD research study. Before you decide to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Feel free to ask me if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

I am a science-fiction and/or fantasy fan and have been since I was 10 years old watching the new series of *Doctor Who* in 2005 with my family and I was hooked. At the time the walls of my room were white and blank, so I infused my love for science-fiction and fantasy with my love of art with science-fiction and fantasy posters. Over the years I have gained a collection of science-fiction and fantasy posters ranging from *Star Wars*, *Marvel*, *Doctor Who* and *DC*, which I have stored or displayed all over my bedroom as well as on my digital devices such as desktop and phone. Therefore, I choose to do my PhD around my love of science-fiction and fantasy posters so I could talk to other science-fiction and fantasy posters fans like yourself and apply an academic lens.

# What is the purpose of the study?

I am exploring the significance science fiction and fantasy posters have for those who display or collect them – what meanings, if any, they might have for you and the reasons why you might collect or display them on your walls or anywhere else.

# **Why have I been invited to participate?**

You have been invited via Zoom meeting(s), social media posts, email and/or the researcher’s website to partake in this online survey.

You have been selected because…

* You are an **adult** (18 - 80)
* You can **read** and **speak** **English.**
* You own **science-fiction** **and/or** **fantasy** **poster(s)**
  + From **film**(s) and/or **television** show(s)
  + Are **fanart** (i.e., are posters created by fans as a form of artwork of a film and or TV Show) and/or **official** (i.e., are posters designed and produced by the company that owns the film and or TV Show as a form of marketing)
  + In **physical** (i.e., paper, card, canvas etc) and/or **digital** (i.e., wallpaper on devices such as a laptop, tablet, desktop, and mobile phone) format.

You have been invited because your views and insights will be useful in understanding the significance of science-fiction and/or fantasy posters for individuals and groups as a source of cultural significance and meaning. The online survey will involve at least 50 participants although the intention is to aim for 100.

If you have any questions about this study, you can ask via my university email: [Rhianna.Morse@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:Rhianna.Morse@brunel.ac.uk)

If you want more information about this study, please visit this study’s website: <https://www.windowsoffantasy.com/>

If you decide to take part, you will be asked to sign a consent form.

# **Do I have to take part?**

The participation of this study is entirely voluntary; it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be given this information sheet to keep and you will be asked to complete a consent form. As this is an are anonymous online survey, once you have submitted your results, you will be unable to withdraw.

# **What does the Online Survey involve?**

There are **3** ways you can complete the online survey based upon the poster type you want to answer questions about:

1. Only **physical** science-fiction and/or fantasy poster(s)
2. Total questions: **25 questions**
3. Length: **25-30 minutes**
4. Only **digital** science-fiction and/or fantasy poster(s)
5. Total questions: **22 questions**
6. Length: **25-30 minutes**
7. **Both** physical and digital science-fiction and/or fantasy poster(s)
8. Total questions: **34 questions**
9. Length: **30-40 minutes**

Again, please choose the one of these 3 ways that is most relevant to you. The online survey will be made available from **22nd July** to **28th February 2023.**

Only physical and only digital science-fiction and/or fantasy poster(s) are similar in questions but have questions that are specific to physical and digital posters. The questions are structured questions with answers set out as multiple-choice tick boxes. The questions span:

* Your poster(s) (e.g., the size, material, how many you have etc.)
* In the possible ways your poster(s) are significant and meaningful to you
* Yourself such national identity, age, religion, disability, social class, gender and ethnicity. This is useful to this study, but you can choose not to disclose all or any of this if you prefer.

After completing the online survey, you will be asked if you would like to take part in a follow-up interview. To which you will be asked to provide your email address. When you provide contact details (e.g., email address), your survey responses will no longer be anonymous to the researcher and the answers that you have given will form part of the subsequent interview. Once you have provided your email, the researcher will email to confirm that you are willing to partake in an interview. The researcher will later email you again to arrange a suitable date/time/location for conducting the interview.

If you wish to no longer partake in the interview, you can email the researcher, but your online survey data cannot be withdrawn but the identify to your data will be removed.

# Are there any lifestyle restrictions?

There are no lifestyle restrictions relevant to this study.

# What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

There are no anticipated disadvantages or risks associated with taking part in this study.

# What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There will be no intended benefit to you from taking part in the study.

# What if something goes wrong?

If you are harmed by taking part in this research project, there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone’s negligence, then you may have grounds for a legal action, but you may have to pay for it.

The person to contact if you wish to complain about the experience to The Chair of the College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences at Brunel, David Gallear, email [CBASS-ethics@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:CBASS-ethics@brunel.ac.uk) .

# **Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?**

None of your personal identifying data (e.g., name) are collected in the online survey. However, unless you wish to partake in a longer more in-depth interview on this topic, which you will be asked at the end of the survey to provide your email address. When you provide contact details (e.g., email address), your survey responses will no longer be anonymous to the researcher and the answers that you have given will form part of the subsequent interview. Once you have submitted your answers you will be unable to withdraw your data from the study. With your permission, anonymised data and the data from those whom choose to partake in the interview will be stored and may be used in future research – you can indicate whether or not you give permission for this by way of the Consent Form. If you wish to no longer partake in the interview, you can email me, but your online survey data cannot be withdrawn but the identify to your data will be removed.

All the data gathered in this study will be stored and secure password protected storage services provided by Brunel University London in the folder called ‘PhD Thesis’ which are all password protected. These services are…

* Brunel University London Personal ‘OneDrive’ (Online cloud account) account
* Brunel server personal account (As backup storage)

These storage services are accessed on the researcher’s personal devices …

* Laptop
* Desktop/main computer
* Mobile (app)

The data will also be backup on the researchers personal devices as well. These being…

* Laptop
* Desktop/main computer
* A USB extended hard drive.

For any physical data collected such as sheets, notes will be stored in a bind folder in a locker. All the physical data will be digitalised and stored as discussed above. All information, data and personal data which are collected during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential will be stored until the researchers’ course end date 30th September 2023, after will be deleted and/or shredded.

If during the course of the research, evidence of harm or misconduct come to light, then it may be necessary to break confidentiality. The researcher will tell you at the time if we think we need to do this and will let you know what will happen next.

# Will I be recorded, and how will the recording be used?

No recording will be made as part of this study.

# What will happen to the results of the research study?

The research data will be coded (for anonymity) and analysed by the researcher before written up as part of my PhD thesis and other academic outputs such as conference or journal papers. The anonymised research data may also be shared with other researchers for further analysis, but at no point will any uniquely identifiable data be shared. If you take part in this research, you can obtain a copy of the publication by contacting me.

# Who is organising and funding the research?

The research is being undertaken by Rhianna Morse, in conjunction with Brunel University London and self-funded.

# What are the indemnity arrangements?

Brunel University London provides appropriate insurance cover for research which has received ethical approval.

# Who has reviewed the study?

This study has been reviewed by the College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences.

# Research Integrity

*Brunel University London is committed to compliance with the Universities UK* [*Research Integrity Concordat*](http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/policy-and-analysis/reports/Documents/2012/the-concordat-to-support-research-integrity.pdf)*. You are entitled to expect the highest level of integrity from the researcher during the course of this project.*

# Contact for further information or any complaints

Researcher name: Rhianna Morse

PhD Researcher, Film and Television Studies, Brunel University London

Email: [Rhianna.Morse@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:Rhianna.Morse@brunel.ac.uk)

Principal Supervisor: Professor Geoff King

Email: [geoff.king@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:geoff.king@brunel.ac.uk)

# For complaints and questions about the conduct of the Research

For Complaints the details are: The Chair of the College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences at Brunel, David Gallear, email [CBASS-ethics@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:CBASS-ethics@brunel.ac.uk).