



SOCIAL TAPESTRIES
Public Authoring and Civil Society

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Social Tapestries is a two year research project developing experimental uses of public authoring to demonstrate the social and cultural benefits of local knowledge sharing enabled by new mobile & wireless technologies.

These playful and challenging experiments will build upon the Urban Tapestries framework developed by Proboscis. Through collaborations and partnerships with other civil society organisations we will address education, social housing, community arts and local government.

By designing and implementing a series of experiments in real world situations, Social Tapestries will aim to reveal the potential of public authoring to:

- create and support relationships that transcend existing social and cultural boundaries;
- enable the development of new social and creative practices based around place, identity and community;
- reveal the potential costs as well as benefits.

The areas we are planning to explore are:

education:

looking at how local informal knowledges can be gathered, represented, understood and shared by schoolchildren.

community arts:

working with artists as facilitators for local communities in regeneration contexts.

social housing:

exploring how new forms of neighbourliness could emerge where existing physical structures (such as tower blocks) create barriers.

local government:

assessing the impacts on communities of locally specific information gathered by municipal and police services.

The Social Tapestries experiments will offer a platform to devise and understand actual uses of public authoring by people going about their everyday lives.

a proboscis project in partnership with the media & communications dept, london school of economics
funded by arts council england and the calouste gulbenkian foundation



proboscis

www.urbantapestries.net/socialtapestries.html

