

## Mobile Apps as an artistic expression at M.A.L. (Mobile Art Lab) from HANGAR

The four selected projects deal with geolocation, visual mapping and augmented reality.

The first edition of the **Mobile Art Lab (M.A.L.)**, a workshop for artists, programmers and creators collectives that work using mobile devices as a tool will take place from October 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> in Hangar. The M.A.L. aims to create a workspace for reflection and research and to lay the foundations for a permanent experimental laboratory for visual artists. The development of projects at this call will be the beginning of a long road ahead with many others.

M.A.L. laboratory is a newly created project designed by Antoni Abad and Lluís Gómez i Bigordà, whose objective is to encourage artistic creation and research in the areas of mobile, locative media, visual and auditory mapping, augmented reality, community participation and social networks. The M.A.L. workshop is part of the European cultural cooperation project on mobility, art, new technologies and urban realities MOB.

For this first edition there have been selected three creative projects and another one was included from the call "Aparadors i Pantalles" of ACVIC. All of them will result in various mobile applications that use geolocation, augmented reality and social networks, among other tools.

Marc Antoni Malagarriga i Picas develops the application "**La màquina d'escriure de Google Maps**" a writing app by "geoglyphs", letters found in the satellite views of Google Maps. The alphabets used are formed by geographical features and urban nature, writing living characters sensitive to the space and time.

Tactical Tourism Collective proposes "**The Anarchistic Route**", an application to discover, by geolocation and augmented reality, the libertarian history of Barcelona through places where there is no longer a tangible trace.

Sandra Garcia Piñero works "**The Silencemeter**", a surprising application to locate the nearest places of calm for those moments when the user wants to escape from the overwhelming noise. Adjusting the amount of noise to be tolerated and the distance you are willing to go, the application finds a haven of peace for reflection, even within the city. Finally, the collective Y1m generates "**Re\_collectors**", an application that records the itinerary of a collector of junk, thus reflecting one of the most precarious social situations that, however, is part of an organized economic system.

The workshop consists of 3 tutors: **Antoni Abad**, artist and creator of the project Megaphone (<http://www.megafone.net/>), **Roc Parés**, artist and researcher in interactive communication ([http://www.dtic.upf.edu/~rparés/principal\\_EN.html](http://www.dtic.upf.edu/~rparés/principal_EN.html)) and **Sander Veenhof**, artist working in new models of interaction and communication, with a particular emphasis on mobile augmented reality and collective participation (<http://sndrv.nl>).

In the selection of projects and technical coordination of the workshop intervenes **Lluís Gómez i Bigordà**, programmer. Manager of the Free Software Technology node at Hangar Area (<http://www.artefacte.org>)

### About Hangar

Hangar is a center for artistic research and production located in the district of Poble Nou in Barcelona. Founded in 1997 by the Association of Visual Artists of Catalonia (AAVC), its objective is to support designers and artists and to offer services to suit the production needs that arise in the world of creation. Hangar is funded by contributions from the Generalitat de Catalunya, Barcelona City Council, the Ministry of Culture, the Provincial Council of Barcelona and the Banc de Sabadell Foundation. <http://hangar.org>

### About MOB

MOB is an exchange program of artist residencies, workshops, lectures and artistic events that takes place during the 2011 in five European cities: Barcelona, Paris, Prague, Warsaw and Timisoara.

MOB associates are: Dèdale, SmartCity (Paris, France), CIANT (Prague, Czech Republic), Hangar (Barcelona, Spain), Moving Closer Festival (Warsaw, Poland), Festival Strad'Art (Timisoara, Romania), Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris (Paris, France) and Videomedeja (Novi Sad, Serbia)

<http://www.mob-platform.eu>