WEB-BASED CONTENT AND MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Arran J. Rees
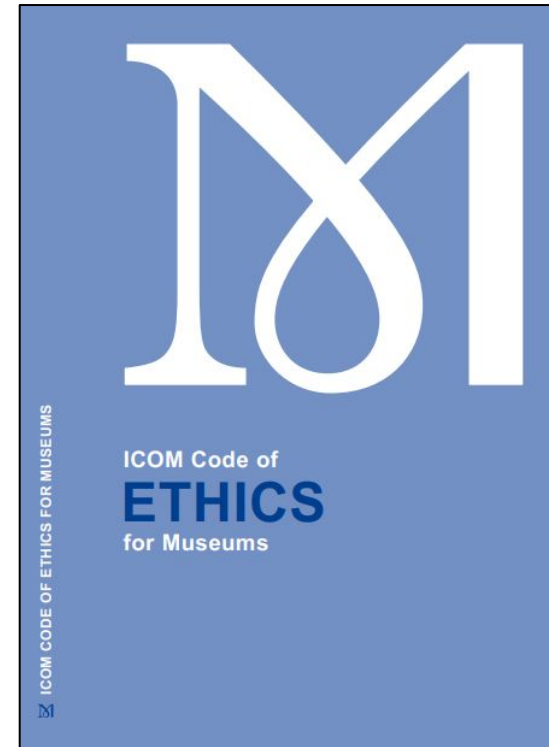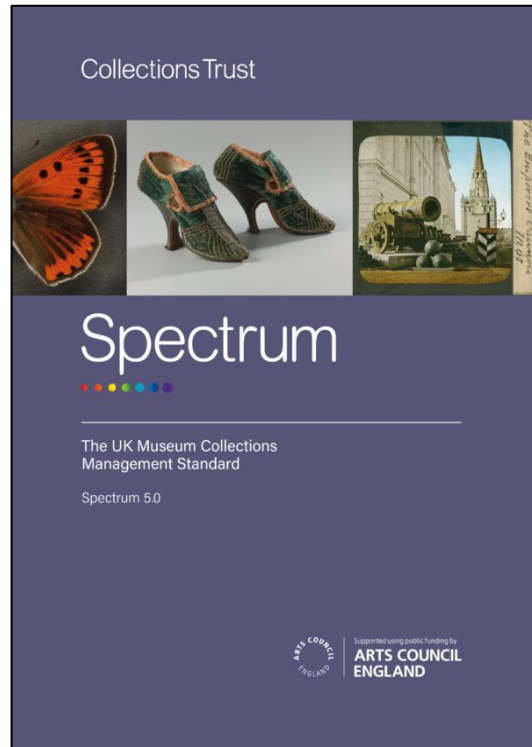
fhajr@leeds.ac.uk

@arranjrees

Museums collecting the web...

- There are relatively few examples of museums collecting web based and social media content, but an increasing awareness that it is important and a growing desire to experiment.

- Museum collections management standards do not address the particular challenges that web-based content presents.

- Large-scale archiving tools are not appropriate for most forms of museum collecting. Museums collecting web-based content would need to work on a smaller scale, with deep narratives and lots of context.

- Displays of web-based content can be creative and facilitated through commissions. They do not always have to be presented as artefacts.
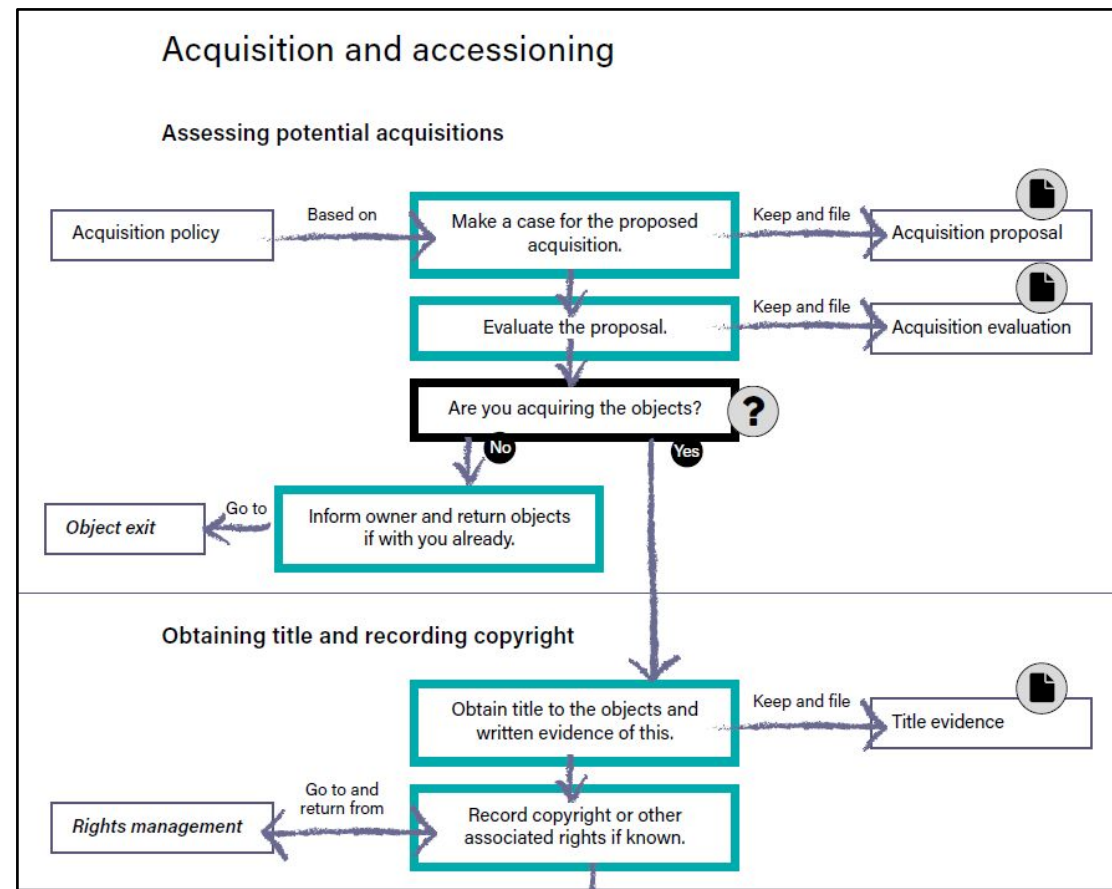
Museological standards

Collections Trust

Spectrum

The UK Museum Collections Management Standard

Spectrum 5.0

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

ICOM Code of ETHICS for Museums

Matters in Media Art

Acquisition   Documentation   Loan   Digital Preservation

Acquisition and accessioning

Assessing potential acquisitions

Acquisition policy — Based on → Make a case for the proposed acquisition. — Keep and file → Acquisition proposal

Evaluate the proposal. — Keep and file → Acquisition evaluation

Are you acquiring the objects? ?

No → Inform owner and return objects if with you already. — Go to → Object exit

Yes ↓

Obtaining title and recording copyright

Obtain title to the objects and written evidence of this. — Keep and file → Title evidence

Record copyright or other associated rights if known. — Go to and return from → Rights management

"You have written evidence that the undisputed owners of acquired objects have transferred title to your museum."

Museum of London

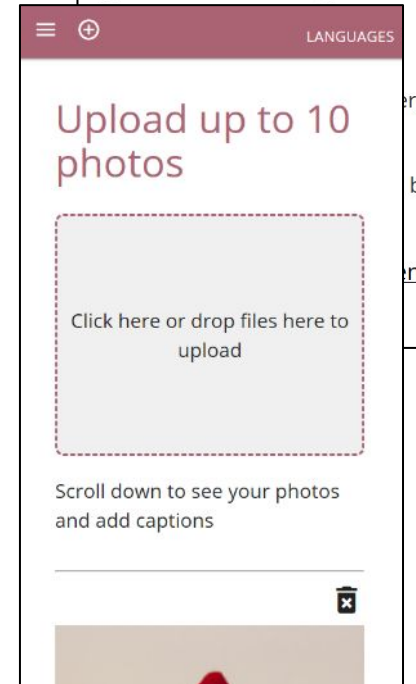# Victoria and Albert Museum

#collectingsocialphoto

LANGUAGES

NORDISKA MUSEET

Collecting
Social Photo

Select a license to choose how you want others sharing and using your image.

By submitting images I acknowledge that these photos are my own and that I have the right to upload them to this service

LANGUAGES

Upload up to 10 photos

Click here or drop files here to upload

Scroll down to see your photos and add captions

Mail · · · · 11.45 @ 52%

Kuva

leino.irja
Yayoi Kusama at Helsinki Art Museum

219 tykkäystä
leino.irja Yayoi Kusama
Mainio paikka.
#helsinki #näyttely #kusama #kuuluisa #taide

INSTA
SUOMI

Cataloguing

- Copy number.
- Dimension, including:
  - Dimension measured part (use a standard term source).
  - Dimension value.
  - Dimension value date (use a standard format).
  - Dimension measurement unit (use a standard term source).
- Edition number.
- Form (use a standard term source).
- Inscription content.
- Inscription description.
- Material (use a standard term source).
- Object status (use a standard term source).
- Phase (use a standard term source).
- Physical description.
- Sex (use a standard term source).
- Style (use a standard term source).
- Technical attribute (use a standard term source), including:
  - Technical attribute measurement.
  - Technical attribute measurement unit (use a standard term source).

OBJECT ID CHECKLIST

☐ **TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS**

Photographs are of vital importance in identifying and recovering stolen objects. In addition to overall views, take close-ups of inscriptions, markings, and any damage or repairs. If possible, include a scale or object of known size in the image.

☐ **ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:**

Type of Object
What kind of object is it (e.g., painting, sculpture, clock, mask)?

Materials & Techniques
What materials is the object made of (e.g., brass, wood, oil on canvas)? How was it made (e.g., carved, cast, etched)?

Measurements
What is the size and/or weight of the object? Specify which unit of measurement is being used (e.g., cm., in.) and to which dimension the measurement refers (e.g., height, width, depth).

Inscriptions & Markings
Are there any identifying markings, numbers, or inscriptions on the object (e.g., a signature, dedication, title, maker's marks, purity marks, property marks)?

Distinguishing Features
Does the object have any physical characteristics that could help to identify it (e.g., damage, repairs, or manufacturing defects)?

Title
Does the object have a title by which it is known and might be identified (e.g., The Scream)?

Subject
What is pictured or represented (e.g., landscape, battle, woman holding child)?

Date or Period
When was the object made (e.g., 1893, early 17th century, Late Bronze Age)?

Maker
Do you know who made the object? This may be the name of a known individual (e.g., Thomas Tompion), a company (e.g., Tiffany), or a cultural group (e.g., Hopi).

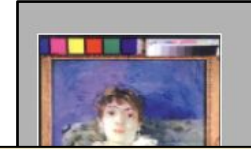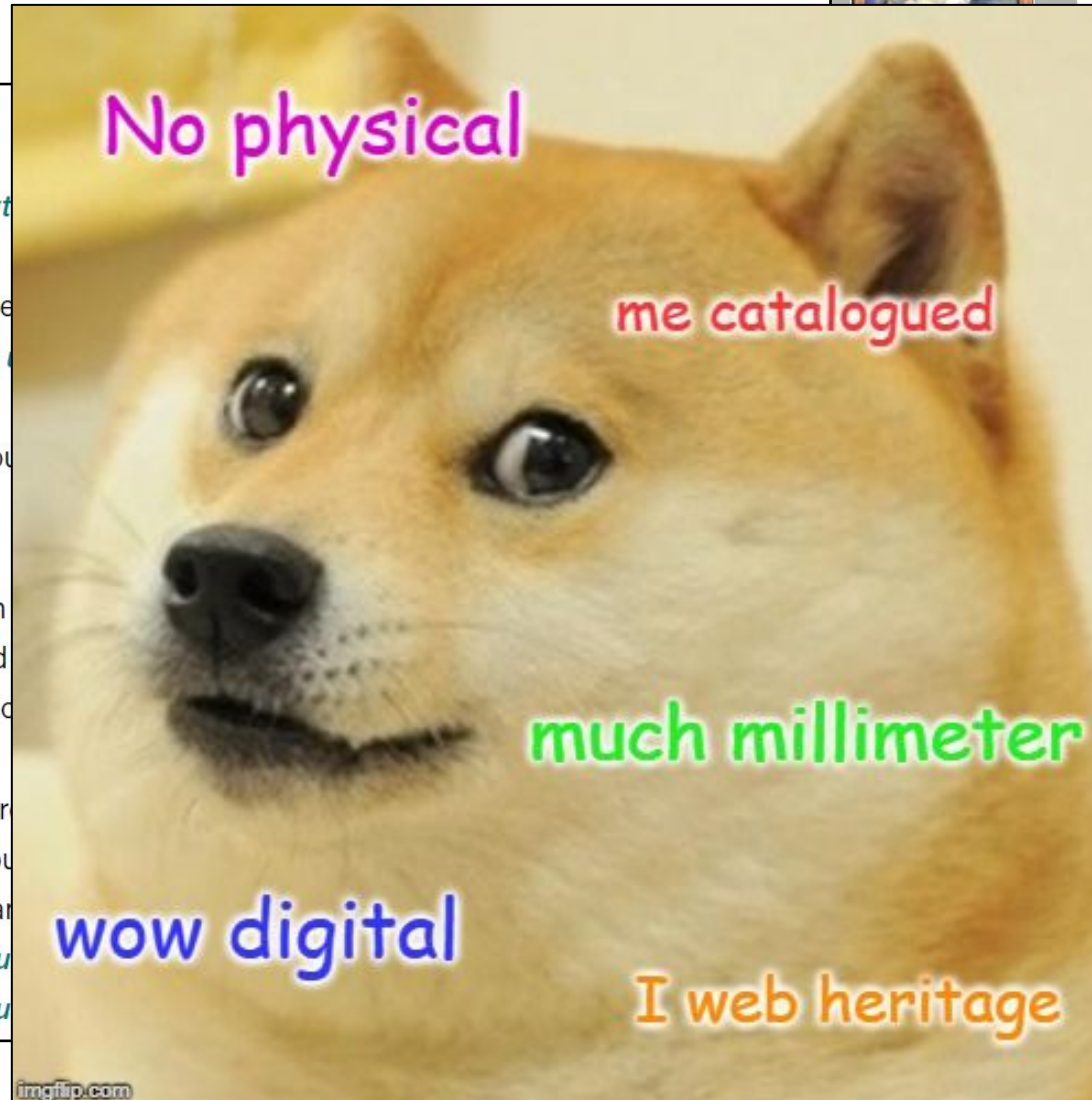☐ **WRITE A SHORT DESCRIPTION**

This can also include any additional information which helps to identify the object (e.g., color and shape of the object, where it was made).

☐ **KEEP IT SECURE**

Having documented the object, keep this information in a secure place.

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Technical attribute

Definition

A technical attribute possessed by an object which can be described and/or quantified.

How to record

Use a single term, without punctuation or capitalisation. Maintain a list of standard terms.

Examples

magnetic tape type; record speed; light bulb wattage

Museum of Moving Image, New York

The Reaction GIF: Moving Image as Gesture. 2016.

© Jason Eppink
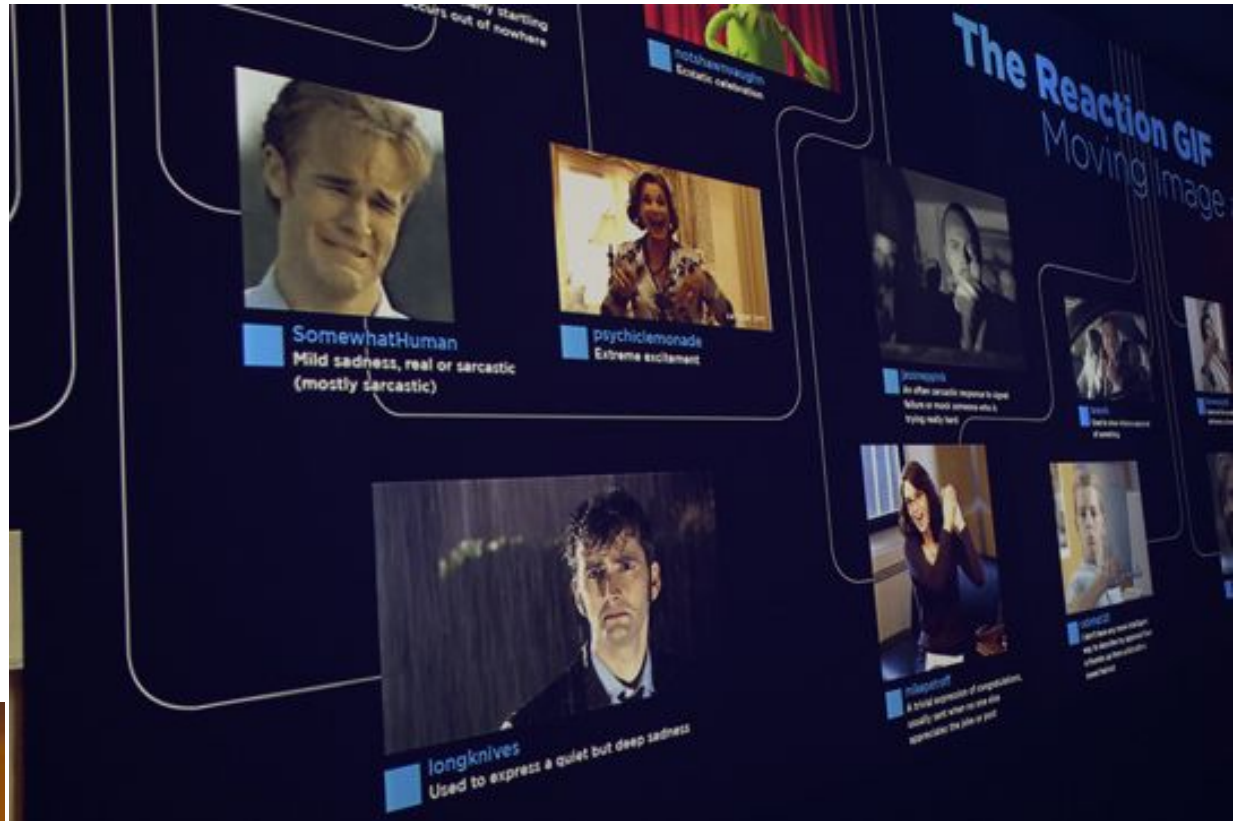
DIGITAL COMMISSION

Hashhush
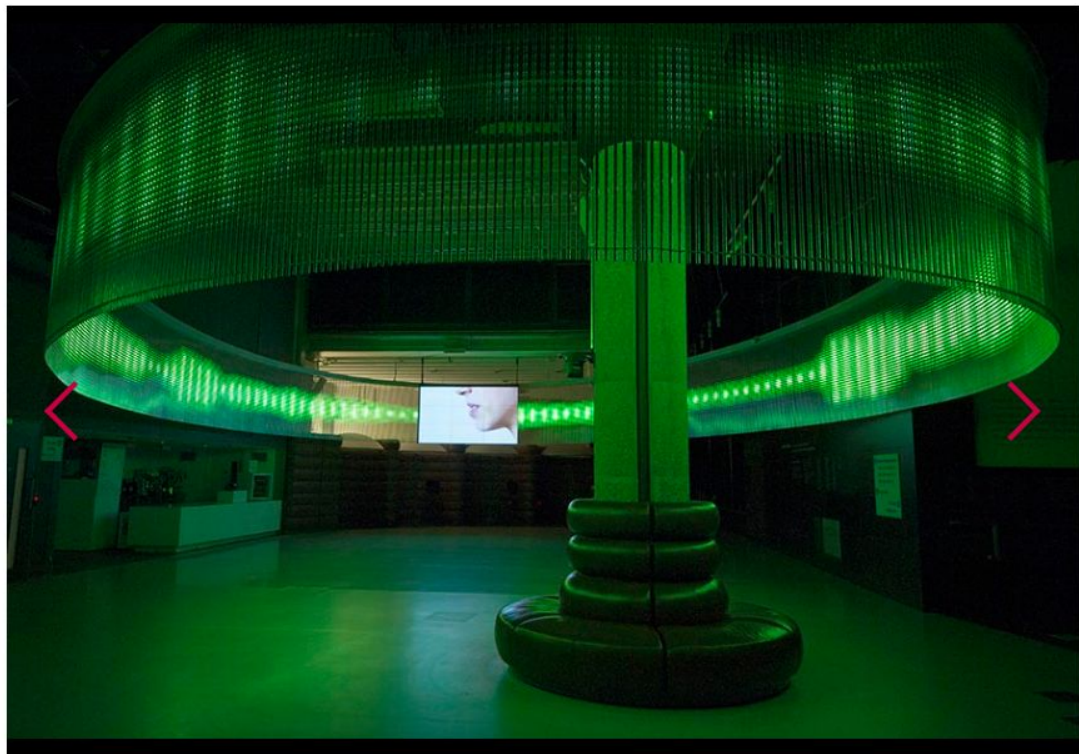
© Museum of London / Hilde Krohn Huse
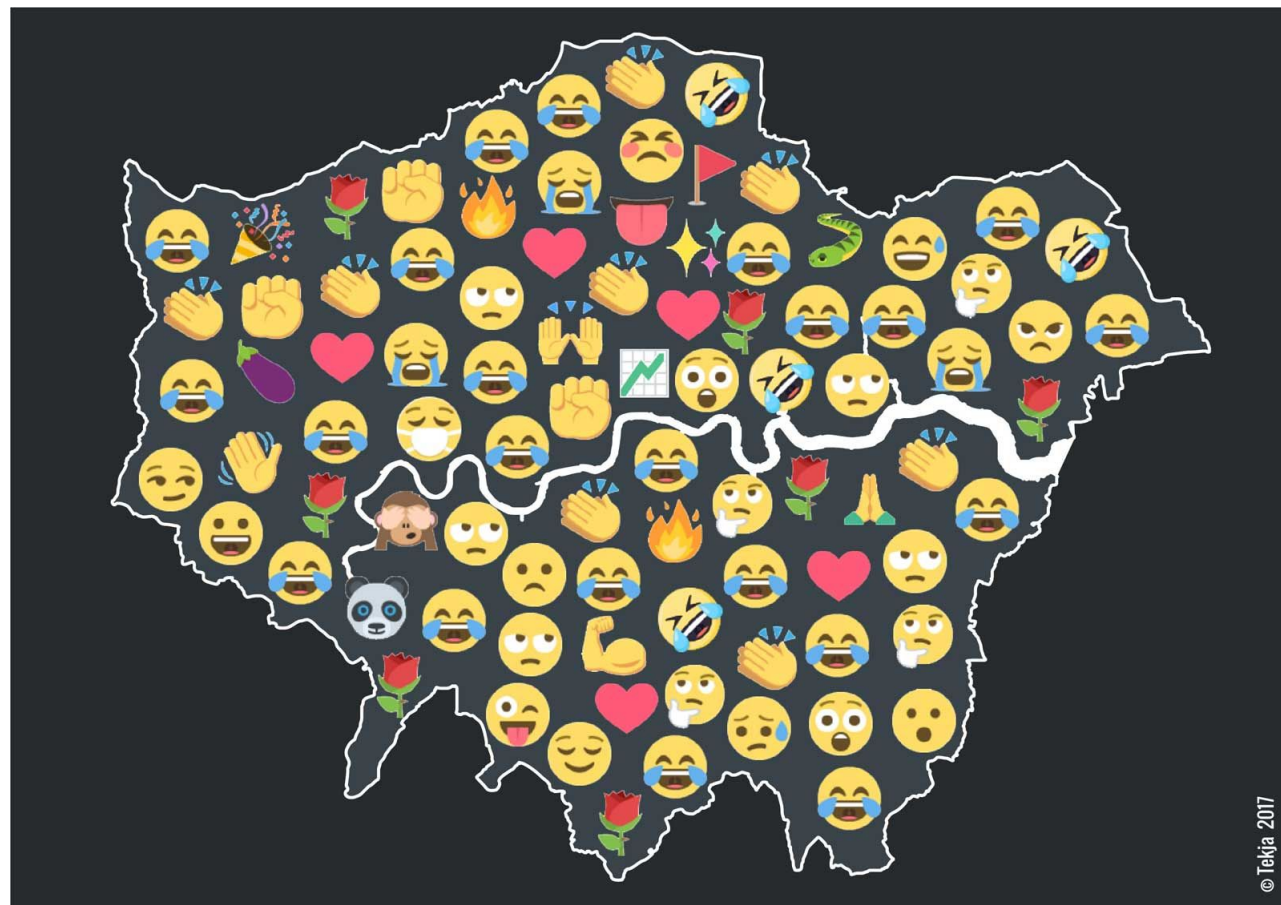
MUSEUM OF LONDON

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Net culture in the **museum**

MEMES

A Meme is a joke or an infectious idea which is passed around online. It can be copied or parodied and may evolve over time

Get them **thinking** ?

at their contributions will be recognised by a community of their peers. So long earn recognition it will continue to grow.' _Charles Leadbeater, author, 2008

NATIONAL SCIENCE AND MEDIA MUSEUM

All I know is what's on **the Internet**

THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' GALLERY

Amalia Ulman
Excellences and Perfections,
2014

Ulman at Performing for the Camera, Tate Modern 2016.
Image credit: ZARINAYUUU.
https://zarinarave.wordpress.com/2016/05/14/amalia-ulman-living-a-fake-luxurious-lifestyle-attracted-over-100k-followers-on-instagram/
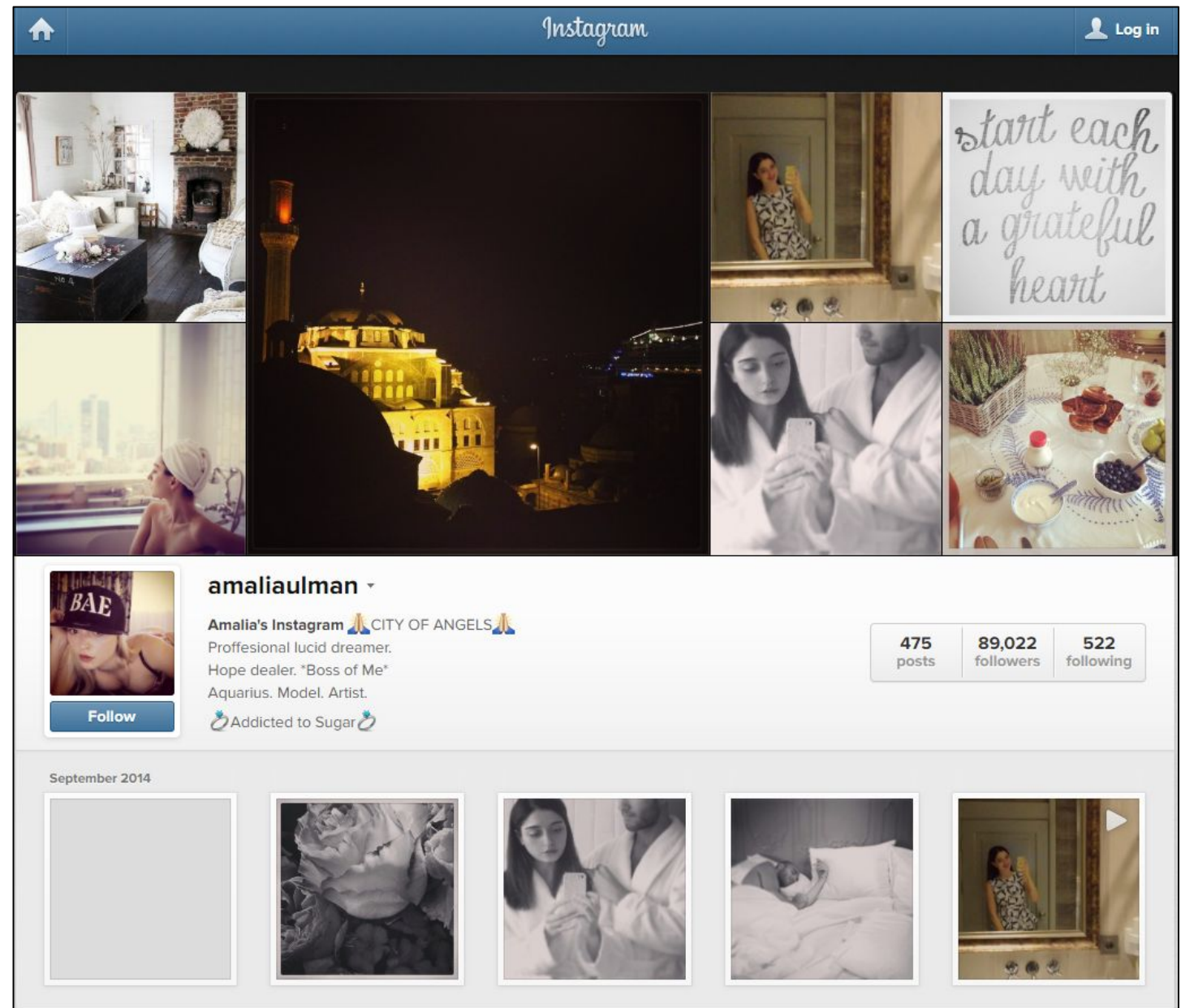
Ulman on Rhizome's 'webenact', 2014. https://webenact.rhizome.org/

V&A

https://ccdgp.co.uk/narratives.html