



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

## ***News Release***

Issued: 18 October 2016

---

### **Light and mist to transform city gardens into haunt for art lovers**

Ghostly presences, shadowy figures, and eerie sounds will haunt a city centre park next month as part of a critically acclaimed artwork.

Audiences will wander through George Square Gardens in Edinburgh, encountering characters projected on to trees, smoke and mist. Images will crawl over the landscape and around visitors.

Coming to Scotland for the first time, *The Influence Machine* is an immersive outdoor sculptural experience by American artist Tony Oursler.

*The Influence Machine* uses state-of-the-art digital projection techniques to capture the haunting atmosphere of magic lanterns, Victorian light shows, camera obscura and parlour tricks.

The show is part of the University's digital arts programme. It is free and will run from 23 to 26 November, between 7pm and 9pm.

Oursler is a graduate of California Institute of the Arts and pioneer of video art in early 1980s New York. He specialises in and radical experimentation using projection, animation, montage and live action.

*The Influence Machine* draws widely on art history, parapsychology, and neuroscience. Oursler has been inspired by how people use new technologies to try to communicate with the dead.

The artwork was commissioned and produced by Artangel in 2000 and is now part of The Artangel Collection, an initiative to bring outstanding film and video works to galleries and museums across the UK.

The Artangel Collection has been developed in partnership with the Tate Gallery in London. It is generously supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and The Foyle Foundation and uses public funding from Arts Council England.

---

*Ranked among the top universities in the world*



---

*Ranked among the top universities in the world*



---

*Ranked among the top universities in the world*



**For further information please contact:**

Edd McCracken, Press and PR Office, tel 0131 651 4400; email [edd.mccracken@ed.ac.uk](mailto:edd.mccracken@ed.ac.uk)

---

*Ranked among the top universities in the world*