

Warden's Annual Public Engagement Awards 2017

Celebrating excellence in public
engagement at Goldsmiths

18 May 2017



Table of Contents

2	Welcome
3	Running Order
4	Established Researcher category
4	Winner
6	Commendation
11	Early Career Researcher category
11	Winner
12	Commendation
16	Nominated
18	Postgraduate Researcher category
18	Winner
20	Commendation
24	Nominated



Welcome

Welcome to the Warden's Annual Public Engagement Awards ceremony at Goldsmiths, University of London. These awards recognise and celebrate the excellent work researchers at all career stages do with members of the public, whether they're sharing ground-breaking findings with new audiences or collaborating with the public throughout their research.

An exceptional range of innovative activities and projects were nominated by Goldsmiths staff, showcasing different approaches to engaging the public with research and practice. Our researchers worked with organisations like reddit, the V&A, Radio France, The Science Museum, and The National Archives to engage diverse audiences through music, performance, art and play.

There was a real sense that researchers, partners and the public benefited from this work, demonstrating how research in the arts, humanities, social sciences and computing can create real positive change in the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the nominees, whose work with the public is a real asset to Goldsmiths and an example to our community, and beyond.

Pat Loughrey
Warden of Goldsmiths



Running order

Warden's Annual Public Engagement Awards Ceremony **Richard Hoggart Building, Room 137**

- 17.00** Welcome by Pat Loughrey, Warden of Goldsmiths
- 17:05** Introduction by Professor Chris French, academic lead for public engagement
- 17.15** Professor David Oswell, Pro Warden for Research and Enterprise, presents the award and commendations in the category of Established Researcher
- 17.25** Dr Gordon Wright, Department of Psychology, presents the award and commendations in the category of Early Career Researcher
- 17.35** Dr Kat Jungnickel, Department of Sociology, presents the award and commendations in the category of Postgraduate Researcher
- 17.45** Closing remarks by Professor Chris French
- 17.50** Drinks reception in the Kingsway Corridor

Find out more about all of the nominated projects including the winners, commendations and nominees.

Established Researcher category

Winner

Dr Charlotte Faucher and Professor Richard Grayson for 'Francophones in London during the First World War' (History).

Anglo-Franco relations during the First World War took centre stage in this project led by historian Dr Charlotte Faucher in collaboration with Professor Richard Grayson. Working with school children, the project uncovered the lives of French speaking refugees and settled communities in London during the First World War, particularly in 1916.

The project was run in partnership with pupils and staff at the Lycée Français Charles de Gaulle in South Kensington and NewVic 6th Form College in Newham. It aimed to broaden historical perspectives on the First World War for the children of today's Francophone community in London, while developing their skills as historians.

The project was supported by Gateway to the First World War, an Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) First World War engagement centre, and the French government's First World War Centenary Partnership Programme.

Students conducted original primary-source research on this understudied topic, using sources including Francophone newspapers published in London, which historians had not previously explored. Concurrently, non-francophone pupils from NewVic 6th Form examined how the British press depicted Francophone communities and refugees.

Pupils from both schools have blogged about their findings in French and English, with some of the posts being transcriptions of archive documents and others being analytical reflections on the experiences of Francophone refugees in wartime Britain.



The main output of the project, a bi-lingual exhibition, was launched at Goldsmiths in September 2016. The launch event was attended by parents, teachers, French diplomatic staff, and journalists from both sides of the channel.

The project's findings have been covered by news outlets all over Europe, including in Greek, Hungarian, French and Belgian newspapers.

The project was particularly innovative in that it partnered English speaking pupils with French speakers in order to gain dual perspectives on a topic which bears so much contemporary relevance to the refugee crisis and Brexit.

Commendation

Dr Ashok Jansari for 'Facial Recognition Reddit AMA' (Psychology).

Research into facial recognition by Dr Ashok Jansari has proved that science and social media can be combined to make new strides in data collection.

Ashok is a Neuropsychologist from Goldsmiths' Department of Psychology and took to Reddit, the self-styled 'front page of the internet', to discuss his research on facial recognition and gather data.

Taking in extremes at either end of the facial recognition spectrum, Jansari discussed his work with people suffering from prosopagnosia, or face-blindness, who can find it difficult to recognise even close family members.

At the opposite extreme, he spoke of his work with London's Metropolitan Police, who are the first police force to deploy so called 'super-recognisers' to catch criminals.

In a matter of hours over 16,000 people took part in Ashok's online facial recognition test that he posted to the site, providing data that

could lead to a step change in facial recognition research.

The popularity of the AMA is testament to the extremely high levels of interest generated by the topic. The scores of personal exchanges between Jansari and redditors (members of the reddit community) demonstrate how a genuine dialogue can lead to new insights on both sides of the discussion.

5,642 people 'up-voted' the AMA, while over 650 potential 'super-recognizers' were identified by the online test.



Dr Caspar Addyman and Prof Lauren Stewart for ‘The Happy Song – A scientifically designed song for babies’ (Psychology).

In collaboration with Grammy winning musician Imogen Heap and with the support of C&G Baby Club, Professor Lauren Stewart and Dr Caspar Addyman from Goldsmiths’ Department of Psychology created the world’s first song scientifically designed and tested to make babies happy.

Working with the researchers, Imogen Heap composed four melodies to appeal to young babies which were played to babies in Goldsmiths’ InfantLab under experimental conditions. One melody was a clear favourite and



was expanded into a full song including interactive lyrics and funny sounds compiled from a survey of over 2000 parents.

A further round of lab testing refined the song and the final track was given to seven families who were filmed at home. The footage was used to create a music video by BAFTA winning director Michael Ferns from Pretzel films.

Since its launch in October 2016, The Happy Song has gone on to secure the number one spot on the iTunes children’s chart, with the music video gaining over 3 million views on YouTube. A documentary

following the making of the song has amassed 160,000 views, and the project has been reported on by publications such as *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *Daily Mail*, and the *BBC*.

The project was hugely popular, proving to be a testament to the effectiveness of engaged research and collaboration between the arts and sciences. Responses from parents whose children took part in the research were overwhelmingly positive, with one parent commenting on YouTube that his baby “loves the song, if he’s crying or fussy it calms him down. He can be screaming and I put the song on and he listens and starts smiling!”

Dr Kate Devlin for the ‘International Congress on Love and Sex with Robots and Sex Tech Hackathon’ (Computing).

Should taboo stifle innovation? This was the central question being asked at the Sex Tech Hackathon and the International Congress on Love and Sex with Robots, hosted by Dr Kate Devlin from Goldsmiths’ Department of Computing.

Run in collaboration with Hacksmiths, Goldsmiths’ student tech society, the Hackathon aimed to create exciting new ways to push the boundaries of how we view sex through the use of innovative technology. Hackathons are popular events in computing, where

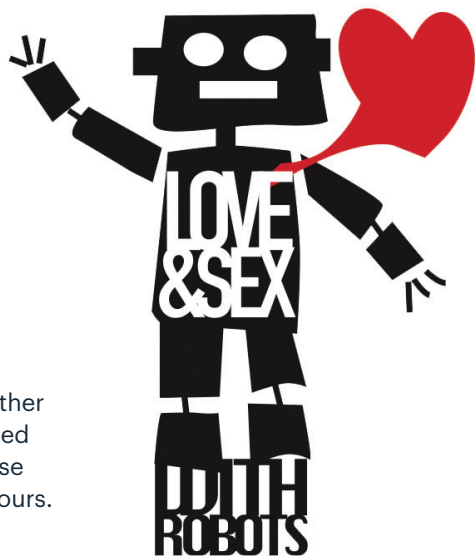
developers get together to produce prototyped systems for an intense period of up to 48 hours.

Kate and Hacksmiths teamed up to create an experimental retreat attended by 52 tech-savvy people of all abilities. The event was interdisciplinary and welcomed both novices and experts, with an emphasis on equality, diversity and accessibility in terms of both attendance and the end results.

£1400 in sponsorship and an additional £400 contributed by Goldsmiths’ Student Union ensured that all the hackers were well equipped with refreshments to keep them going throughout the session. Kate also

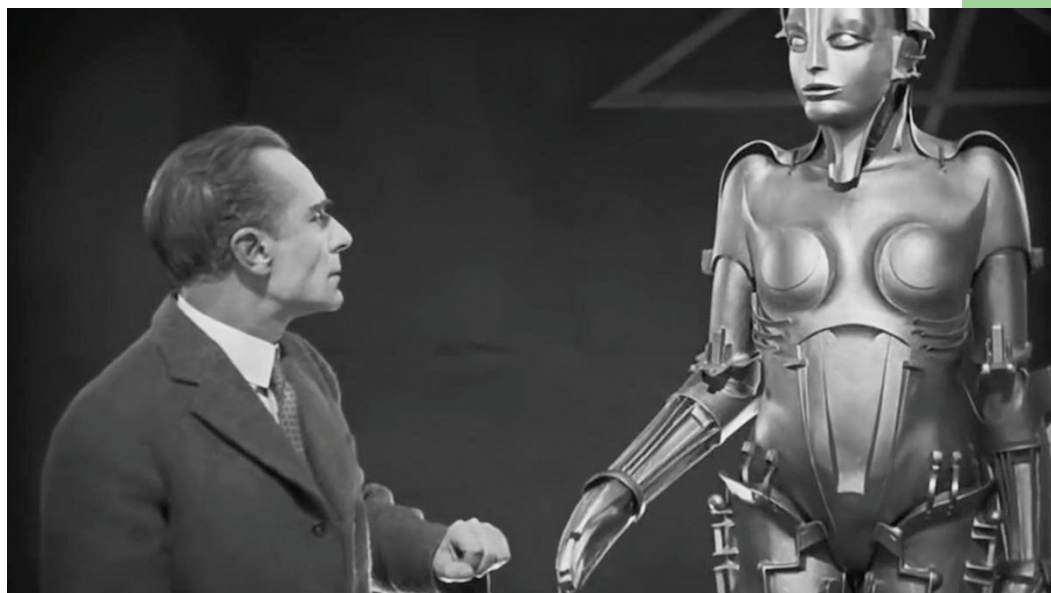
sourced prizes worth over £1000 for the best products with the help of industry participants such as Mystery Vibe, Hot Octopuss and Amorelie.

The ‘Congress on Love and Sex with Robots’, also hosted at Goldsmiths, brought together academics, researchers and industry to present on a diverse range of topics relating to sex technology. The programme included discussions on philosophy, media, technology and AI.



The conference attracted huge interest from people working in wide array of disciplines including tech development, design, psychology, art, materials science, robotics and

music. This was made possible by Kate's tireless efforts to make both events as welcoming as possible to people of all sexualities, abilities and backgrounds.





Early Career Researcher category

Winner

Dr Jasmine Hornabrook for 'Cultural Engagement and Knowledge Exchange between Music Research and London's Tamil Community' (Music).

Between February and May 2016, Dr Jasmine Hornabrook of Goldsmiths' Department of Music worked with the Tamil community in London on a musical and cultural collaboration project called 'Songs of the Saints: Tamil Traditions and New Creativities'.

Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), the project brought together the London Tamil Centre in Wembley and the London Sivan Temple in Lewisham to build connections between professional Carnatic musicians, Sri Lankan and

South Indian communities in London and students and composers at Goldsmiths Department of Music.

Jasmine worked closely with members of the Tamil community and key individuals who promote Tamil cultural and religious practice in London. This included the professional temple singer employed by the London Sivan Temple, Oduvar Sami Dhandapani, and professional Carnatic musicians in London, notably the renowned vocalist, Manipallavam K. Sarangan and the expert percussionist Paramasamy Kirupakaran.

The collaboration resulted in two concerts, one at Goldsmiths and one at the London Tamil Centre in Wembley,

engaging members of the Tamil diaspora, staff and students at Goldsmiths, students of the professional Carnatic musicians, and the broader public.

A website dedicated to the project was also created including a short edited film focusing on the creative process. Additionally, two peer reviewed journal articles have been written by Jasmine, as well as a presentation in May 2016 at the Malmö Academy of Music in Sweden.



Dr Sian Jones for her project on imagined contact and prejudice in children with disabilities at the London Science Museum (Psychology).

How powerful is your imagination? That was the question explored by the 900 children and 784 parents who participated in a project led by Dr Sian Jones at the London Science Museum's Wellcome Wing.

Involving 14 undergraduate and postgraduate researchers, the project examined imagined prejudice in relation to children with varying forms of physical and cognitive disabilities. The study engaged both young children and their carers through games, questionnaires, and demonstrations.

Children were asked about their friendship groups and their thoughts on children with disabilities in a simulated play scenario. They were then given toys representing themselves and were asked to choose toys that represented children with a range of disabilities, including a temporary cast, a hearing impairment, and autism.

The task allowed young children to see themselves and their peers with disabilities represented in play scenarios and helped to facilitate discussions between them and their parents.

Sian's project was highly innovative, fusing established research methods with 3D toys designed especially for the tasks. The findings

also helped consolidate the popular #toylkeme social media campaign, raising awareness about representation of disabilities in children's toys.

The project materials have since been translated into five languages and it has attracted media attention from the BBC, while Sian has continued to work closely with Playmobil.

By supporting children's practical and imaginative engagement with toys with disabilities, the project provoked consideration, changed perceptions, and challenged taboo.

Sue Mayo for 'The Gratitude Enquiry' (Theatre and Performance).

This three part arts project by Sue Mayo of Goldsmiths' Department of Theatre and Performance, sought to explore the theme of thankfulness. Sue collaborated with a team of six artists and a filmmaker with an important component of the project being artist development and reflection.

Research into gratitude indicates that the ability to feel thankful and to express it is extremely beneficial to both the thanker and the thanked. Sue and her team of artists investigated how gratitude, both as a theme to investigate, and as an action at play in

the work, could help to increase understandings of participation and collaboration in the arts.

The scope of the project is demonstrated by its partnership with three arts organisations, one school, and two charities across three London boroughs. An additional three workshops facilitated public participation and four short films have been made available online. The work was funded through a term of Dedicated Research Time, with additional funding from Arts Council England, the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, and Mulberry School for Girls.

The sheer number of collaborators and different audiences is evidence for the reach of Sue's work. The Gratitude Enquiry engaged six artists, thirty



core participants, and over two hundred people live and five hundred online. Sue initiated the project, securing funding and providing leadership to a group of collaborators. Community participants were actively involved in contributing to the research.



The projects under the umbrella of the Gratitude Enquiry have all led to further work. Participants have gone on to showcase their performances at the WOW Festival at the South Bank Centre and with the Nour Festival. One project is being extended in partnership with the Ovalhouse theatre and the charity Stockwell Good Neighbours.

The Gratitude Enquiry was highly original, encouraging participants and artists to collaborate on a theme that is fundamental to art. Sue succeeded in creating a safe and supportive space for the participants to explore these themes, with one participant summing up her experience as similar to becoming a 'butterfly'.

Nominated

Dr Francis Gilbert for 'Creative Writing Mentoring Programmes with Goldsmiths and London Schools' (Education).

Bringing public engagement initiatives to local classrooms often creates positive and lasting impact, as demonstrated by Dr Francis Gilbert of Goldsmiths' Department of Educational Studies.

Dr Gilbert's creative writing mentoring programme was borne out of harnessing the expertise of Goldsmiths' post-graduate teachers and the creativity of London's secondary school students. Together, they were able to produce an anthology of the school



students' work – My Dreams, My World – which was published on Amazon in hard copy and as an e-book.

The programme also led to a launch event at Goldsmiths attended by the student participants, their parents and teachers. The project was extensive in its reach both socially and geographically with twelve schools taking part, while encouraging students from challenging backgrounds to embrace creative writing.

Francis will be writing an article about the project for a forthcoming edition of English in Education, a peer-reviewed academic journal, and has also

partnered with Critical Connections II, a global research project to boost 21st century literacy in schools using digital storytelling.

Due to its success, Francis will be running the programme again this academic year with the support of Goldsmiths' Outreach team.

Overwhelmingly positive feedback has meant that even more local schools will be involved, with creative writing pieces based on the theme of 'belonging'. This will ensure that Goldsmiths remains a supportive and encouraging presence in the community through its diligent work with local schools.



Dr Naomi Wood for ‘Mrs Hemingway: Exploring the Lives of Ernest Hemingway and His Four Wives’ (English and Comparative Literature).

Dr Naomi Wood was nominated for her novel *Mrs Hemingway* - a book about writer Ernest Hemingway's lesser known wives. Naomi, of Goldsmiths' Department of English and Comparative Literature, brought her research to life via readings, festival panels and lectures. Her work challenged popular opinion surrounding the persona of Hemingway by shedding light on his domestic character.

Naomi chose to deliver her work to the public through the use of sensory archives: disseminating Hemingway's letters in their original handwriting,

voice recordings from the four women, films adapted from their lives, newspaper archives, songs, original magazines articles and photographs.

Since 2014, Naomi explored her research with sold-out audiences at over seventy UK events throughout Scotland, England and Wales. She has been able to have an impact by reaching into communities distant from academia, especially by utilising the reach of local bookshops and libraries across the country.

Mrs Hemingway has had international reach, with Naomi giving lectures in the United States, Switzerland, Guernsey, France, the Czech Republic and Germany.

Public engagement has also come via Naomi's active engagement with the media. She was the Hemingway Guest Expert on Radio 4's 'Great Lives', the subject of 'Meet the Author' on BBC World, and engagingly spoke about Hemingway on Radio 4's Open Book, BBC London, and France 24.

Naomi's research has had an impact on over a hundred thousand readers and has engaged academic and non-academic readers alike. Her book has been translated into fifteen languages and has been praised in reviews by the Telegraph and the Guardian – the latter concluding that “Certainly [Naomi's] portrayal of Hemingway is enticing, maddening and haunting...”.

Postgraduate Researcher category

Winner

**Vanessa Hughes for
'Undocumented Migrant
Children: school as
spaces of belonging and
inclusion?' (Sociology).**

Vanessa Hughes is nominated for her highly thought-provoking research into undocumented migrant children and how schools can act as spaces of belonging and inclusion. Vanessa has worked on research projects with

young migrants with uncertain immigration status for several years. Her research is focused on young immigrants in London, attempting to understand how they make sense of their worlds, and how their immigration experience and status has shaped and continues to shape their lives and identity.

Vanessa's research ties in closely with themes that have been at the forefront of British politics recently, such as the Calais migrant crisis. She is conducting fieldwork in a local London school and working in partnership with Let Us Learn, a youth-led movement that works for access to higher education for all young people living in the UK.

As part of her work, Vanessa has also worked in collaboration with numerous local schools, as well as the Migration Museum, where she collaborated on the Calais 'Call Me by My Name' exhibition, which sought to humanise the migrant crisis in Calais.



Vanessa's research is both timely and urgent, educating young people about migration and race issues in a manner that is rooted in empirical evidence. Her work brings researchers, young people and communities together to share knowledge and insights.





Commendation

Rose Sinclair for 'Dorcas Stories' (Design).

Across 2016, Lecturer in Design and PhD candidate Rose Sinclair undertook a range of highly successful engagement activities as part of her practice led research into the development of the Dorcas Clubs and Societies set up by Caribbean women on their arrival in the UK in the 1950s and 60s.

Exploring female textile networks as a catalyst for social and economic change, Rose's work uses life stories and oral histories to unpick how the textiles created by these networks embody both material culture and diasporic tales.

It asks how understanding this history provides new ways of thinking about networks and their place in textile design and innovation, as well as the rise of 'safe making spaces'.

Rose's project was made up of various public engagement events, including installations in Lewisham Shopping Centre, the Bruce Castle Museum, the Victoria & Albert Museum, and the National Archives at Kew.

Rose's sold-out talk at the Victoria & Albert Museum was described by Janet Browne, Programme Manager for African Heritage & Culture, as "one of the high points of the V&A Art and Existence African and Asian Diaspora Explored talks series".

The Caribbean Front Room project at Lewisham Shopping Centre was particularly successful, where 88% of respondents rated their overall impression as 'Good' or 'Excellent'. One participant explained that "The past few days have been therapy. Reconnecting me to the love of making and of community".

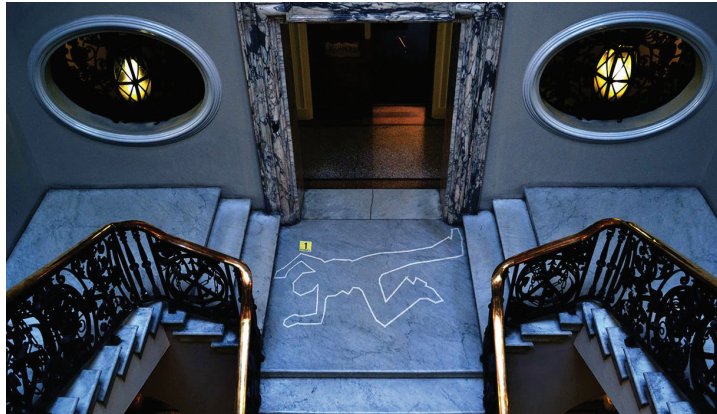
The project provided a safe space for the community, particularly black women, to gather, make and share textile skills through their culture, inviting shared understandings. Rose has since been awarded funding to showcase her project as part of Wandsworth Arts Fringe.

**Rebecca Wheeler for
'The Death of Jane Doe:
The Psychology of a
Murder Investigation'
with Laura Oxburgh,
Ashleigh McGregor,
Dr Gordon Wright and
Professor Fiona Gabbert
(Psychology).**

Rebecca Wheeler's collaborative project brought an interactive murder mystery onto the Goldsmiths campus.

The Death of Jane Doe, hosted by the Goldsmiths Forensic Psychology Unit (FPU), invited members of the public to solve the mystery of the death of Jane Doe, taking on the role of a trainee cop or an investigative reporter in a live mock murder investigation.

Attendees had access to the murder scene and were able to interact



directly with potential suspects, the police and forensic psychology experts. They experienced a police press conference where they observed CCTV footage of the crime and appeals from the family.

The evening culminated with the identity of the murderer being revealed with the preliminary results of the regular polls being presented throughout. Audience members were also actively engaged with current psychological

research and police practice based on real crimes from the Innocence Project.

Rebecca and the FPU team succeeded in creating ambiance and authenticity, which was reflected in the enthusiasm of participants. This attention to detail ensured that the set and venue looked highly convincing.

**Irene Chrysocheris
for 'Heritage Days
of Alexandria'
(Anthropology).**

This project was concerned with the once-influential and prosperous Greek community in the Egyptian city of Alexandria, where a series of political and economic crises have challenged the position of the community, which faces anxiously faces an uncertain future.

To grasp the complexities of Greek-Alexandrian's connections to the city, their sense of place and identity and strong attachment to the past, Irene curated an exhibition that captured the community's sense of its place in the world.

She engaged with the secular and religious leadership,



and invited members of the community to select and contribute images and objects that they considered to be significant and meaningful.

As part of the project, Irene was invited to address an open meeting held at the Greek Consulate in Alexandria. The event attracted a large and varied audience that

included Egyptians, Greek Alexandrians, citizens and diplomatic representatives of a wide range of countries.

In her presentation, Irene explained how the idea of the exhibition had come about as part of her doctoral research, which was followed by a guided tour of the exhibition now permanently housed at the Greek Consulate.



One of the most important outcomes of the exhibition was that it embraced contrasting views across generations. While the perspective of the young prompted debate and controversy, the exhibition as a whole explores the values,

attachments, conflicts and contradictions within the community, and the very real challenges they face as their numbers and their influence decline.

Nominated

Khairani Barokka for Indigenous Species (Visual Cultures).

Khairani Barokka is nominated for her production, publication and launch of the book Indigenous Species with Tilted Axis Press in 2016.

The book is an environmentally sound and politically committed poetry book which addresses issues of pollution and consumerism in a global context. However, what makes it unique is that Khairani conceived it to be accessible for both sighted and visually impaired audiences. The text is in braille, but also, the artwork is embossed so that sight impaired readers can have a fuller experience of the book



In making Indigenous Species accessible to individuals with visual impairment, Khairani breaks down barriers between able and disabled audiences, bringing them together through her work. She effectively and actively engaged all types of audiences, whether it is in her performances of the text or actually in the text's material form.

Tilted Axis Press describe Indigenous Species as “a bold and necessary experiment in making a sight-impaired-accessible art book” and the book has been met with praise.

At the Indigenous Species launch held at Goldsmiths, Barokka performed a reading of the book. This was followed by a Q&A where she discussed environmental issues which are the main topic of the book. This discussion was very informative and enlightening in that it traced links between the cultural product she produced and the politics that inform it.

Khairani is also the co-editor of the UK's first D/ deaf and disabled poets' anthology titled Stairs and Whispers: D/deaf and Disabled Poets Write Back, out in June from Nine Arches Press.



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