



## Neil Scobie

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Having known for two and a half years that I was going to be involved in ITE it gave me plenty of time to anticipate my expectations of what the program may involve. I can remember stating to the group at our initial orientation meeting that I had hoped that I would not know what I would be making at the end of the residency and this has proved correct. Some of my work has gone off in directions that I would have never considered.

By placing 6 or 7 people from around the world in a central place and getting them to live and work together for 8 weeks could be a huge task to get them all working in a compatible manor. With cultural and language problems the program could be disastrous. Our group was lucky in the fact that we all spoke the English language to some degree although we all laughed and joked about different meanings of words and sayings. After a few small hiccups the group gelled together and get on extremely well. Having cooked, eaten, collaborated and socialized in close contact with each other for the 8 weeks, I feel that I have made life long friends.

Our group has collaborated with each other on many pieces and just watching and observing how others go about designing and scheduling their work has been valuable. It has been a great benefit to be able to discuss and bounce design concepts and problem solving ideas with other members of the group from very different backgrounds and work methods. Personally having time to experiment in the workshop has been one of the greatest benefits to me, it is time I don't get enough of at home with a busy work schedule. With a good workspace and good people around you, one can't help being caught up in the energy that this program provides. I would like to thank Albert and Tina and the staff, board and sponsors of the WTC for the opportunity to be able to be part of the program and I feel that the great experiences that have come from the residency will stay with me forever.