

Social Robotic Donuts

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In order to broaden the design space for social robot design, we created two air-actuated donut-shaped social robots – a small uniform silicone version and a more organic latex version. Our intent was to purposefully move away from typical human or animal form mimicry, focusing instead on elastic expression, ambiguous form and playful behaviours. Early studies show the robots provoking curious relationships with these contestational objects inviting new forms of intriguing communication and interaction.



Laurens Boer and Harvey Bewley. 2018. Reconfiguring the Appearance and Expression of Social Robots by Acknowledging their Otherness. In Proceedings of the 2018 Designing Interactive Systems Conference (DIS '18). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 667-677. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3196709.3196743>

Harvey Bewley and Laurens Boer. 2018. *Designing Blo-nut*: Design Principles, Choreography and Otherness in an Expressive Social Robot. In Proceedings of the 2018 Designing Interactive Systems Conference (DIS '18). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 1069-1080. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3196709.3196817>

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