

abstract:

Future Performances and Next Nature Networks - performative presentation

Exploring the potential of diverse innovations related to the cultural spaces of artistic production and design practice with a particular awareness of extraction technologies and holistic computing. This performative presentation considers the way in which networked infrastructure contributes to both the destruction and creation of ecologies. Bearing in mind that emerging technological systems are also bio-social-cultural constructs. These cosmographic imbroglios are new kind of species that exist with/in us. Reimagining a 'post-patriarchal future' (Bardzell 2018, 20) and the systems in which we are living within by focusing on how bodies, flora, fauna assemble in the urban realm. Through examples I demonstrate these as palpable practices of performance design that may contribute to the restoration of diverse spaces of sociability and kinship.

If the mere touch of hand upon a simulated keyboard is enough to summon vast networks of global information. Attending to the politics of feminist methodologies and performance design can guide us towards a more situated and holistic awareness of the material substrates in the network topologies procured in such acts. In doing so we can understand just how visceral these infrastructures are and of what must be done, so they can be pluralistically codesigned otherwise. I propose the circumstances under which performance design can formulate new challenges and pave the way for nascent perspectives and strategies for optimising our carbon footprint in the wake of the fourth industrial automation (Chen et al. 2018), sixth species mass-extinction (Ceballos et al. 2017). By examining what other customs are possible when we realign our grip from the fidelities of calculating infrastructures that prod us, to tacitly embrace complementary systems.

bio

Dr Nancy Mauro-Flude is a Tasmanian performance artist, theorist and media designer. Her research into computational poetics contributes to aesthetic awareness of our corporeal engagement with visceral and emerging systems. She applies, somatic methodologies, ethnography and experiential prototyping to examine feminist STS (Science, Technology and Society) foci. Nancy spent the last decade as a visiting Assistant Professor at Trondheim Academy of Fine Art, Norwegian University of Technology, where she continues to cooperate as an affiliate in the Department of Art and Media Studies; and as an Assistant Professor at the National University of Singapore, directing the Curatorial and Cultural Leadership program, in collaboration with ArtScience Museum. Most recently she leads the Next Nature Networks studio at College of Design and Social Context RMIT University. An ongoing Research Fellow Institute Network Culture Amsterdam, represented by Bett Gallery Nancy is founder of Despona's Coven – a grass roots feminist webserver atelier and citizen science fiction mother ship (homebrewed in 2008). Complementary to her artistic practice she has a background in dance, working in dance therapy and as a specialist in Somatic Movement therapy at the Institute of Somatic Movement.