

Speaker:



Asst. Prof. Tega Brain

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Title:

Misbehaving Systems: Experiments in distributing agency

Abstract:

Contemporary artists engaging with recent developments in the field of artificial intelligence continue a long history of artistic work that explores the politics and unintended consequences of emerging technologies through strategies like hacking, misuse and open ended experimentation. Within this context I will discuss my own recent work that examines the possibilities and limitations of data and artificial intelligence in environmental inquiry and ecological management. Does AI have the potential to produce new ecological relations or, to quote theorist Donna Haraway, does it risk simply amplifying “an informatics of domination“?

Tega Brain is an Australian-born artist and environmental engineer whose work examines issues of ecology, data systems and infrastructure. She has created wireless networks that respond to natural phenomena, systems for obfuscating fitness data, and an online smell-based dating service. She has recently exhibited at the Vienna Biennale for Change, at the Guangzhou Triennial, the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin, the New Museum, NYC and the Science Gallery in Dublin. Her work has been widely discussed in the press including in the New York Times, Art in America, The Atlantic, NPR, Al Jazeera and The Guardian. Tega is also an Assistant Professor of Integrated Digital Media, New York University.

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