

Digital Resistance

Introduction:

This paper stems from a much larger research project that I'm working on at the moment concerned with schizoanalysis and resistance. The project is largely concerned with mapping out the transformative political power of schizoanalysis in relation to the production of a resistant subjectivity. So what I would like to do here with this paper is to first clarify what I read as the schizoanalytic position on the construction of digital space and the role that space places in the production of subjectivity. With the possible exception of Franco Berardi, very little work has been done in this area aside from the Promethean utopianism of 90s libertarian cyber-culture. I don't mean to suggest that people working on issues of digital space are not actively using Deleuze and Guattari, but that most contemporary research focuses solely on their notions of movement and networks. It's important to remember that both Deleuze and Guattari's writings on computers, digital telecommunication, media technologies and the Internet were always concerned first and foremost with issues concerning subjectivity, as such this is a modest attempt to synthesis an updated schizoanalytic understanding of digital space.

The second thing I'd like to do in this paper is to think through how digital space facilitates the creation of resistant subjectivities. The concept of resistance has a very particular use, meaning the resistance to a subject's own microfascisms – the subtle drives to dominate and oppress. In this context resistance becomes generative of a certain type of subjectivity that I argue opens up an amazing capacity for radical social transformation.