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In Free Fall: A Thought Experiment on Vertical Perspective BY Hito Steyerl

Confusing Phrases:

- We cannot assume any stable ground on which to base metaphysical claims or foundational political myths
- The social and political dreamscape of radicalized class war from above
- The view from above is a perfect metonymy for a more general verticalization of class relations
- Thus, linear perspective is based on an abstraction and does not correspond to any subjective perception

Reading Response:

The start of the article reads less as a social analysis paper and more of a physics philosophy paper but quickly delves into the topic of perspective and of the concept of the horizon. The way the article speaks of the increase in aerial views and multiple perspectives leading to less importance being placed on the linear perspective really captures in a meta way, the way technology is transforming our perspective on one way. We as a species have gone from one linear perspective, where we can only be immersed in one reality at a time, to be able to enter multiple realities and views in the digital realm. Yet in this increase in perspectives, we have lost our stabilizing horizon and are immersed in a meaningless sea of information. Another way of looking at what Steyerl has written is that the stabilizing horizon is an important element of navigation just like a navigation bar, it has to be present and in a recognizable appearance otherwise the design of the website/game becomes faulty and we lose our ability to control and navigate our experience. A linear path becomes subjective and multi-dimensional experiences have become more popular as users leap from platform to platform as a disembodied line of code that serves as our digital citizenship on the web.