

# Multi-Sited Design

Ideas about technology are also ideas about culture and people. When researchers and designers talk in terms of "free culture" and "open innovation," their discourse shapes not only new ways of building technology, but new ways of relating to social and political structures. We have been exploring this through ethnographic research in a technology innovation lab in Shanghai, China, which positions its work at the intersections of Chinese Internet counterculture, international maker and hacker communities, digital art and creative commons. We ask how ideas of free culture and open innovation are mobilized as part of a conversation about technology design, Chinese modernity, innovation and do-it-yourself science that extends across Shanghai, Silicon Valley and Europe.



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