

April 8, 2017

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to submit a new manuscript entitled *Preludes to a Science of Insurrection*. The manuscript is a collection of aphorisms and essays. All of the pieces collected in this manuscript revolve around my rare perspective as an empirical (quantitative) social scientist and active revolutionary. From several different angles, this manuscript deals with what I take to be some of the most widespread but erroneous assumptions and intellectual tendencies in contemporary political culture today. More positively, all of the pieces here try to evoke an ethos of truth- and joy-seeking as an alternative to the currently dominant efforts to overwrite reality through the force of morbid moral fictions. Some of the essays included here first appeared in draft form as blog posts, and were among the more popular of my posts in the past two years.

The submitted manuscript is a partial draft of only 22,000 words, which I am submitting to gauge your interest and welcome editorial input. I have considerably more material I could potentially include, but I wanted to gauge your interest first. My preference would be for a short and light volume (compare to the Forerunners series from the University of Minnesota Press), but I would be happy to discuss your possible visions. I should also note that I am currently on academic sabbatical, so if Repeater is interested in this manuscript I would be well poised to complete the publication process swiftly.

#### *About the author*

I am currently Assistant Professor of Politics at the University of Southampton, where I have been researching and teaching since I received

my PhD in 2014. My work has appeared in peer-reviewed academic journals such as [\*Social Science Quarterly\*](#) and popular outlets such as [\*New Statesman\*](#). I have been active on the radical left since Occupy Wall Street. I have been active in the UK anti-capitalist organization Plan C, where I learned about Repeater through Mark Fisher. There is an essay in the manuscript that reflects on Mark; there it should be most clear why I think this manuscript is uniquely well fit for Repeater.

### *Endorsements*

Finally, I am including some endorsements from other authors. Bradley Garrett, author of *Explore Everything* (Verso 2013), said of the manuscript, “Frank and original attacks on widely held assumptions prevalent in left political culture, novel pathways to a new style of revolutionary politics based on truth-seeking and joy. Murphy risks himself as very few scholars dare.” Jodi Dean, author of *Crowds and Party* (Verso 2016), called the essay on Mark Fisher and Plan C, “Lovely... a great tribute.” David Owen, Professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Southampton, has said of the texts in this collection, “Real writing... Superb.”

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Justin Murphy  
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