**ASEM 652: special topics: SPACE AS MATERIAL**

**Instructor: Dr. Renee Baert**

**Winter 2018**

1. **January 11: Introduction to the course**

Karen Barad, “What is the Measure of Nothingness?”,in The Book of Books (catalogue, documenta {13}, Osstfildern, Germany: Hatje Cantz Verlag, 2012, p. 646-649

Jill Bennett, “Life in the Anthropocene”, in The Book of Books (catalogue, documenta {13}, no. 053), Osstfildern, Germany: Hatje Cantz Verlag, 2012, pp. 345-347

Supplementary: public discussion with Lewis Hyde (author of The Gift) and Robin McKenna (film-maker of the forthcoming *The Gift)*, Montreal Musée des Beaux-Arts, 7pm

1. **January 18: The production of space**

Henri Lefebvre, The Production of Space. Translated by Donald Nicholson-Smith. United Kingdom : Blackwell, 1991, pp. 26-54

Foucault, Michel. “Of Other Spaces,” *Diacritics*, 16, (Spring 1986). P. 1-9

<http://web.mit.edu/allanmc/www/foucault1.pdf>, pp. 1-9

Doreen Massey, “Politics and Space/Time”, in Place and the Politics of Identity, ed. Michael Keith & Steve Pile, London and New York: Routledge, 1993, pp. 141-161

Elizabeth Grosz, “Bodies-Cities.” in Space, Time and Perversion, New York and London: Routledge, 1995, pp 103-110

1. **January 25: Subjects, power, performativity**   Michel Foucault, Right of Death and Power over Life, in The History of Sexuality, Vol. 1: An Introduction, transl Robert Hurley, New York: Random House, 1980, pp. 139-147 Michel Foucault, “The Subject and Power”, in *Critical Inquiry*, vol. 8, no. 4, 1982, pp. 424 -432

Judith Butler, “Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: An Essay in Phenomenology and Feminist Theory”, Theatre Journal, vol. 40, no. 4, 1988, pp. 519-531

Dorothea von Hantelmann, “The Social Efficacy of Art”, in How to Do Things with Art,

Zurich: JPR/Ringier & Dijon: Les Presses du Réel, 2010, p. 8-20

4.  **February 1: Epistemology, critique:**

Donna Haraway, “Situated Knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of Partial Perspective”,*Feminist Studies*, Vol. 14, No. 3. (Autumn, 1988), pp. 575-599 Bruno Latour, “On actor-network theory. A few clarifications plus more than a few complications”, in in Finn Olsen (special issue of the Danish philosophy journal ), " Om aktor-netvaerksteroi. Nogle fa afklaringer og mere end nogle fa forviklinger" ***Philosophia,*** Vol. 25 N° 3 et 4, pp.47-64; 1990)

<http://www.bruno-latour.fr/sites/default/files/P-67%20ACTOR-NETWORK.pdf> Ursula LeGuin, “The Carrier Bag Theory of Fiction”, from Dancing at the Edge of the World, Grove Press, 1997, pp. 149-154 <https://www.marxists.org/subject/art/lit_crit/works/leguin/carrier-bag.htm> “Matter feels, converses, suffers, desires, yeans and remembers”, Interview with Karen Barad, in New Materialism, Interviews and Cartographies, ed. Rick Dolphijin and Irish van der Tuin, University of Michigan, 2009, unpg. <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/o/ohp/11515701.0001.001/1:4.3/--new-materialism-interviews-cartographies?rgn=div2;view=fulltext>

Supplementary: Donna Haraway, “Tentacular Thinking”, in Staying with the Trouble, Making Kin in the Chthulucene, Durham and London, Duke University Press, 2016, pp. 30-57

5**. February 8: Matter matters**

Karen Barad, “Posthumanist Performativity, Toward an Understanding of How Matter Comes to Matter”, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society,* 2003, vol. 28, no. 3, pp. 801-829

<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.466.5231&rep=rep1&type=pdf> Karen Barad, “Diffractions: Differences, Contingencies, and Entanglements that Matter, in Meeting the University Halfway, quantum physics and the entanglement of matter and meaning, Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2007, pp. 71-72, 86-94

Jill Bennett, “The Force of Things”, in Vibrant Matter, A Political Ecology of Things, Durham and London: Duke U.P., 2010, pp. 1-19 Supplementary: Diana Coole and Samantha Frost, “Introducing The New Materialisms”, in Coole and Frost, eds., New Materialisms: Ontology, Agency and Politics”, Duke U.P. 2010, p. 1-36

6. **February 15: Art and Spatial Politics: From Eviction to Occupation**

While immateriality, time and speed were the markers of the twentieth century and its surge to global capitalism, “the annihilation of space by time” predicted by Karl Marx has not come to pass.  Looking to works like Rebecca Belmore’s *Biinjiya’iing Onji* and Douglas Gordon’s, *I Had Nowhere to Go: A Portrait of a Displaced Person*, visiting artist/scholar jake moore will discuss how both critical spatial practices and new understandings of materiality are troubling the colonial present.

Readings: t.b.c.

**February 22: term break**

7 **March 1: - exhibition practices**

**Off site: exhibition L’Offre**

10:30 at DHC/Art

465 rue St. Jean (basement level, right staircase (metros Place Victoria, Place d’Armes)

Nicolas Bourriaud, “Relational Form”, in Relational Aesthetics, trans. S. Pleasance & F. Woods, Dijon: Les presses du réel, 1998, pp. 11-24

**8. March 8 Politics of affect**

Deborah B. Gould, Moving Politics : Emotion and Act Up’s fight against AIDS, Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 2009, pp. 59-64, 119-120, 165-175

Carolyn Christov—Bakargiev, “On the Destruction of Art – or Conflict and Art or Trauma and the Art of Healing”, in The Book of Books, documenta 13, op. cit, no. 040, p. 282-292

Jill Bennett, “Afterword: Beyond Trauma Culture”, in Empathic Vision, Affect, Trauma and Contemporary Art, Stanford: Stanford U.P., 2005, pp 22-45

Jennifer Fisher, Jim Drobnick, Museopathy (exhibition catalogue), Kingston, Ont: Agnes Etherington Art Gallery and Display Cult, 2002, pp. 13-18, 62-63, 81-95

Supplementary: Brian Massumi, “In lieu of a conclusion”, in Politics of Affect, Malden MA, Polity Press, 2015, pp. 204-215

**9. March 15 : Public space**

Luc Levesque, “The terrain vague as material – some observations”, in HOUSE BOAT / OCCUPATIONS SYMBIOTIQUES , Hull/ Gatineau, AXENÉO7, 2002, pp.6-7.

http://www.amarrages.com/textes\_terrain.html

Judith Butler, Notes toward a performative theory of assembly, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard U.P., 2015

Miwon Kwon, “One Place After Another, Notes on Site Specificity” in Space, Site, Intervention, Situating Installation Art, ed. Erika Suderburg, Minneapolis:Univ of Minnesota Press, 2000, pp. 38-58

Jill Bennett, “Journeys Into Place”, in Empathic Vision, Affect, Trauma and Contemporary Art, Stanford: Stanford U.P., 2005, pp. 149-153

To access readings:

Online links where indicated, and

clues.concordia.ca

Course reserves

Login with Concordia ID

Semester winter: ASEM 652