

Design and the Machine (Boston, 21-23 Nov 13)

MIT, Boston, Nov 21–23, 2013

Olga Touloumi, Harvard University

Futures Past: Design and the Machine

MIT Media Lab Building, "The Multipurpose Room" on the 6th floor
75 Amherst St., Cambridge MA 02139

Futures Past: Design and the Machine is a three-day conference on the institutional and intellectual history of research and visions for human-machine systems beginning in the second half of the 20th century, and its relationship to emerging roles of technology in design. As computational media pervaded design pedagogy and practice in the post-World War II period, the model of interaction between humans and computers in relation to the creative process persists as a research question, even though consistently obscured by the exigencies of practice. The conference is structured around paper sessions with junior scholars, researchers, and historians. The event includes panel discussions with protagonists of early efforts to incorporate computers, information technologies, and communication engineering in the design process.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

16:30

Conference Opening

Terry Knight (MIT)

16:45

Welcome Remarks

Duks Koschitz (MIT/Pratt), Olga Touloumi (Harvard), Theodora Vardouli (MIT)

17:00

The Architecture Machine Group

Moderator: Daniel Cardoso, Penn State

A conversation among Nicholas Negroponte, Steven Gregory, Christopher Herot, Andrew Lippman, Masanori Nagashima, Paul Pangaro, and Guy Weinzapfel

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

09:15

Paper Sessions Opening

Arindam Dutta (MIT)

09:30

Designing Futures

Chair: Felicity Scott, Columbia

On the Anti-Modern Use of Cybernetics in the Work of N. Schöffer

Carlotta Daro (ENSA Paris Malaquais)

Environment as Material

Larry Busbea (University of Arizona)

Everting the Machine – Interaction of Human and Machine in Yamaguchi Katsuhiko's Environmental Design for the Mitsui Pavilion (Osaka Expo'70)

Gabrielle Schaad (ETH)

11:30

Paul Richens, Edward Hoskins, Adam Gawne-Cain

Moderator Axel Kilian, Princeton

03:00

Systems Thinking

Chair: Jennifer Light, Northwestern

Architettura Parametrica and the Problems of Intellectual Virginité, circa 1960

Britt Eversole (Princeton)

Complete Urbanization is Unavoidable but Computable"

Ksenia Tatarchenko (Columbia), "'I', 'We' and the EVM

Nikos Katsikis (Harvard)

05:00

Lionel March & George Stiny

Moderator: Altino Joao Magalhaes Rocha, Universidade de Évora

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

10:00

Modeling Information

Chair: John Harwood, Oberlin

Analogue and Digital GIS: Mapping a Shared Territory for Design

Moa Carlsson (MIT)

Image Objects: Computer Graphics at the University of Utah, 1965-1979

Jacob Gaboury (NYU)

Design as Effect circa 1962: Alexander and Sutherland

Alise Upitis (MIT)

Camouflage circa 1942: Gyorgy Kepes and the Militarization of the Image

John R. Blakinger (Stanford)

ArtHist.net

01:30

Chuck Eastman & John Gero
Moderator Dennis Shelden, MIT

03:15

Mediating Interfaces
Chair: Peter Galison, Harvard

The First Failure of Man-Computer Symbiosis: The Hospital Computer Project, 1960-1968
David Theodore (Harvard)

Systems and Subjectivity in 20th Century Commercial Aviation
David Mindell (MIT)

Supreme Usability: The Architecture Machine Group and Information Spaces
Molly Steenson (Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison)

05:30

Alan Kay
Moderator: Edith Ackermann, MIT/Harvard

07:30

Conference Closing

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Reference:

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