

AFFECTS INTERFACES EVENTS

Venue: Godsbanen Aarhus, Denmark, 29-30 August 2018 (PhD Symposium Aarhus University 28 August)

Deadline for submissions: 16 April, 2018

Confirmed speakers: Brian Massumi, Erin Manning, Andrew Murphie, Susanna Paasonen

The proliferation of digital and interactive technologies in most aspects of our daily lives produces an intensified distribution of affect. Existential conditions change through affective interface foldings of bodies, subjectivities and technologies. The conference *Affects, Interfaces, Events* investigates how affective interface events – on a micro- and macro-level – reinforce or challenge these changes. A major concern of the conference is to consider interface modulations on an affective, social, aesthetic, and political level.

We welcome contributions (papers, designs and other interventions) that consider the affective relations involved in interface events and creations. Themes may include but are not limited to:

1. New perspectives on the relations between discourse, power relations, and the affective and signaleptic material of networked data, media and audio-visual culture.

Conference contributions could include investigations of the affects and events that are produced, distributed and encountered by way of interfaces. Contributions may also consider how data tracking and (an)archival practices can articulate new modes of affective relations.

2. Considerations of online affective encounters.

Algorithmic data feedback procedures appear to have replaced a more representational and cause-effect based production of 'meaning'. Classical news media have primarily understood this condition as a 'downfall' of critical engagement. This downfall is seen to invite an open platform for 'fake news'. However, things are more complex. The #metoo movement, for example, demonstrates how fast an affective interface event can make an impact and change tonalities. This calls for studies and conceptualisations of the ways in which affective events can twist and turn and draw unforeseen lines of affinity and crowding – and make change possible.

3. Considerations of how interfaces participate in affect modulation and how their changing configurations might alter conditions.

The emergence of new forms of bio-political governmentality – for instance the data collection of mental and physical rhythms (the body's pulse, metabolism etc.) – can affect everyday social encounters. However, even neo-liberal forms of control and capture through technologies can be modulated. The use of Virtual Reality (VR) technologies for warfare training as well as post-war trauma therapy shows how the (same) digital technologies/materials can be used to serve different, even directly opposed, aims. This calls for critical and activist investigations of the emancipatory potential of our technoecologically transformed present.

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Possible paper topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Transdisciplinary explorations of affect and events
- Conceptualisations of interfaces in relation to affect and event
- Affective interface mobilizations
- Affective politics and governmentalisation via digital and social media
- Affect, activism or anarchism, including strategic aesthetic practices
- Ecocriticism, affect and the anthropocene
- The ethico-aesthetics of affective on/offline circulation
- Affective experiments and explorations in art and design
- Affective urbanism, urban activism and 'evental' encounters
- Affect, agency and victimhood

Submission format

Please submit a proposal containing your full name, e-mail address, institutional and disciplinary affiliation, the title of your paper and an abstract of max. 300 words to AIEconference@cc.au.dk. Deadline for submission is 16 April 2018. We are aiming for paper presentations around 20 minutes. Suggestions for panels, practices and other activations are welcome. Responses will be sent out by the end of May 2018.

Venue

Godsbanen, Skovgaardsgade 3-5, Aarhus C. See more: <http://godsbanen.dk/>. The venue offers excellent opportunities for experimenting with the conference format.

Fee

200,- € The fee covers all materials and meals (breakfast, lunch, coffee). The conference fee also includes a conference dinner (with beverages) on Thursday the 29th.

