Workshop / Continuous Prototype
2 – 5pm, Sat 13 Nov
Maria McLintock

Schedule

2 – 2.10: Welcome and introductions

2.10 – 2.40: Introductory lecture on designing for complexity

2.40 – 2.45: Facilitator set first brief

2.45 – 3.10: Breakout in groups

3.10 – 3.20: Return for reflections

3.20 – 3.40: Break

3.40 – 3.45: Facilitator set second brief

3.45 – 4.10: Breakout in groups

4.10 – 4.40: Return for reflections

4.40 – 4.45: Closing remarks

4.45 – 5.00: Feedback forms

Goal of session

- To develop tools for thinking through uncertainty and complexity
- To develop tools for determining how previous societal issues may aid in understanding the future, and thus draw connections between them (therefore, thinking intersectionally)
- To approach working with communities and people with an understanding of situated research and ethics protocol
- To interrogate your positionality as 'researcher' in relation to your subject matter
- To encourage students to apply social consciousness and critical reflection to future projects
- To unearth the complex and entangled systems and crises that play a central role in contemporary society

Brief 1

Students will work in small groups of four/five to co-design a causal systems map that connects two critical societal issues. The introductory lecture will elucidate the process of compiling this type of map, and will present students with a list of problems (eg. less women in STEM roles, air pollution in London). Students must then flesh out how these overlapping problems may connect or diverge, and use the methodology of causal systems mapping to predict how these intersecting problems may unfold over time. This process is not about solving, but mapping, predicting, building and unbuilding, connecting and unearthing.

Brief 2

Students will then work together to design three prototypes/tools for social innovation that could be used to design a preferable future in relation to these overlapping problems. They will pick up on terminologies expanded on in the introductory lecture (situated awareness, positionality, vantage point) to determine how these prototypes/tools should be thought through within the specific context in which they are operating.

Key terms

Ethics / situated awareness / critical ethnography / voice / positionality / vantage point / advocacy

Workshop facilitator

Maria McLintock is Associate Lecturer on MA Service Design at London College of Communication. She has an interdisciplinary background, with experience as a curator, historian and writer. Currently working as Displays Curator at the Design Museum, she has co-developed exhibitions *David Adjaye: Making Memory* (2019), *Beazley Designs of the Year* (2019 and 2020) and *Electronic: From Kraftwerk to The Chemical Brothers* (2020), among others. She has written on the intersections of architecture, migration and social systems for publications such as *Architectural Review* and *Failed Architecture*, and is a Young Trustee of the Architecture Foundation, London, celebrating lesser-known and emerging practitioners within the culture of architecture. In 2016, she co-founded the research project System of Systems that examines the use of technology and bureaucracy in the asylum-seeking process in Europe, producing critical publications and public programming. Maria teaches across design schools at University of the Arts, London, delivering writing and curatorial workshops to MA Product, Industrial and Ceramic Design, as well as MA Design for Sustainable Futures.