

Workshop Making and Breaking Models

With
Marta Aleksandrowicz
Ariel Caine
B Camminga
Mark Anthony Cayanan
Alina-Sandra Cucu
Maria Dębińska
Ruth Ramsden-Karelse
Julia Sánchez-Dorado
Ross Shields
Natascia Tosel
Ben Woodard

Keynotes by Quill R. Kukla and Kathy-Ann Tan

Models and modeling are polysemous terms that take on distinct but related meanings in the sciences, humanities, arts, and everyday language. Models can be material entities or mathematical constructs, they can be living organisms or makeshift frames for found objects, they can be of a system or for a project. This workshop will focus on how the meaning of models changes as it travels between different domains, and on how a given model is constructed and broken depending on how tightly it is bound to its reference. Opposing the idea that models are mere representations, contributions will inquire into their generative properties: to make a model involves abstractions and idealizations that can have very real effects in its target system. Likewise, to break a model often leads to novel theoretical insights, revealing hidden presuppositions and opening up the possibility of making, and breaking, again.

Since the inception of the project in Fall of 2022, several foci have emerged in the collective research into model theories and modeling practices. These include the formal or relational qualities of models, their temporal dimensions, the incommensurability between a model and its object, and models' world-building potential. This workshop aims to bring together and extend these perspectives in a broader, interdisciplinary dialogue.

ici KULTURLABOR
BERLIN INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL INQUIRY

ICI Berlin | Christinenstraße 18-19, Haus 8 | D – 10119 Berlin
Tel: +49 30 473 72 91 – 10 | www.ici-berlin.org



Programme

16 October 2023

- 14:30–16:00 Welcome and Panel I
- Marc Anthony Cayanan
The Exophonic Lyric: A Poetics
- Marta Aleksandrowicz
Aesthetic Modeling at the Limit of the Human Montage
- Natascia Tosel
Remake and Repair!
Modeling Institutions & Instituting Models
- 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:40–18:10 Panel II
- Alina-Sandra Cucu
Crises in Modelling
- Ben Woodard
The Statistical Cloud of Race
- Ariel Caine
Geo-Endoscopies
- 18:10 Coffee Break
- 19:00 Keynote: Kathy-Ann Tan
Contrapunctal Readings and Queerings of the Cultural Archive

Kathy-Ann Tan is a Berlin-based curator, writer and independent scholar of the visual arts and performance, postcolonial and decolonial theory, critical diversity studies and gender/queer studies. She is interested in alternative models of art dissemination, exhibition-making and institution-building that are attuned to issues of social- and transformative justice. Her ongoing project www.decolonialartarchives.com aims to collaboratively build an online and offline forum for artists and curators to develop ways of interrogating colonial narratives and countering neo-colonial forms of domination and control. Kathy-Ann also teaches courses at the Node Center for Curatorial Studies, and recently completed an MA Curatorial Practice at University of Bergen, Norway.

Followed by a Q&A

17 October 2023

- 14:30–16:00 Panel III
- B Camminga
Trans Geographies & (Re)Territorialisations
Migration, Memoir and Metaphor
- Maria Dębińska
Failed Model, or Comparing the Incommensurable
- Ross Shields
From Model to Märchen
Wittgenstein and Paul Ernst
- 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:40–17:40 Panel IV
- Julia Sánchez-Dorado
Abstraction as a Strategy for Worldmaking
- Ruth Ramsden-Karelse
Towards a Genealogy of Moffie
- 17:40 Coffee Break
- 18:00 Discussion
- 18:45 Short Break
- 19:00 Keynote: Quill R. Kukla
Maps and the Risks of Visual Representation

Quill R Kukla is Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, where they are also Director of Disability Studies. From 2021-2023 they hold a Humboldt Prize in the Institut für Philosophie at Leibniz Universität Hannover. They hold a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Pittsburgh and an MA in Geography from City University of New York, and they also have postgraduate training in urban planning and in public health. Their forthcoming book is entitled *Sex Beyond ,Yes!': Pleasure, Agency, Consent* (Norton 2024). They are the Editor-in-Chief of the *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*. Their most recent book is entitled *City Living: How Urban Dwellers and Urban Spaces Make One Another* (Oxford University Press 2021). In their free time, they are an amateur competitive boxer and powerlifter.

Followed by a Q&A