UNIVERSITÉ Concordia UNIVERSITY

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

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ANNUAL REPORT

1 JUNE 2023 – 31 MAY 2024

Co-Directors:
David Howes (Sociology & Anthropology)
Florian Grond (Design and Computation Arts)

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES (CSS)

ANNUAL REPORT
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1 INTRODUCTION (Executive Summary)

The Centre for Sensory Studies (CSS) was constituted as a faculty research centre (Arts and Science) in January 2012. It received recognition as a university research centre (emergent category) in April 2016. In 2020, the Centre's status as a university research centre was renewed for a further six years and the CSS was promoted from the emergent to the established category.

Here are some of the highlights of the 2023-2024 academic year:

The Centre welcomed one new faculty member: Florian Grond (Assistant Professor, Design and Computation Arts), who gave an inaugural lecture as part of the Talking Sense seminar series in early March. Two new fellows joined the Centre this past year: Olya Zikrata and Melanie Schnidrig. We also wish to congratulate and extend a warm welcome to our two new SSHRC postdocs: Elizabeth Davis (PhD, University of Toronto) and Nick Wees (PhD, Western University).

The Centre hosted 4 visiting scholars during the Winter term 2024: Kathleen Sitter (University of Calgary), Simon Hajdini and Lidija Šumah (both of University of Ljubljana), and Ned Barker (University College London). They contributed substantially to the conversation of the Centre, and we thank them for choosing CSS.

Congratulations to INDI PhD students Puneet Jain, Brice Ammar-Khodja and Marie-Eve Ducharme, all three of whom were awarded FRQSC doctoral fellowships; to INDI PhD student François Lespinasse who received the SSHRC doctoral fellowship; and, to SOAN MA student Clare Walker, who was awarded both a FRQSC Masters scholarship and the SSHRC Master's scholarship. Paula Bath was selected to 'represent the university's interdisciplinary diversity and excellence in research' by being named one of the 10 Concordia Public Scholars for 2023-2024.

Congratulations to Laura Enriquez for taking First Prize in the 2024 CSS Student Essay Prize competition, and to Jayanthan Sriram and Melanie Schnidrig who tied for Second. Kudos to Gabriel Dharmoo and Melanie Schnidrig, both of whom received CSS Doctoral Dissertation

Awards; and, to Chélanie Beaudin-Quentin, Melanie Schnidrig, Paula Bath, Ahmadreza M. Yazdi and recent graduate Madelaine Longman for being selected to present their work in the context of the Shusterman Salons.

Three students completed their degree requirements this past year: Madelaine Longman, Gabriel Dharmoo, and Melanie Schnidrig. Eight new students joined the Centre in 2023-2024 (7 Ph.D. and 1 M.A)

For the fourth year running, the Centre sponsored a Virtual Lecture series during the 2024 Winter term. It was entitled MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS and consisted of five talks delivered over zoom. Other notable events included:

- a methodology workshop on "Sensory Transactions and Interactions with Material Cultures of Religious Traditions," organized by Sowparnika Balaswaminathan, and co-sponsored by the Clandestine Transactions Working Group;

- a public lecture by Richard Shusterman, the Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Humanities and Professor of Philosophy at Florida Atlantic University, entitled "Aesthetic Experience and the Powers of Possession: From Somaesthetics to the Man in Gold". Professor Shusterman also conducted two 'salons' (90-minute sessions where 5 select graduate students had 10 minutes each to present their research and then receive feedback on their presentation from Professor Shusterman)

- a pair of talks by visiting scholars Simon Hajdini and Ned Barker in the Talking Sense seminar series during the first week of April; and

- during the second week of April, a pair of sensory experiments staged by Craig Farkash and Jayanthan Sriram in fulfillment of the terms of their FRQNT internships.

Centre members (faculty, fellows and students) brought out 4 books in 2023-2024, including *Sensorium* by David Howes; *The Senses in Interior Design* co-edited by John Potvin; *How to Work with Space* by Karen Messer; and *Rebellion in an Other Mexico: The Last Judgment/Rebelión en el otro México: El Juicio Final* by Adela Goldbard.

Faculty member and fellows published 8 chapters in books, 15 peer-reviewed journal articles, and presented close to 60 conference papers or invited talks as well as 1 exhibition and 2 recordings. Student members published 1 book, 1 chapter in a book, 4 peer-reviewed journal articles, and presented 20 conference papers or invited talks as well as 16 exhibitions.

The Centre continues its close collaboration with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture. For example, CISSC co-sponsored the MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS virtual lecture series. Especially productive has been the CISSC working group program. The highly dynamic Clandestine Transactions Working Group (directed by Sowparnika Balaswaminathan) came to the end of its two-year term this Spring while the Visual Methods Studio Working Group, directed by Carolina Cambre, will be starting this coming Fall.

Centre members, singly and/or in teams, submitted 13 new grant applications, 10 of which were successful and brought in a total of $368,112 in new funding ($16,500 of which was from sources internal to the university, and $351,612 from external agencies).

Centre members were listed as co-applicants or collaborators on 14 team/network grant applications to both national and international funding agencies: 8 of the latter applications proved successful, 3 were rejected and 3 remain pending for a total of $324,000 in new research funding (all external). Meanwhile, on-going research grants totaled $1,583,316 (of which $214,000 came from internal sources; $813,316 from an external source with an internal to Concordia PI; and, $556,000 from an external source with an external PI). The total amount of new and ongoing funding for sense-based research initiatives in 2023-20243 is $2,275,428.

A search committee for a new co-director for the Centre was struck in March 2024, and the committee recommended Florian Grond for this position (with great enthusiasm). Florian will succeed Jordan LeBel, whose service to the Centre over the past six years has been outstanding, and whom we wish to thank for all the chocolate.

Florian Grond, Co-Director
Design and Computation Arts

David Howes, Co-Director
Sociology and Anthropology

Image Credit: Craig Farkash

2 MEMBERSHIP

2.0 Advisory Committee

Michael Bull (Media and Film, Sussex)

Richard Newhauser (English, Arizona State)

Caroline A. Jones (Architecture, MIT)

2.1 Members

Nayrouz Abu Hatoum (Sociology and Anthropology)

Sowparnika Balaswaminathan (Religions and Cultures)

Carolina Cambre (Education)

May Chew (Art History)

Arseli Dokumaci (Communication Studies)

Martin French (Sociology and Anthropology)

Bianca Grohmann (Marketing)

Florian Grond (Design and Computation Arts), Co-Director

David Howes (Sociology and Anthropology), Co-Director

Aaron Johnson (Psychology)

Marc Lafrance (Sociology and Anthropology)

Jordan Le Bel (Marketing)

John Potvin (Art History)

VK Preston (History)

Geneviève Sicotte (Études françaises)

Jeremy Stolow (Communication Studies)

Matthew P. Unger (Sociology and Anthropology)

Christopher Salter (Design and Computation Arts), Emeritus

2.2 Associate Members

Luis Sotelo Castro (Theatre)

2.3 Affiliate Members

Ehsan Akbari, Faculty of Education, University of Regina, Regina, Canada

Victoria Bates, Department of History (Historical Studies), University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Jennifer Biddle, National Institute for Experimental Arts (NIEA), University of New South Wales Art & Design, Sydney, Australia

Marie-Josée Blanchard, Religious Studies, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Canada

Sheryl Boyle, Azriel1 School of Architecture and Urbanism, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

Lori Burns, Faculty of Arts, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

Natalie Doonan, Département de communication, Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada

Charlene Elliott, Department of Communication, Media and Film, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada

Anna Harris, Technology & Society Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Maastricht University, Maastricht, The Netherlands

Hsuan L. Hsu Department of English, University of California, Davis, USA

Annamma Joy, Faculty of Management, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Hillary Kaell, Department of Anthropology and School of Religions Studies, McGill

Jean-Sebastien Marcoux, Department of Marketing, HEC Montréal, Montreal, Canada

Ali Motamedi, Département de génie de la construction, École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS), Montreal, Canada

Melissa Park School of Physical & Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Ingemar Pettersson, Department of Economic History, Science and Technology Studies Center, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden

Sally M. Promey, Professor of Religion and Visual Culture; Director, Center for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion (MAVCOR), Yale Divinity School, New Haven, USA

Herman Roodenburg, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Charles Spence, Department of Experimental Psychology, Crossmodal Research Laboratory, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Jean-Paul Thibaud, École National Supérieure D'Architecture de Grenoble; Founder of the International Ambiances Network

Gisèle Trudel École des arts visuels et médiatiques, UQAM; Cofounder, Ælab Artist Research Unit, Montreal, Canada

2.4 Fellows

William Buxton, Senior Fellow (2022-)

Constance Classen, Senior Fellow (2016-)

Gabrielle Desgagné, Junior Fellow (2019-)

Juliana España Keller, Senior Fellow (2024-)

Léon Franzen, Postdoctoral Fellow (2019-)

Hubert Gendron-Blais, Junior Fellow (2023-)

Chantale Laplante, Junior Fellow (2023-)

Erin Lynch, Senior Fellow (2020-)

Karen Messer, Senior Fellow (2021-)

Melanie Schnidrig, Senior Fellow (2024-)

Olya Zikrata, Senior Fellow (2024-)

2.5 Postdocs, Visiting Professors, Professionals and Interns

In 2024-2025, we will be joined by two new postdocs, Elizabeth Davis and Nick Wees, both funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Their two-year terms commenced on 1 May 2024.

The Centre hosted 4 visiting scholars in 2023-24: Kathleen Sitter, Simon Hajdini, Lidija Šumah, and Ned Barker.

2.6 Student Members

2.6.1 Incoming Students (2022-2023)

Year		Name	Program	Principal Supervisor	Co-supervisor(s)
2023	Clare	Walker	ANTH MA	Julie Soleil Archambault	David Howes
2023	Francois	Lespinasse	INDI PhD	David Howes	David Morris
2023	Stephanie	Murray	HUMA PhD	David Howes	Mark Watson
2023	Lera	Kolomietc	INDI PhD	David Howes	Michael Bull (Sussex)

2023	Thomas	Seibel	Religion PhD	Sowparnika Balaswaminathan	David Howes
2023	Lisa	Conway	INDI PhD		David Howes
2023	Chip	Limeburner	INDI PhD	Rilla Khaled	David Howes
2023	Nesli	Sriram-Uzundal	EDUC PhD	David Waddington	David Howes Steven High

2.6.2 Ongoing Students

Year	Name		Program	Principal Supervisor	Co-supervisor(s)
2022	Nathan	Ferguson	ANTH MA	Marc Lafrance	David Howes
2022	Sarah	Pollman	COMM PhD	Jeremy Stolow	
2022	Ahmad-Reza	Mohammadpour -Yazdi	SOAN PhD	Marc Lafrance	
2022	Aurelie	Roy-Bourbeau	ANTH MA	David Howes	Florian Grond
2022	Jessie	Mifanwy-Stainton	COMM PhD	Arseli Dokumaci	Owen Chapman
2021	Adela	Goldbard	INDI PhD	David Howes	Catherine Russell Shauna Janssen
2021	Leona	Nikolić	COMM PhD	Jeremy Stolow	
2021	Burcu	Yasin	INDI PhD	Matthew Unger	
2021	Craig	Farkash	SOAN PhD	David Howes	Matthew Unger
2021	Maria	Vargas	HUMA PhD	Luis Sotelo Castro	David Howes VK Preston
2020	Rodrigo	D'Alcantara	Art History PhD	John Potvin	May Chew
2020	Brice	Ammar-Khodja	INDI PhD	Alice Jarry	David Howes, Ursula Eicker
2020	Raphaëlle	Bessette-Viens	HUMA PhD	Arseli Dokumaci	Geneviève Rail Matt Soar

2020	Marie-Ève	Ducharme	INDI PhD	Jordan LeBel	Kim Sawchuk Christopher Moore
2020	Puneet	Jain	INDI PhD	David Howes	Chris Salter Alice Jarry
2020	Jayanthan	Sriram	HUMA PhD	David Howes	Hsuan Hsu John Potvin
2019	Karine	Elalouf	Psych PhD	Aaron Johnson	Bianca Grohmann
2019	Emilie	O'Brien	Art Ed MA	Kathleen Vaughan	David Howes
2019	Paula	Bath	SOAN PhD	David Howes	Matthew Unger Valerie de Courville Nicol
2019	Chélanie	Beaudin-Quintin	HUMA PhD	David Howes	Angélique Wilkie Olivier Asselin (UdeM)
2019	Marc-André	Cossette	INDI PhD	Chris Salter	David Howes Lynn Hughes
2019	Jamilah	Dei-Sharpe	SOAN PhD	Marc Lafrance	Ted Rutland Oceane Jasor
2018	Neha	Chugh	SOAN PhD	Martin French	David Howes
2018	Laura	Enriquez	HUMA PhD	David Howes	Steven Stowell, David Morris Angela Vanhaelen (McGill)
2018	Nik	Forrest	HUMA PhD	Ingrid Bachman	Krista Lynes Owen Chapman
2018	Zeph	Thibodeau	INDI PhD	David Howes	Virginia Penhune, Michael Montanaro, Alice Jarry
2017	Karine	Chrétien Guillemette	INDI PhD	Jordan LeBel	Margie Mendell, Rosemary Reilly, Carla Martin
2017	Rebecca	van der Post	HUMA PhD	Matthias Fritsch	David Howes
2017	Garnet	Willis	INDI PhD	Chris Salter	Michael Montanaro Sandeep Bhagwati

2016	Arianna	García-Fialdini	Art Ed PhD	Kathleen Vaughan	Steven High Lorrie Blair
2016	Ika	Periac	HUMA PhD	David Howes	Natalie Loveless (Alberta), Dylan Robinson (UBC), Luis Sotello-Castro
2010	Florencia	Marchetti	HUMA PhD	Erica Lehrer	Chris Salter David Howes

2.6.3 Graduating Students (2023-2024)

Years Active	Name		Program	Principal Supervisor	Co-supervisor(s)
2016-2023	Melanie	Schnidrig	HUMA PhD	Nicola Pezolet	David Howes Aaron Johnson
2016-2023	Gabriel	Dharmoo	INDI PhD	Sandeep Bhagwati	David Howes
2018-2023	Madelaine	Longman	HUMA PhD	Stephanie Bolster	John Potvin David Howes Melissa Park (McGill)

Image Credit: Craig Farkash

3 FUNDING

The following list does not reflect all the grant activity of Centre members. It only lists those research projects which fall within the domain of sensory studies.

The gaps in the enumeration are due either to a project having come to an end or to a grant application not being successful.

Each application or grant is distinguished by its focus and the axis or cluster to which it belongs. The four foci derive from the 2020 Development Plan (discussed further in the final section of this Report). The axes and clusters derive from the period when the Centre became a university research centre.

It bears noting that the Centre was implicated in two applications to the FRQSC reseau … competition, both of which proved successful, and both of which were granted $7 million budgets. As in past versions of this report, these 'mega-project' amounts are not included in the total for new grants.

KEY

FOCUS (FROM 2020 ON)

Focus 1 – Sensory Education
Focus 2 – Exhibition (Multimodal Arts & Museology)
Focus 3 – Sensory Design
Focus 4 – Sensory Urbanism

AXES (FROM 2016 ON)

Axis 1 – Culture & the Senses
Axis 2 – Multisensory Aesthetics
Axis 3 – Sensory Design & Marketing
Axis 4 – Sensory Engineering & Communication

CLUSTERS (EMERGENT)

Cluster A – Law & the Senses
Cluster B – Emplacement
Cluster C – Disability & the Senses
Cluster D – Gender & the Senses
Cluster E – Materiality & Immateriality
Cluster F – Smartness, the Sensor Society & Sentient Ecologies

3.1 New Research Grants and Applications

- **$ 16,500** Internal Funding – Concordia PI †
- **$ 351,612** External Funding – Concordia PI ††
- **$ 324,000** External Funding – External PI †††

- **$. 692,112** TOTAL

§ 149 "Breaking the silence to create inclusive atmospheres: Immersive listening to understand and transform isolation and loneliness with the Jamaica Association of Montreal." Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council [SSHRC] Partnership Engage Grant. Principal Investigator: **Melissa Park** (CSS Affiliate Member/McGill). Co-investigator: **Florian Grond**, **David Howes**.
$25,000.
[2024-2025] [Axis 1 + Cluster F + Focus 2]

§ 148 **"**Beyond Ecological Grief" an immersive audio podcast series on how to overcome ecological grief. Trebek Grant. Principal Applicant: journalist Amy Romer. Co-applicants: Nicola Smith (Biology), **Florian Grond**.
$99,000.
[2024-2026] [Axis 1 + Cluster F + Focus 2]

§ 145 Visual Methods Studio Working Group. Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC). Principal Investigator: **Carolina Cambre.**
$2,250
[2024-2025] [Axis 4]

§ 144 "Understanding our dependence on convenience: towards new patterns of food consumption", MITACS. Principal Investigator**: Jordan LeBel**.
$45,000.
[2024-2025] [Axis 3]

§ 142 "Angles of Consequence." SSHRC Insight Development Grant. Principal Investigator: Meghan Moe Beitiks. Co-Investigator: **VK Preston**.
$73,000.
[2023-2025] [Axis 2]

§ 141 Réseau de recherche en sciences de la vision**.** Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé. Réseaux thématiques de recherche. Principal Investigators**:** Michel Cayouette, May Griffith, Adriana Di Polo, Jean-François Bouchard (University of Montreal). Co-investigators: **Aaron Johnson** + others.
$7,200,000 {Note: this amount not included in the tally}
[2024-2032] [Axis 4]

§ 140 "Exploring "Deep Attention": Bridging Neuroscientific and Literary Perspectives**."** Canada First Research Excellence Fund. Healthy Brains for Healthy Lives program. Principal Investigators**:** Jelena Ristic (McGill, Psychology) Miranda Hickman (English, McGill) Co-investigator: **Aaron Johnson**.
$52,000
[2024-2025] [Axis 2 + Focus 1]

§ 139 "Sensorium: Historicizing the Senses, Cognition and Aesthetics." Office of the Vice-President Research and Graduate Studies, Aid to Research Related Events (ARRE), Dissemination and Publication Program. Principal Applicant: **David Howes**.
$4,250
[2024] [Axis 1 & 2]

§ 138 "Sensorium." Centre for Sensory Studies Aid to Scholarly Publication. Principal Applicant: **David Howes**.
$2,500.
[2024] [Axis 1 & 2]

§ 137 "Aura" Centre for Sensory Studies Aid to Scholarly Publication ($2,500) and Office of the Vice-President Research and Graduate Studies, Aid to Research Related Events (ARRE), Dissemination and Publication Program ($5,000). Principal Applicant: **Jeremy Stolow**.
$7,500
[2024] [Axis 2 + Cluster E]

§ 135 "The Colour Cure: A History of Chromotherapy and its Techno-Culture." SSHRC Insight Grant. Principal Investigator: **Jeremy Stolow**. Collaborators: Charlotte Ribeyrol (U de Sorbonne), Rodrigo Toniol (Federal U of Rio de Janeiro).
$190,050.
[2024-2029] [Axis 2]

§ 134 "Sensitive Material: A Preliminary Reconnaissance of the Spiritual, Sensorial and Legal Personality of Indigenous Artefacts." SSHRC Insight Development Grant. Principal Investigator: **David Howes**. Co-Investigators: **Sowparnika Balaswaminathan** (Religions and Cultures), Mark Watson (Sociology and Anthropology), David Garneau (Visual Arts, University of Regina). Collaborators: Maureen Matthews (University of Manitoba), Peter Morin (Ontario College of Art and Design University), Kanako Uzawa (Hokkaido University).
$66.000
[2024-2026] [Axis 1 + Cluster A + Focus 2]

§ 131 "Sensorium Colaboratory." Concordia University Applied AI Institute Working Group program. Principal Investigator: **David Howes**. Collaborators: **Nayrouz Abu Hatoum** (Sociology & Anthropology), **Marc Lafrance** (Sociology & Anthropology), Jason Lewis (Design and Computation Arts), Eldad Tsabary (Music) + 2 faculty from UdeM. Research Assistants: **François Lespinasse** (INDI PhD), **Thomas Seibel** (Religions & Cultures PhD) + 3 other PhD students.
$10,000
[March 2023-February 2024] [Axis 4 + Cluster F]

§ 129 "Meaning-making using visual metaphors in multidisciplinary group communication (META-MEANS)" Research Council of Finland. Principal Investigator: Masood Masoodian (School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Aalto University), **David Howes** (Sociology & Anthropology), **Florian Grond** (Design & Computation Arts) + 4 others.
[pending] [Axis 3]

§ 127 "The Sub-Measurable is not Unreal: Modeling and Communication of the Effect of Covid-19 on the Brain," New Frontiers in Research Fund [NFRF] Exploration 2022 , Principal Investigators: Rachael Mansbach and Claudine Gauthier. Co-investigators **VK Preston** and Aphrodite Salas (Concordia University).
$250,000.
[2023-2025] [Axis 4]

§ 126 Réseau AIRS, air, intersectorialité, recherche respiratoire et sonore. Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé. Co-Principal Investigators: Philippe Jouvet (Université de Montréal) et Catherine Guastavino (McGill). Co-investigators: a team of 47 researchers from 15 institutions in Quebec, including Concordia, represented by **David Howes**.
$7,800,000 {Note: this amount not included in the tally}
[2024-2032] [Axis 1 + Cluster B + Focus 3 & 4]

§ 125 "Crafting Subjects: Aesthetics, Ethics, & Labour in the Neoliberal Nation". SSHRC Insight Development Grant. Principal Investigator: **Sowparnika Balaswaminathan**.
$50,562.
[2024-2027] [Axis 2 + Focus 2]

§ 123 "RE-CREATE." SSHRC Partnership Grant. Principal Investigator: Alice Jarry. Co-investigators: **David Howes** + approximately 30 others
[Not successful] [Axes 1-4]

3.2 On-Going Research Grants and Projects

- $ 214,000 Internal Funding – Concordia PI †
- $ 813,316 External Funding – Concordia PI ††

- $ 556,000 External Funding – External PI †††
- $ 1,583,316 TOTAL

§ 122 "Uncommon Senses IV conference." Faculty of Fine Arts Dean's Office. Principal Applicant: **David Howes**.
$400.
[2023] [Axes 1-4]

§ 121 "Uncommon Senses IV conference." Faculty of Arts and Science, Dean's Special Initiative Funding,. Principal Applicant: **Geneviève Sicotte**.
$750.
[2023] [Axes 1-4]

§ 120 "Uncommon Senses IV conference." Office of the Vice-Provost Research and Graduate Studies Aid to Research Related Events,. Principal Applicant: **Geneviève Sicotte**.
$1,240
[2023] [Axes 1-4]

§ 119 "Sensing Differently**: Creating inclusive atmospheres as sensory-friendly zones and their evaluation with immersive sound technologies."** SSHRC Insight Development Grant. Principal Investigator: **Florian Grond**. Co-investigators: **David Howes**, **Melissa Park** (CSS Affiliate Member/McGill), **Matthew Unger**.
$72,000.
[2023-2025] [Axis 2 + Cluster C + Focus 3]

§ 118 "Food Studies Working Group," Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC) Working Group program. Principal Investigator: **Jordan LeBel**. Co-investigators: **Geneviève Sicotte** + 8 others.
$2,000
[2023-2024] [Axis 1 + Focus 3]

§ 117 Clandestine Transactions Working Group. CISSC Working Group program. Principal Investigator: **Sowparnika Baslasamwinathan.** Co-investigators: **David Howes** and 3 others.
$2,000
[2023-2024] [Axis 1 + Cluster A]

§ 116 "Probing XR's Futures: Design Fiction, Bodily Experience and Critical Inquiry," Swiss National Science Foundation. Principal Investigator: **Chris Salter** (Zurich University of the Arts & Concordia University). Co-investigators: **David Howes,** Sabine Himmelsbach (Haus der elektronischen Künste, Basel), Lorenza Mondada, (University of Basel), Pilar Orero (Autonomous University of Barcelona), Andreas Uebelbacher, (Access for All, Spain).
$1,407,625 CAD {Note: this amount not included in the tally}
[2023-2027] [Axis 4 + Cluster C + Focus 2]

§ 115 "A Tale of Two Cities in Three Parts: exploring the emplacement of sound and affect." Fonds de Recherche du Québec – Nature et technologie (FRQNT)/ ExperiSens Centre collégial de transfert de technologies (CCTT) internship. Applicant: **Craig Farkash**. (SOAN Phd). Faculty supervisor: **David Howes**.
$7,000.
[2023-2024] [Axis 2 + Cluster B + Focus 2]

§ 109 "Names at the tip of the nose: naming, smell and truth," Slovenian research agency (ARRS). Principal Investigator: Simon Hajdini (Philosophy, University of Ljubljana). Co-investigators: Lidija Šumah, Slavoj Žižek, Gregor Moder, Sebastjan Vörös, Jure Simoniti. Collaborators: **David Howes** (Concordia), William Mazzarella (U of Chicago), Eric Reinhart (Northwestern), Eric Santner (U of Chicago), Andrew Cutrofello (Loyola).
$431,310 CAD {300,000 euros}
[2022-2025] [Axis 1]

§ 108 "Tracing ephemeral experiences in aesthetic practices: Immersive listening to workshop a neurodiverse phenomenology." Insight Development Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Principal Investigator: **Melissa Park** (Occupational Therapy, McGill). Co-investigator: **Florian Grond**.
$75,000
[2022-2024] [Axis 2 + Cluster C + Focus 2]

§ 107 "Emerging Educational Policies in Times of Crisis: Visual Accountability in Mexico and Canada." SSHRC Insight Development Grant. Principal Investigator: **Carolina Cambre**. Co-applicant: Elizabeth Ocampo Gomez, (Instituto de Investigaciones en Educación Universidad Veracruzana, México).
$65,000
[2022-2025] [Focus 1]

§ 106 "Atmospheres of Accusation: Law, Nature, and Colonial Governmentality. FRQSC Research Support for New Academics. Principal Investigator: **Matthew Unger**.
$40,238
[2022-2025] [Axis 1 + Cluster A]

§ 105 "Decolonial Entanglements: Art, Technology and Critical Genealogies of Immersion." FRQSC Soutien à la recherche pour la relève professorale. Principal Investigator: **May Chew**.
$45,000.
[2022-2025] [Focus 2 + Axis 2]

§ 102 "Monitoring child-targeted food packaging: Tracking prevalence, nutritional quality, and marketing appeals in Canada." Child Health and Wellness Grand Challenge Catalyst Award. PI **Charlene Elliott** (CSS Affiliate Member, UCalgary), Co-Applicants: Joel Reardon, Dana Olstad (UofC), Kim Raine (U. of Alberta), **Jordan LeBel** (Concordia).
$50,000
[2022-2024] [Focus 1 + Axis 3]

§ 95 "Mobilizing disability survival skills for the urgencies of the Anthropocene." Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Insight grant. Principal Investigator: **Arseli Dokumaci**. Co-investigators: Pamela Block (Western), Cassandra Hartblay (Toronto).
$264,008.
[2021-2025] [Axis 1 + Cluster C]

§ 91 "Expressive Masculinities: Heterosexual Men and Emotional Expression in Popular Music." SSHRC Insight Grant. Principal Investigator: **Marc Lafrance.** Co-investigator: **Lori Burns** (CSS Affiliate Member, UOttawa). Collaborator: **Matt Unger**.
$85,700.
[2021-2025] [Axis 2 + Cluster D] ** [resubmission of § 58]

§ 90 "Primitivism and Interior Design: Art Deco, Hybridity and the Decolonization of the Modern Interior in France, 1909-1939." SSHRC Insight Grant. Principal Investigator: **John Potvin**.
$91,174
[2021-2025] [Focus 3]

§ 84 "The Art of Visual Politics: Tracing, Making and Imagining Palestine." FRQSC Nouveaux Chercheurs (Research Support for New Academics Research Support for New Academics). Principal Investigator: **Nayrouz Abu Hatoum**.
$44,622
[2021-2025] [Axis 1 & 2]

§ 80. "Privacy Pedagogies for Virtual Play." SSHRC Insight. Principal Investigator: **Martin French**. Co-investigators: **David Howes**, Sylvia Kairouz. Collaborators: Helen Nissenbaum (Cornell), Eva Monson (U Sherbrooke), Annie-Claude Savard (U Laval).
$98,554
[2021-2024] [Focus 1]

§ 65. "Centre for Sensory Studies (university research centre) Operating Funds." Concordia University OVPRGS. $210,000. Co-applicants: **David Howes, Bianca Grohmann**.
$210,000
[2020-2026]

§ 59. "Explorations in Sensory Design." SSHRC Insight. Principal Investigator: **David Howes**. Co-applicants: **Constance Classen, Carmela Cucuzzella, Arseli Dokumaci, Bianca Grohmann, Aaron Johnson, Jordan LeBel**. Collaborators: Thomas Bastien (Montreal Museum of Fine Arts), Martine Lizotte (ITHQ), Suzanne Sauvage (McCord Museum), Henning Schmidgen (Bauhaus University), Charles Spence (Oxford), Stephanie Singer (BitterSuite, London), Ellen Lupton (Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum).
$297,000
[2020-2024] [Focus 3]

Image Credit: Craig Farkash

4 PUBLICATIONS & OTHER PRODUCTIONS

4.1 Books and Special Issues

4.1.1 Faculty and Fellows

Potvin, **John**, Marie-Ève Marchand and Benoit Beaulieu (eds.). *The Senses in Interior Design: Sensorial Expressions and Experiences.* Studies in Design and Material Culture series. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, 2023.

Howes, David. 2024. *Sensorium: Contextualizing the Senses and Cognition in History and Across Cultures*. Elements – Histories of Emotions and the Senses series. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024

Messer, Karen. *How to Work with Space: Spatial Knowledge in Organizations and Research Practice*. Springer Link, 2024

4.1.2 Students

Goldbard, Adela. *Rebellion in an Other Mexico: The Last Judgment/Rebelión en el otro México:El Juicio Final*. Gallery 400 at UIC/Universidad Iberoamericana, Chicago-Mexico City, 2023

4.2 Chapters in Books, Journal Articles, and Popularizations

4.2.1 Faculty and Fellows

Chapters in Books

Abu Hatoum, Nayrouz and Hadeel Assali. 2023 "Attending to the Fugitive: Resistance Videos from Gaza." In *Gaza on Screen*, edited by Nadia Yaqub, 136–56. Durham: Duke University Press.

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika. 2024. "Aram, Caste, and Class: Karnan as the Tamil Mass Hero." In *The Routledge Companion to the Mahābhārata*. Eds. Shubha Pathak, Brian Collins, & Fred Smith. Routledge.

Howes, David. 2023. "The Rise of Sense-Based Social Inquiry: A Genealogy of Sensory Ethnography." In Phillip Vannini (ed.) *The Routledge International Handbook of Sensory Ethnography*, 23-31. Abingdon: Routledge.

Howes, David. 2023. "Interiorizing the Senses." In John Potvin, Marie-Eve Marchand and Benoit Beauliu, eds. *The Senses in Interior Design: Sensorial Expressions and Experiences*, 203-16. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Howes, David 2023."Foreword: How to Use Your Ears." In Michael Schillmeier, Robert Stock, Beate Ochsner (eds.), *Techniques of Hearing: History, Theory and Practices*, xi-xviii. Abingdon: Routledge, 2023.

Mohammadpour-Yazdi, A-R., & **Lafrance, Marc.** (2023). "The Eco Skin: From an Egocentric Approach to an Ecocentric Worldview." In *Mind in the Line of Fire: Psychoanalytic Voices to the Challenges of our Times*. London: International Psychoanalytic Association.

Potvin, John. 2023. 'Sensual Luxury, Primitivism and the French Bourgeois Interior: Decolonising "Black Deco" in John Potvin, Dr Marie-Ève Marchand and Benoit Beaulieu (eds.). *The Senses in Interior Design: Sensorial Expressions and Experiences. Studies,* 51-68. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press.

Potvin, John. 2023. 'In the Spaces of Bibliosexuality: The Library as Extravagant Gesture and Queer Utopia' in Benny Nemer (ed)., *I Don't Know Where Paradise Is*., 67-85. Ottawa: Carleton Art Gallery.

Journal Articles

Cambre, Carolina. 2023. "The Atopic Image". Visual Studies 38(2): 199-202

Lemay-Perreault, R., M. Paquin & **Desgagné, Gabrielle** (2023). Les pensionnats et foyers autochtones fédéraux du Canada : la commémoration des lieux de mémoire sensible selon une visée réconciliatoire. Muséologies, 10(2), 129–144. https://doi.org/10.7202/1108042ar

R. Lemay-Perreault, M. Paquin and **Desgagné, Gabrielle**. (2024) « L'art comme « zone de contact » entre autochtones et allochtones : Une médiation commémorative et réconciliatoire? » Patrimoines. Les carnets du RéPUQ, numéro 1, 17-21.

Murch, W.S., Kairouz, S. and **French, Martin**. (2024). "Establishing the Temporal Stability of Machine Learning Models that Detect Online Gambling Related Harms," Computers in Human Behavior Reports 14, Online first

Hoebanx, Pauline and **French, Martin** (2023). "Interpassive Gambling: The Case of Slot Machine Vlogs on YouTube," Critical Gambling Studies 4(1): 66–76.

Murch, W. Spencer, Sylvia Kairouz, Sophie Dauphinais, Elyse Picard, Jean-Michel Costes and **French, Martin**. (2023). "Using Machine Learning to Retrospectively Predict Self-Reported Gambling Problems in Quebec," Addiction, Online first

Blain-Moraes, S., Incio Serra, N., Maschke, C., Webber, J., Holland, M., Tembeck, T., **Grond, Florian**, Schlesinger, J., Francis, B., & Vinit, F. (2024). "Resonance: A Brain-Computer Interface Assemblage of EEG, Sound, and Therapeutic Clowns for the Detection of Consciousness." Leonardo MIT 57(4), preprint.

Howes, David and Walfish, Simcha 2023. "Litigating the carceral soundscape." Osgoode Hall Law Journal 60(1): 175-219.

Howes, David . 2024. "The Pleasure of Craft. Review of Trevor H.J. Marchand, *The Pursuit of Pleasurable Work: Craftwork in Twenty-First Century England*." Current Anthropology 65(2): 390-91

Aubin, G., Phillips, N., Jaiswal, A., **Johnson, Aaron**, Joubert, S., Bachir, V., Kehayia, E. & Wittich, W. (2023).Visual and cognitive functioning among older adults with low vision before vision rehabilitation, Frontiers in Psychology–Cognition, 14, 1-11.doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1058951

Stark, Z., Morrice, E., Wittich, W., & **Johnson, Aaron** (2023) The effects of simulated and actual visualimpairment on the Montreal Cognitive Assessment.. Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition 30(4): 523-535

Dotson, M., & **Lafrance, Mark**. (2023). "Engineering the Skin: Embodied Experiences of Healing from Acne Among Youtube Vloggers." Body and Society, Online First.

Potvin, John. 2024. 'The Materials of Shame: Decoration, Masculinity, and the Birth of Modern Interior Design'. *Art Bulletin*, Vol. 106, Iss. 1 (March): 8-19.

Preston, VK. 2023."Dancing the Kleptocene," Postmedieval, special double issue, ed. Katherine Dickason. 487–511 (September 2023). https://doi-org.lib-ezproxy.concordia.ca/10.1057/s41280-023-00279-x.

Sicotte, Geneviève. 2024. "Writing and Translating the Intimate: *Vital Signs*, a work of digital literature about Food", ellipse, May 2024.

Brignol, A., A. Paas, **Sotelo-Castro, Luis**, D St-Onge, G. Beltrtame, and E. Coffey (2024). Overcoming Boundaries: Interdisciplinary challenges and opportunities in cognitive neuroscience," Neuropsychologia 200. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2024.108903

Popularizations

Howes, David. 2023. « Crossing Senses and Crossing Disiplines at the "Mount of Truth" : A Review of the "The Senses: Present Issues, Past Perspectives" Conference at Monte Verita, Switzerland, April 2023 » Sensational Investigations, Sensory Studies. Available on-line : http://www.sensorystudies.org/crossing-senses-crossing-disciplines-at-the-mount-of-truth/

Howes, David. 2023. "The Urban Sensorium and Street Art." Explorations in Sensory Design. Available on-line: https://www.sensorydesign.ca/howes-urban-sensorium-street-art

Lynch, E.E. (2024). "Sensing the Redpath: An Introduction." *Explorations in Sensory Design.* Available online: https://www.sensorydesign.ca/redpath-sensing-introduction

Sicotte, Geneviève. "Cuisiner, manger, et en parler… Une causerie sur les représentations culturelles de la nourriture, Dans le cadre des causeries en français organisées par la FAS, Université Concordia, 7 mars 2024.

Sicotte, Geneviève « Le questionnaire "Choux" », dans *Canadian Food Studies / La revue canadienne des études sur l'alimentation*, vol. 10, nº 3, novembre 2023.

4.2.2 Students

Journal Articles

Ammar-Khodja, Brice and Renaud-Grignon, G. (2024). La Fonge et l'assise: des mobiliers urbains dépolluants. *Vecteur Environnement*, 57, vol.1, p.46-49.

Bath, **Paula**, Tiphanie Girault, and Ellen Waterman. 2023. "Reflecting on Bodily Listening in Place: An Intercultural and Intersensory Research-Creation Project," Performance Matters 9. 1-2: 139-154.

Beaudin-Quintin, Chélanie and Joëlle Dubé. 2024. "Vertigo Sea et Typhoon Coming On, récits obliques d'un sublime aquatique," *ESSE*, *Eau*, no.109: 38-45

Bellemare-Pepin, A., **Lespinasse, François**, Thölke, P., Harel, Y., Mathewson, K., Olson, J. A., Bengio, Y., & Jerbi, K.. 2024. Divergent Creativity in Humans and Large Language Models. *arXiv*. https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2405.13012

Chapters

Farkash, Craig. 2023."Blurred Rhythms: Editing Towards an Acouste(m)pathic Approach to Sound in Edmonton Canada" in *Keep it Simple, Make it Fast: An Approach to Underground Music Scenes, Volume 6*. University of Porto, Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

Popularizations

Thibodeau, Zeph. 2024. "Social Machines and Human Values." Gegenüber Digital Magazine, Issue 2: Synthetic Truth. Available online: https://www.goethe.de/prj/geg/en/thm/tru/25348067.html

4.3 Conference papers and invited talks

4.3.1 Faculty and Fellows

Abu Hatoum, Nayrouz. "Gaza on Screen". A Panel Discussion. Columbia University. December 6, 2023.

Abu Hatoum, Nayrouz. "Palestinian Feminism: A Grammar for Decolonization." A Panel Discussion. Cornell University. May 6, 2023.

Abu Hatoum, Nayrouz. "Creative Ethnographic Methods in the Middle East". Brown University. January 30, 2024.

Abu Hatoum, Nayrouz. "Interdisciplinary Transgressions: Liberatory Palestinian Scholarship and Praxis" RoundTable VII-2, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting. November 3-5, 2023.

Abu Hatoum, Nayrouz. "Private Conversations: Palestinian Secrets and the Public Sphere". American Studies Association Annual Meeting. November 3-5, 2023

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika. "Spectral Connections: Peopling Artifacts and Belongings in Museum Collections." The Traffic in Objects. Concordia Student Conference, Concordia University, 10 April, 2024.

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika. "Swamimalai Stories: Contemporary Place-making in a Pilgrimage Town." Spalding Symposium on Indian Religions, Cardiff University, UK, 2024.

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika."Affecting the Archive: Absent Narratives, the Cold War, & Ethnographic Museum Collections." Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Toronto, ON, 2023.

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika. "Ethics, Affect, and the Mahabharata: Karna as the Hero in Tamil Political Mass Movie." Mahabharata Seminar, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, 2023.

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika. "Secrecy & Sculpture: Swamimalai as a site of Religious and Artistic Self-making." European Conference of South Asian Studies, Turin, Italy, 2023

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika. "Absence and the Archive" Panel co-organized with Hannah Turner. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Toronto, ON, November 2023.

Balaswaminathan, Sowparnika. "Sensory Transactions and Interactions with Material Cultures of Religious Traditions: A Methodology Workshop" (co-organized with **David Howes**) sponsored by the Clandestine Transactions Working Group, Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC), Concordia University, 21 February 2024

Cambre, Carolina and Hansen, S. "The visual essay unbound as interdisciplinary interface" at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, AU, June 25,-July 1, 2023.

Cambre, Carolina and Lavrence, C. "Algorithmic Sociality: "They Feed You Stuff" at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, AU, June 25-July 1, 2023.

Cambre, Carolina and Hansen, S. "Teaching Visual Essays as Interdisciplinary Methodological Interfaces" at 8th International Visual Methods Conference on Transition: Preparing for the Next Generation. Rome, IT. March 28-31, 2023.

Cambre, Carolina. « Discours inaugural : Marcher, être témoin et colonialité » |Walking, witnessing and coloniality. » Journée de lutte contre la violence genrée au Centre d'artistes Vaste et Vague | La Campagne Moose Hide , May 11, 2023

Cambre, Carolina. "Visual Accountability conference, International Visual Sociology Association (conference co-director, Xalapa, MX. 25-29 June, 2023.

Cambre, Carolina. "The semiotics of vandalism." Smart Semiotic Webinar, hosted by Bloomsbury Advances in Semiotics Series, February 18, 2024.

Cambre, Carolina. "The sociology of selfies". Colloquium Committee of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Carleton University, Ottawa, February 1, 2024.

Cambre, Carolina. "Molecular Insurrections: Responses to spatial silencing through defacement & destruction". SSHRC Connections Workshop on Social Spatialization &

Spatial Justice (http://www.spaceandculture.com/), University of Alberta, Edmonton, CA. March 27-28, 2024.

Cambre, Carolina. "Burning the Mona Lisa: Insurgent Subjectivities and the Pedagogical Ecologies of Protest." Opening Plenary at the Graduate Students' Society's 22nd Annual Conference on Education for Peace and Social Justice: Theory, Research and Praxis at McGill University, Montreal, CA, March 21, 2024.

Cambre, Carolina. "Chaotic Compositions: Destabilizing the Colonial Eye" in Symposium on Seeking new suns: Murmurations on the visual, affective, geographic, and sonic possibilities of collaborative liberatory methodologies. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference, Philadelphia, USA, April 11-14, 2024

Chew, May. "Reimaging Immersion through Decolonial Aesthetics and Praxis," Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference. Boston, MA, 2023.

Chew, May. Domestic Tableaux: Confession and Narrative Evasion in Diasporic Documentary." Film and Media Studies Association of Canada. York University; Toronto, ON, 2023.

Chew, May. "Counter-Archives and Networks of Care" (online presentation), Centre A: Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art Vancouver, BC, 2023.

Howie, W., Marui, A., Kamekawa, T., **Grond, Florian** and Omoto, A. "Objective comparison of 3D audio reproduction with and without bottom channels." Faculty of Design, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan. September 2023

Grond, Florian. "Listening Through Others: Immersive Audio in Ethnography and Sound Art", Talking Sense seminar series, Centre for Sensory Studies. 8 March 2024.

Grond, Florian. Alternative Dramaturgies Workshop, Post-Marginal Collective. Alternative Dramaturgies unites theatre practitioners with disabilities and explores how their approach reshapes aesthetic and formal practices. August 2023.

Grond, Florian. 2023. "Peindre a l'oreille," Cultural Mediation Workshop organized by Romain Becourt and hosted by the RAAMM (le Regroupment des Aveugles et Amblyopes de Montreal Metropolitaines, 2023.

Grond, Florian, and **Howes, David**. "Between art, science, and publics: What role for artistic experiments, objects, and interventions?" (panel discussion), Rencontres interdisciplinaires 2024, Hexagram. UQÀM, 25 March 2024

Tofighi, Maryam and G**rohmann, Bianca**. "Shelf Positioning Dynamics: The Visual Impact of Proximity on Private Label and National Brands," *Association for Consumer Research Asia-Pacific Conference*, Bali, Indonesia, 2024.

Howes, David "MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS Virtual Lecture Series" (curator and chair), a series of five talks sponsored by the Centre for Sensory Studies in association with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC), Concordia University, 19 January, 2 February, 8 February, 22 February, 1 March 2024

Howes, David "Discours luminaire" (keynote) *Histoires globales: Une entrée par le sensible*, Université Paris Cité, Paris, 25-26 January 2024

Howes, David. Sensing the Past On-Line Writing Workshop (panel discussion, via zoom), University of Amsterdam, 13-14 February 2024

Howes, David. "The Collideroscopic Sensorium in the Service of Design," *The Ethnographic Bistro: A Chaos Menu for Anthropology*, Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA) Annual Conference, 17 May 2024

Howes, David. "New Sensory Pathways to the Past: Writing Workhop" (commentator), University of Amsterdam (via zoom), 13 February 2024

Howes, David "Threatening Colour in Body and Mind" (panel chair), Colour Matters conference, Trinity College, Oxford. 8 December 2023

Howes, David Sensory Ethnography (session organizer), Canadian Anthropology Society & American Anthropological Association, 19 November 2023

Howes, David "Sensing Otherwise," Expanding Politics and Art: Panel in Honour of Dara Culhane, Canadian Anthropology Society & American Anthropological Association, 19 November 2023

Lafrance, Marc, I. Tetreault & E. Gagné, "Vulnerable Masculinities in Music Videos: Attitudes Towards Representations of Violence Against Men Among YouTube Commenters." April 2024

Lafrance, Marc. Twelve Rules for Men: Jordan Peterson's Doctrine of Masculinity." Masculinity, Masculinist Politics, and Political Extremism in the Nordic Region, University of Oslo, February 2024.

Lafrance, Marc. "Studying Men, Masculinity, and Emotional Expression." Critical Studies of Men and Masculinities Seminar, Örebro University, Örebro (Sweden), December 2023

Lafrance, Marc. "Twenty Years of Collaborative Work with Lori Burns: An Overview of Our Key Contributions to Popular Music Studies." LB30: 30 Years of Lori Burns's Contributions to Popular Music Studies. University of Ottawa, Ottawa , October 2023.

Lafrance, Marc & Menteth Wheelwright, I. (2023, June). "Jordan Peterson and the Cultural Politics of Gender and Sexuality." American Men's Studies Association, Concordia University, Montreal, June 2023..

Lafrance, Marc & G. Tremblay, G. "Men's Health Policies Around the World." American Men's Studies Association, Concordia University, Montreal, June 2023.

Sowad, A.S.M. & **Lafrance, Marc**. "Men, Masculinities and Transnational Migration in Canada: A Scoping Review." American Men's Studies Association, Concordia University, Montreal (Canada), May 2023.

Lafrance, Marc. "Sensitive Skins: Didier Anzieu and the Sensory Life of the Body." UncommonSenses: Sensory Ecologies, Economies and Aesthetics, Concordia University, Montreal, May 2023.

Ducharme, M-È. & **LeBel, Jordan.** "From Retail to Convenience: Food Revolution Fueling a Convenience Addiction," presented at the ESSEC Retailing Conference, Paris, June 6 to 8, 2024.

LeBel, Jordan. « Rejoindre et mobilisier le citoyen-consommateur de demain pour co-construire un future durable en agro-alimentation. » Colloque STA(sciences et technologies agro-alimentaires), Université Laval, 17 Novembre, 2023.

Ducharme, M-È and **LeBel, Jordan**. "Women In Agri-Food: Obstacles and Challenges In A Turbulent Sector. A PME Business Owners' Perspectives." GRCME, Hamburg, Germany 31 July-2 August 2023.

Ducharme, M-È. and **LeBel, Jordan**. (2023). Women in Agri-Food: Obstacles and Challenges in a Turbulent Sector. Administrative Sciences Association of Canada, Toronto, 3-6 June 2023.

Lynch, E. E. (2024). "Sensing the Augmented City: Locative Tours, Haunted Streetscapes and Imagined Futures." *Urban Ethnography and Theory* (IUS 2023-2024 Monthly Seminar Series, online). January 11, 2024.

Lynch, E.E. "'It must be something in the water': A comparative sensory ethnography of urban spa atmospheres." *International Urban Symposium, Urban Ethnography Field School and Research Seminar, 2023.* Montecatini-Terme, Italy. July 27, 2023.

Potvin, John. 'Claiming Decoration!: Design Histories of Shame and Phobia' (plenary address), 'Educating the Interior Designer' Conference, University of Ghent (Ghent, Belgium), September 2023.

Potvin, John.'Pierre Legrain's 'Black Deco': Primitivism and the French Interior'. *The 14th Asian Conference on Arts & Humanities* (Tokyo, Japan), May 2023.

Preston, VK. "Playing *la Galigaï:* Afterlives in Performance & Text" and "Between Water & Stone" at Camargo Foundation, Fellows Seminars, April 22, 2024.

Preston, VK. "La danse, le dessin et le colonialisme: au-delà de l'humain dans les sources françaises sur les Amériques (XVIIe s.)," Dance and Cultural History Seminar, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris. February 5, 2024.

Unger, Matthew. "Atmospheres, Community, Discourse" Presented at the Atmospheres of Istanbul Symposium, Orient Institute of Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey. October 2023.

Unger, Matthew. "Lawscapes, Biopolitics and Legal Beginnings" Presented at the Legal Beginnings Symposium, Concordia University, Montreal QC. November 2023

Unger, Matthew. "Biopolitics of Atmospheres, Authenticity, and Extreme Metal" Presented at the International Society for Metal Music Studies Conference. Montreal, QC. June 2023

4.3.2 Students

Ammar-Khodja, Brice. "Imaginaries in Changing Climates" round table as part of LASER (Leonardo Art Science Evening RendezVous), organized by co-chairs Nina Czegledy and Gisèle Trudel. Hexagram, Montréal, Québec, Canada.

Bath, Paula. "Re{verbe}: The reverberation of communication, an intersensory story between people" (organizer). Concordia University, 4th Space., April 12, 2024

Beaudin-Quintin, Chélanie. "Thinking Ethical Futures through Localized Artistic Engagements with Technology," with Joëlle Dubé. Presentation at Science & Technology Studies Italia, Panel 13: Artistic Intelligence? Making it together in the Multispecies World. Universita di Bologna, Bologna (Italy)

Beaudin-Quintin, Chélanie "les savoirs incarnés des cinédanses: une approche sensorielle et relationnelle de la dramaturgie." Presentation for "Dance and/as Technology: More-than-human Choreographies, Performers and Audiences," Agora du Coeur des Sciences (UQAM), Montreal.

Beaudin-Quintin, Chélanie. "La conception et la scénarisation des expériences immersives en XR." Panel moderated by Olivier Asselin. Part of the conference "Raconter-Cartographier: la scénarisation élargie." Archives Nationales de Montréal, Montreal.

Farkash, Craig. "Hearing Culture in Reverse: Developing an Acouste(m)pathic approach to sound through imaginative ethnography", presented during "Urban Encounters, Narratives, and Creative Practices" at Transitions: AAA/CASCA Annual Meeting, Toronto. November 18, 2023

Farkash, Craig "Sounds of the Street: empathetic engagements with everyday listening(s)," presented during the organized panel "Making *Sense*: Exploring Sensory Ecologies in Everyday Life" at CASCA 2024: Sedimented Histories, Vital Trajectories, Kelowna BC. May 18, 2024.

Goldbard, Adela. *If Vultures Arrive, There Will Be War: Notes Towards a Poetics of Violence*, IAS Invited Lecture Series in Postcollectivity, Humanities, Art, Technology Research Center, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland

Goldbard, Adela *Punto ciego Seminar: Espacios de resistencia*, Página en Blando, Mexico

Goldbard, Adela. Panel Conversation (coordinator and moderator): *Fiestas patronales: Resistencia cultural, comunalidad y soberanía indígena* [Patronal Feasts: Cultural Resistance, Communality and Indigenous Sovereignty], Art Souterrain Festival, Montreal

Goldbard, Adela. Panel conversation: *Witnessing the Political: How Art, Politics and Media Make Political Voice and Agency*, Media and Politics Cafe, Johnson and Wales University, Providence

Goldbard, Adela Artist Talk/Book Presentation: *Paisajes. Este fino borde de alambre de púas*. EXIT La Librería, Mexico City

Nikolic, Leona. "After Intelligence: Speculative Futures and the Post-Intelligent Other." Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts 36th Annual Conference: Alien, Arizona State University, 2023

O'Brien, Emilie. "*The Body is a Garden*," Imagined Bodies Conference 2023, Concordia University, Montreal, 2023

O'Brien, Emilie. *Stitching with the St Lawrence*, 30th Annual River Symposium, 2023, The River Institute, Cornwall, 2023

Sriram. Jayanthan & Sriram-Uzundal Neslihan. "The Nocturnal Bodies of Enlightenments Tradition – German Migration as Necropolitical Death-World", presented during 'Worlds of Exploration', 64th Annual Conference of the Society for the History of Discoveries, Minneapolis, Minnesota. September 22, 2023.

Sriram. Jayanthan & Sriram-Uzundal Neslihan. "Ephemeralizing Difference – German Guestworkers between Atmo-racism and Olfactory Perseverance", presented during Work and Smell: Comparative Perspectives, Goldsmiths University of London. 25 April, 2024.

Van der Post, Rebecca. "Yesterdayness: capitalism, ethnocide and the sensory structures of accumulation", 2023 Critical Theory Roundtable, UC Santa Cruz, November 3, 2023.

Van der Post, Rebecca. "Activism, Art and the Dark Deep Dream", Prague Philosophy and Social Science Colloquium. May 11,, 2024.

Walker, Clare. "(Tracing + restoring) (medical anthropology + wellness studies)."

Retrospection & Renewal: Reflections on the Social Studies of Health in Contemporary Life. University of Ottawa, ON. 24 April 2024.

4.4 Multimedia Installations and Exhibitions

4.4.1 Faculty and Fellows

Cambre, Carolina. "COLLABORATIVE COLLAGE." Postal Collage Project No.13 GALLERY: Berkeley Art Center 1275 Walnut Street, Berkeley, May 4-12, 2024**.**

Anderwald, R., Edelsztein, S., Grond, L. (2023) "On Certain Groundlessness." Spatial Audio Mix by **Florian Grond**. Available online here: https://www.on-dizziness.com/resources-overview/podcast

Balaban, B., Theodore, D., Thorogood, J. (2023). "Impostor Cities: Édifices et artifice." Surround Concept and Mixing by **Florian Grond**. https://moca.ca/exhibitions/impostor-cities-2023/

4.4.2 Students

Ammar-Khodja, Brice and Celerier, J.-M. "The Archive." Ars Electronica, Imprints – Garden Exhibition. Ars Electronica Festival, Post City, Linz, Austria. September 2023.

Ammar-Khodja, Brice. "The Heavy Metal Sensing Machine." Milieux Expo'23 – The Commons. Milieux Institute, Montréal, Quebec, Canada

Ammar-Khodja, Brice and Celerier, J.-M. "The Archive." Parralele, Union Française, Montréal, Quebec, Canada. September 2023.

Beaudin-Quintin, Chélanie,"Underwater: A VR experience." Art work presentation for the special event of STS Italia conference "After Words: more-than-academic," Le Serre, Bologna (Italy).

Beaudin-Quintin, Chélanie. Masterclass, moderated by Oriane Morriet, for "Mardis de l'OCQ", Université de Montréal,

Farkash, Craig. A Tale of Two Cities in Three Parts: An experiment in listening to the locative in Montreal and Edmonton. April 8-11, 2024. ExperiSens (ITHQ) and Centre for Sensory Studies, Concordia University

Goldbard, Adela. *Kurhirani no ambakiti (burning the devil): since that's the only way they listen to us*, solo show at Institut Culturel du Mexique Montréal / Espacio México - Art Souterrain Festival 2023, March 31-April 24, 2023.

Goldbard, Adela. *Puesta en escena (Mise-en-scène)*, solo show at Centro de la Imagen, Mexico City, May 9 – July 31, 2024.

Goldbard, Adela. "Furia sin enemigo (rage without enemy): zapandukua" (2023), commissioned for *Eje neovolcánico. Aproximaciones artísticas al paisaje ígneo* curated by Daniel Garza Usabiaga & Paulina Ascencio, Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City, June 22 – November 25, 2023

Goldbard, Adela. "Nochixtlan" (2018-2019), *Resistance* curated by Kate Irvin, RISD Museum of Art, Providence, November 2023- November 2024.

Goldbard, Adela. "Non-Reflex 4" (2009), *Colección. Muestra colectiva de fotografía*. Enrique Guerrero Gallery, Mexico City, February 06 – April 06, 2024.

Gruni, Paolo**, Lespinasse, François**. **Seibel, Thomas.** (2024). Meteomythosophy. *Embodied Interventions 5th Edition: Tentacular Inquiry,* LePARC-Milieux Institute, Montreal. May 2024

Thölke, P., Bellemare-Pépin, A., Harel, Y., **Lespinasse, François**, Jerbi, K. (2024) Bio-Mechanical Poet: An Immersive Audiovisual Playground for Brain Signals and Generative AI. *International Conference on Computational Creativity 2024*.

Lespinasse, François. (2024). Transdisciplinary common-sense. *Invited presentation at Tama Art University, School of Design, Tokyo*, May 2024

Lespinasse, François. (2024). The Sensorium Colaboratory : creating spaces for transdisciplinary common-sense. Interdisciplinarity : *Applied AI Institute, Concordia University, 4th Space*. Flash presentation

Sriram, Jayanthan. MOA – Modal Olfactory Atmospheres. April 8-11, 2024. Centre for Sensory Studies, Concordia University.

Thibodeau, Zeph, Yolgôrmez, and C., Tchilinguirian, P. (2023) Rencontres robotiques : les aventures de NAO à Montréal. Eastern Bloc, Montreal. Part of the Goethe Institute "Robot in Residence" program in partnership with Hexagram and the Milieux Institute.

Image Credit: Craig Farkash

5 ACTIVITIES

5.1 Lectures, Symposia and Conferences

As we have done for the past three years, the Centre sponsored a virtual lecture series in collaboration with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture. This year's theme was MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITMS, and featured the following lectures:

> ***After Free Speech: #datapolitik and the Failures of Liberalism,*** **Davide Panagia (UCLA), 19 January 2024**
>
> ***The Fugitive Hands and Feet in Algorithmic Work*****, Tarini Bedi (University of Illinois—Chicago), 2 February 2024**
>
> ***Forcings and Felt-Virtualities: Do Climate Models Have Affects?*****, Adrian Mackenzie (Australian National University), 8 February 2024**
>
> ***Performing AI: Labor and Complexity on the Contemporary Stage,*** **Chris Salter (Zurich University of the Arts) and Marc-André Cossette (Hexagram), 22 February 2024**
>
> ***Symbiontics, Machine Learning, and the Internet of Earthlings*****, Caroline A. Jones (MIT), 1 March 2024**

The response to this year's series was highly positive, so much so that we are already planning a lecture series for next year, tentatively entitled MULTISENSORY MUSEOLOGY

In February 2024, in collaboration with the Clandestine Transactions Working Group, directed by Sowparnika Balaswaminathan, the Centre sponsored a methodological workshop entitled "Sensory transactions and interactions with material cultures of religious traditions". The workshop was animated by Dr. Laura Peers (Trent University) and Dr. Cara Krompotich (University of Toronto). The workshop attracted approximately 40 faculty and students. The latter were invited to bring objects of significance to them to the workshop. Many fascinating conversations sprung up around the objects as they were circulated amongst the participants, thanks to the latter being primed in diverse techniques for 'sensing artifacts' by Drs. Peers and Krmpotich.

The other main event of the 2023-2024 academic year was a public lecture by Richard Shusterman, Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Humanities of Florida Atlantic University. His talk was entitled *Aesthetic Experience and the Powers of Possession: From Somaesthetics to the Man in Gold*.

Since Professor Shusterman was to be in town (meeting with colleagues and friends) for three days prior to his talk on the Friday, he generously agreed to participate in two other events,. We called these events "Shusterman Salons" in his honour. The format of the salon was as follows: 5 students have 10 minutes each to present an overview of their research, And Professor Shusterman then comments or riffs on the points he found to be of interest. The 1o chose students were profoundly appreciative of this feedback (and were also rewarded with $100 honoraria).

5.2 Seminars

The Talking Sense seminar series went on throughout the year, and was comprised of the following talks:

***Repurposed Methods*, Anna Harris, 22 November 2023**

***Listening Through Others*, Florian Grond, 8 March 2024**

***A Scentimental Education: Freud on Smell and the Origins of Culture*, Simon Hajdini, 3 April 2024**

***Biohybrid Bodies: the hybridization of the senses now and into the future,* Ned Barker, 4 April 2024**

Other events sponsored or co-sponsored by the Centre included:

***Seeking Vocal Alignment,* Gabriel Dharmoo, 23 August 2023**

***Food Innovation Workshop*, Jordan LeBel, 24 October 2023**

***Robotic Encounters // Recontres Robotiques*, Zeph Thibodeau, 13 October 2023**

***Constructed Atmospheres: Synesthesia and the Senses in Contemporary Art*, Melanie Schnidrig, 14 February 2024**

***Romanticism and Canonicity: Lessons from the Colonial Margins*, Kedar A. Kulkarni, 18 March 2024**

***Masculinity, Emotion and Popular Music: A One-Day Conference*, Marc Lafrance, 5 April 2024**

Of particular note were three events put on by CSS students in early April: two installations and one pop-up exhibition

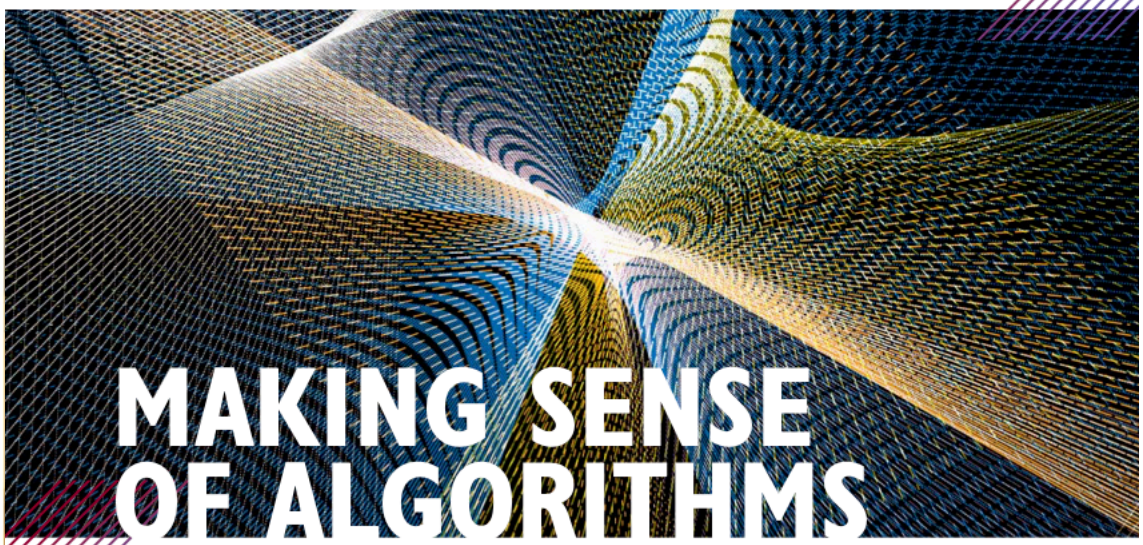
• Re{verbe} was a pop-up, one-day exhibition that explored deaf and hearing artists' experience of communication. The exhibition was curated by **Paula Path**, a Public Scholar and student in the PhD in Social and Cultural Analysis program.

• The installations were by **Jayanthan Sriram** (PhD Humanities program) and **Craig Farkash** (PhD in Social and Cultural Analysis program). Both Sriram and Farkash were recipients of internship awards from the FRQNT in association with the ExperiSens laboratory at the ITHQ. Sriram staged an installation entitled "Modal Olfactory Atmospheres: Experiential Design of Olfactory Environments" in fulfillment of the terms of his award: it explored the question of whether there are any intrinsic connections between scents and sound. Farkash's installation, which was showcased both on the premises of ITHQ and in in a room adjacent to the Centre, was called "A Tale of Two Cities in Three Parts: an experiment in listening to the locative in Montreal and Edmonton": it explored the connections between sound and space. The faculty and students who visited these installations reportedly experienced many rapturous moments.

Université Concordia University

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES | FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE | FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture



MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS

Image from the Collideroscope series (2022) by Erik Adigard, http://m-a-d.com

VIRTUAL LECTURE SERIES

Winter term 2024

Contemporary existence is undergoing radical transformation as a function of advances in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and automation. This lecture series seeks to problematize the multiple ways in which digitization has taken command. The speakers will do so by focussing attention on the complex interaction between sentient subjects and "the algorithmic optic." Topics include the political ontology of algorithms, platform labour, sensing global average temperatures, performing AI, and sensing symbiontics. "Making Sense of Algorithms" aims to lay the foundations for the articulation of a new common sense.

All lectures and ensuing discussions will take place live on Zoom at the designated hour and last approximately 100 minutes. Please click on the title to register for each lecture. To view the presenters' bios and the abstracts for their talks please visit https://centreforsensorystudies.org/events-and-activities

This virtual lecture series is curated by David Howes. It is sponsored by the Centre for Sensory Studies in collaboration with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC).

CISSC Happening

concordia.ca/artsci/cissc

centreforsensorystudies.org

SPEAKERS

11 a.m. EST, Friday 19 January 2024

After Free Speech: #datapolitik and the Failures of Liberalism

Davide Panagia, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

11 a.m. EST, Friday, 2 February 2024

The Fugitive Hands and Feet in Algorithmic Work

Tarini Bedi, Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois – Chicago (UIC)

5 p.m. EST, Thursday, 8 February 2024

Forcings and Felt-Virtualities: Do Climate Models Have Affects?

Adrian Mackenzie, Professor of Sociology, College of Arts and Social Sciences, Australian National University (ANU)

1 p.m. EST, Thursday, 22 February 2024

Performing AI: Labor and Complexity on the Contemporary Stage

Chris Salter, Director and Professor, Immersive Arts Space, Zurich University of the Arts and **Marc-André Cossette**, Trans-disciplinary artist, Hexagram

11 a.m. EST, Friday, 1 March 2024

Symbiontics, Machine Learning, and the Internet of Earthlings

Caroline A. Jones, Professor, History Theory Criticism, Department of Architecture, MIT School of Architecture and Planning

This virtual lecture series is curated by David Howes. It is sponsored by the Centre for Sensory Studies in collaboration with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC).

CISSC Virtual Happening

concordia.ca/cissc

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"Feeling Alive with the Far Right: Fight Club Culture and Fascist Vitalism"

CISSC

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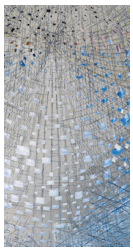

Image from: *Sentimental Empiricism* by Davide Panagia

MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS LECTURE SERIES

After Free Speech: #datapolitik and the Failures of Liberalism

Davide Panagia

Friday, 19 January 2024
11:00-12:40 EST, Virtual
Webinar Registration Link

Our modern political and aesthetic critical vocabularies are inadequate to the political ontology of algorithms. The reason is quite straight forward: algorithms are not mimetic media whereas our critical practices are rooted in judgments of and about representations. This means that attempts at the legislation of digital life are both misinformed and misguided if they assume that the dilemmas arising from algorithmic governance may be adequately managed by appeals to liberal conceptions of the individual, free speech, or privacy. This paper seeks to explain how and why this is the case. In doing so the paper elaborates the possibility of new forms of critical thinking that attend to the dispositional powers of algorithms.

Davide Panagia is Professor & Chair of Political Science at UCLA. Prior to his position at UCLA, he was Canada Research Chair in Cultural Studies at Trent University. He is a political theorist with multidisciplinary interests across the humanities and social sciences including contemporary political theory and the history of political thought, aesthetics, critical algorithm studies, and the philosophy of media. His book publications include *The Poetics of Political Thinking* (Duke, 2006), *The Political Life of Sensation* (Duke, 2009), *Rancière's Sentiments* (Duke, 2018), *Ten Theses for an Aesthetics of Politics* (Minnesota, *Forerunners*, 2016) and *Impressions of Hume: Cinematic Thinking and the Politics of Discontinuity* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2013). He has two forthcoming books: *Sentimental Empiricism: Politics, Philosophy, and Criticism in Postwar France* and *Intermedialities: Political Theory and Cinematic Experience*. His current research project, *#datapolitik*, is a study of the forms of power in the age of the algorithm.

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Image credit: Tarini Bedi

MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS LECTURE SERIES

The Fugitive Hands and Feet in Algorithmic Work

Tarini Bedi

Friday, 02 February 2024
11:00-12:40 EST, Virtual
Webinar Registration Link

Using my ethnographic research with men who drive for two platform transport companies in India, this presentation provokes a situated understanding of the many labors involved with work on technological platforms. It argues that people do not simply fall under the control of surveillance and the rationalities of big data but rather engage in improvisational or *fugitive* practices guided by the tactile labors of the hand and feet or what platform workers call, *haath*. In several South Asian languages, *haath* is the literal organ of the hand, but the term also refers to the more metaphorical tactile capacities of touch exercised by other organs of the body, and the skills, expertise, and work that can be encompassed and exercised by it. Further, by suggesting that this fugitivity and what David Howes (2022) calls the *labor of the senses* are distinct but intersecting components of other, embodied forms of labor, it moves the current scholarship on platform labor from technocratic, business-focused, and political economic approaches towards a tactile understanding of the capacities of workers in the platform economy.

Tarini Bedi is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Program Director for Cultural Anthropology at the National Science Foundation. She also directs the Mobilities and Methods Lab (MML), which is an outreach and dissemination collective for teaching and research on global mobilities. She currently works on the sensory life of urbanism, kinship, mobilities, labor and technology, infrastructure, and borders. She has conducted fieldwork in South and South East Asia, Europe, and the United States. She is the author of two books, *The Dashing Ladies of Shiv Sena: Political Matronage in Urbanizing India* (2016; SUNY Press) Her most recent book *Mumbai Taximen: Autobiographies and Automobilities in India* (2022; University of Washington Press) won a 2022 Victor Turner Prize for Ethnographic Writing. She is currently completing her third monograph *Fugitive Touch: Luka-Chipi(Hide and Seek) and Tactile Work in Mumbai*.

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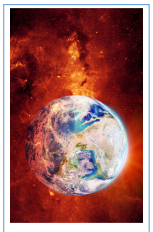

MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS LECTURE SERIES

Forcings and Felt-Virtualities: Do Climate Models Have Affects?

Adrian Mackenzie

Thursday, 08 February 2024
17:00-18:40 EST, Virtual
Webinar Registration Link

The paper explores the perhaps daunting technicalities of computational modelling of climate sensitivity in the light of experience/sensings of temperature. It has two threads. First, it argues that the modelling of sensitivity has implications for how change is experienced. In this line of thought, calculations of temperature are not thermodynamic abstractions, but rather they are felt-virtualities, or approximations to contemporary experience of temperature. Second, it argues that the modelling of sensitivity is a 'forcing,' or a way of obliging something to be felt. The obligation is to feel temperature in its sensitivity to change. Both threads of thought will be explored through a prototypical model of sensitivity, James Lovelock's Daisyworld model, a model that exemplifies contemporary efforts to articulate the artificiality of climate. Just as Daisyworld is a parable for Gaia, the Daisyworld implementations in computer code could be seen as 'geostories' (Haraway; Debaise) for an experience of felt-virtuality or increased sensitivity to change through contemporary approximating devices.

Adrian Mackenzie (Professor in the School of Sociology, Australian National University) researches how people work and live with media, devices, knowledges and infrastructures. He often focuses on software and platforms. He has a keen interest in the methodological challenges of media and science infrastructures for sociology. He is currently researching models, apps and sensors for extreme events.

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MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS LECTURE SERIES

Performing AI: Labor and Complexity on the Contemporary Stage

Chris Salter and Marc-André Cossette

Thursday, 22 February 2024
13:00-14:40 EST, Virtual
Webinar Registration Link

This talk focuses on the entanglements between human labor and machine "intelligence" in artistic performance. Indeed, as artificial intelligence in the guise of large-scale, data-driven algorithms that model biologically-conceptualized neural networks rewrite the rules on what constitutes human language, thought and action, this lecture will examine the bodily, mental, and affective work required to integrate neural networks into the profoundly anthropocentric domain of the performing arts so that these mathematical entities might also be seen to be expressive and "perform," thus leveling the playing field between human beings and non-human machines. "Performing AI" not only generates new aesthetic problems but also larger questions around how such AI performances reimagine creative labor together with what conception of human beings and society the algorithms that compose neural networks enact.

Chris Salter is and artist and Professor / Director of the Immersive Arts Space at the Zurich University of the Arts.

Marc-André Cossette Cossette is a Canadian transdisciplinary artist and PhD candidate at Concordia University working on the relation between technology and performing arts using sound, visual, and interaction design.

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CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

Cover image from *Sensorium: Embodied Experience, Technology, and Contemporary Art*, edited by Caroline A. Jones

MAKING SENSE OF ALGORITHMS LECTURE SERIES

Symbiontics, Machine Learning, and the Internet of Earthlings

Caroline A. Jones

Friday, 1 March 2024
11:00-12:40 EST, Virtual
Webinar Registration Link

Symbiosis ("with-living") is a biological fact: all Earth species live in entangled and reciprocal relations with other life forms. Increasingly, life scientists use machine learning to listen, watch, chemically sense, and monitor these more-than-human lives. "Artificial intelligence" is a misnomer; algorithms will only iterate, and machines will only learn, within the compromised contexts and training sets that human cognition has established. Can human thinking and forms of governance take advantage of what anthropologist Karen Bakker calls the "Internet of Earthlings," calling us to *listen* to these soundings? Confronting the task of radically changing our planetary relations, can we adapt our minds and our algorithms to the reality of symbiontics (symbiosis as that-which-is)? Infamously, the US constitution failed to give representation or standing to enslaved persons, Native Americans, or women – much less bats, bees, birches, or bacteria…. If we are to form a planetary polity with the more than human species with whom we ostensibly share the planet, the challenge of representation is even more significant. I argue that sensing our symbionts is a crucial step. Well underway in both art and science (if not yet in constitutions), the "voice" of more-than-human species has been given aesthetic and communicative form. This talk examines how such efforts expand human sensitivities to alien Umwelten (von Uexküll). Enlightenment concepts of enfranchisement based on lucid communication among subsets of humans (back then, property-owning European men) must catch up to the "blooming, buzzing confusion" of other lives. Sound artists, in particular, are working to accelerate that process.

Caroline A. Jones is a full Professor at MIT, teaching in the History, Theory, Criticism section of the Department of Architecture and also serving as Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives in the School of Architecture and Planning. She studies modern and contemporary art, with a particular focus on its technological modes of production, distribution, and reception, and on its interface with sciences such as physics, neuroscience, and biology. Her essays on modern and contemporary art have appeared in journals ranging from *Artforum* to *Critical Inquiry* to *Science in Context;* she is solo author of several books and exhibition catalogues, and a co-editor of volumes that examine technology and the senses, art and neuroscience, and art history and history of science as parallel inquiries. Collaborative work with historian of science and physicist Peter L. Galison will culminate in a book on scientific and viral images of environmental harm, titled *Invisibilities: Seeing and Unseeing the Anthropocene* (forthcoming with Zone Books at Princeton University press). Her research has been supported with fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Humanities Center, the Institute for Advanced Studies, the Radcliffe Institute, the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, the Max Planck Institute, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Social Science Research Council, and other foundations interested in interdisciplinary inquiry emerging from art history. Currently enmeshed with biologically-active art forms, she collaborated on curating the exhibition *Symbionts: Contemporary Artists and the Biosphere*, and on producing its algae-enriched publication from MIT Press, Fall 2022.

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CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES | FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE | FACULTY OF FINE ARTS
Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture

The Centre for Sensory Studies presents

AESTHETIC EXPERIENCE AND THE POWERS OF POSSESSION: FROM SOMAESTHETICS TO THE MAN IN GOLD

Photo credit: Yann Torra

A PUBLIC LECTURE

With Richard Shusterman

Abstract: This talk revisits the oldest theory of aesthetics that defines art as the result of divine but irrational possession. After examining how this theory was effectively countered and replaced by rational accounts of art making but nonetheless found recurrent residual expression in astute theorists, Richard Shusterman proposes a naturalistic account of possession in artistic experience. The account derives from his research in somaesthetics and his experience in performance art with the Man in Gold, a product of possession.

Friday, March 15, 2024 at 3 p.m.
Room EV 1.615, the amphitheatre on the ground floor of the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex (EV), 1515 Ste-Catherine St. W., enter via MacKay Street (metro Guy-Concordia)

Admission is free but seats are limited

Bio: Richard Shusterman is the Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Humanities, Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Center for Body, Mind, and Culture at Florida Atlantic University. Educated at Jerusalem and Oxford, he chaired the Temple University Philosophy Department before coming to FAU in 2005. He has held academic appointments in Paris, Berlin, Hiroshima, Rome, Oslo, Vienna, Hong Kong and Shanghai. He has also received senior Fulbright and NEH fellowships. His widely translated research covers many topics in the human sciences with particular emphasis on questions of philosophy, aesthetics, culture and embodiment. Authored books include: *Practicing Philosophy: Pragmatism and the Philosophical Life* (Routledge 1997), *Performing Live* (Cornell 2000), *Surface and Depth* (Cornell 2002) and *Pragmatist Aesthetics* (Blackwell 1992). His recent books in somaesthetics include a trilogy with Cambridge University Press: *Body Consciousness* (2008), *Thinking through the Body* (2012) and *Ars Erotica: Sex and Somaesthetics in the Classical Arts of Love* (2021), but also a bilingual graphic novella, *The Adventures of the Man in Gold*, based on his work in performance art. The French government awarded him the title of Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques for his philosophical and cultural work.

Professor Shusterman will also be participating in a number of other events during his sojourn in Montreal, including two Shusterman Salons, where Concordia doctoral students present brief talks about their research and he responds. Details about time, location and presenters available at **Concordia's Centre for Sensory Studies website**.

concordia.ca/artsci/cissc

Concordia University

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

SHUSTERMAN SALON NO.1

Richard Shusterman is the Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Humanities, Professor of Philosophy, and Director of the Center for Body, Mind, and Culture at Florida Atlantic University. His widely translated research covers many topics in the human sciences with particular emphasis on questions of philosophy, aesthetics, culture, and embodiment.

With Richard Shusterman

13 March 2024
11:00 am – 1:00 PM
H-1154 Hall Building

The Centre for Sensory Studies will be hosting a visit by Richard Shusterman, philosopher of the body, inventor of somaesthetics, from the 12th to the 15th of March. In addition to the public lecture at 3:00 pm on Friday, March 15th entitled "Aesthetic Experience and the Powers of Possession: From Somaesthetics to the Man in Gold," Professor Shusterman will conduct two master classes, or "salons."

The salons will feature brief (10-minute) presentations by Concordia graduate students, followed by responses from Professor Shusterman. The order will be: two back-to-back student presentations followed by a response; two more student presentations succeeded by a response, a final student presentation followed by a response and general discussion. After the 90-minute salon, refreshments will be served in an adjacent room.

The presenters are all students who are currently enrolled or recent graduates of the Humanities Interdisciplinary Doctoral program (HUMA) of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture, the Individualized PhD program (INDI) of the School of Graduate Studies and the Social and Cultural Analysis PhD program (SOAN) of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology:

- **Madelaine Longman** (HUMA PhD recent graduate) – *Empathy, Alterity, and the Senses: Exploring Critical Einfühlung*
- **Ahmadreza M. Yazdi** (SOAN PhD) – *The Eco Skin: From an Egocentric Approach to an Ecocentric World View*
- **Chélanie Beaudin-Quintin** (HUMA PhD) – *Diffracting the Sense of Presence in VR*
- **JoDee Allen** (INDI PhD) – *Choreographic Echoes: Animation, Archive and Feminine Movement in Video Games*
- **Renée Charron** (HUMA PhD recent graduate) – *Drawing from the Architecting Body*

Moderator: David Howes, Sociology & Anthropology

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

Concordia University

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

SHUSTERMAN SALON NO. 2

Richard Shusterman is the Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Humanities, Professor of Philosophy, and Director of the Center for Body, Mind, and Culture at Florida Atlantic University. His widely translated research covers many topics in the human sciences with particular emphasis on questions of philosophy, aesthetics, culture, and embodiment.

With Richard Shusterman

14 March 2024
4:00 – 6:00 PM
In-person: H-1120 Hall Building
Virtual: Zoom Link

The Centre for Sensory Studies will be hosting a visit by Richard Shusterman, philosopher of the body, inventor of somaesthetics, from the 12th to the 15th of March. In addition to the public lecture at 3:00 pm on Friday, March 15th entitled "Aesthetic Experience and the Powers of Possession: From Somaesthetics to the Man in Gold," Professor Shusterman will conduct two master classes, or "salons."

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- **Melanie Schnidrig** (HUMA PhD recent graduate) – *Seeing with the Senses: Synesthesia and the Body in Contemporary Art*
- **Paula Bath** (SOAN PhD) – *Tracing the Senses Communicating: Mapping Resonance Beyond Language*
- **Paolo Gruni** (HUMA PhD) - *Towards Post-Realist Perception*
- **Allison Peacock** (HUMA PhD) - *Simultaneous Natures: Work, The Body, and The Garden*
- **Holly Timpener** (HUMA PhD) – *Epicenter Revolutions: Internal Transformation in Gender Diverse Performance Art and Beyond*

Moderator: Marc Lafrance, Sociology & Anthropology

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

UNIVERSITÉ Concordia UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

SENSORY TRANSACTIONS & INTERACTIONS WITH MATERIAL CULTURES OF RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS
A METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP

Wednesday, February 21, 2024
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. (In-person)
Venue: Ethnography Lab
(EV.Building, 10.625)
Apply before February 10

Co-presented by
Clandestine Transactions Working Group (Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture), Centre for Sensory Studies, & the Ethnography Lab (Department of Sociology & Anthropology)

This workshop will provide instruction and training for students to develop techniques for working with material culture from various religious traditions. What becomes of religious objects and belongings that are transacted into becoming museum artifacts? What ontological framings become relevant in anticolonial and decolonial interventions in museum anthropology? What responsibilities do researchers have towards belongings, communities, and institutions, when these can have contrasting and contradictory politics? In this workshop, students will learn about the methodological possibilities available to them when approaching such objects and topics for research.

Students will do a close looking/touching/sensory engagement exercise with a variety of items from several religious traditions as sources of evidence. Students are also encouraged to bring an object to the workshop that represents an aspect of a religious tradition or spiritual relationship. Items must belong to the student, be portable (i.e. stable enough to be transported to/from the workshop), be comfortable as a topic for collective discussion, and not be of high monetary value. Students can consider material culture that interests them based on its social history, materials & style, techniques of production, or other characteristics.

Mentor Bios:

Dr. Laura Peers has opened dialogues between Indigenous communities in North America and museums across the UK, Europe and North America. A historian and museum anthropologist as well as a curator, her research and curatorial practice has focused on historic Indigenous cultural items, and she explores both the detailed histories of items in museum collections and the meanings of heritage objects to Indigenous people today.

Laura has managed complex international projects linking museums and Indigenous communities, including the Great Box Project with the Haida Nation, the Blackfoot Shirts Project with all four Blackfoot Nations, and recently the To Honour and Respect project with the six Mississauga Nations. She has surveyed historic wampum in U.K. collections. She is Emeritus Curator, Pitt Rivers Museum, and Emeritus Professor of Museum Anthropology at the University of Oxford, is Adjunct Professor in the Graduate Faculty, School for the Study of Canada and Department of Anthropology, at Trent University.

Dr. Cara Krmpotich is Associate Professor and former Director of the Museum Studies Program at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Information. She is Co-Director of the Great Lakes Research Alliance (GRASAC), an Indigenous-Settler network committed to reuniting Great Lakes cultural belongings with Great Lakes places, knowledge systems and peoples. Cara is passionate about expanding museological approaches to the care of collections, critically engaging with practices of cataloguing, object handling, repatriation, digital stewardship, and policy.

Cara has worked in university, civic and national museums in Canada and the UK, and her approaches are shaped by research relationships with Indigenous, South African, and British colleagues. She is currently co-editing a volume with Alice Stevenson titled Collections Management as Critical Museum Practice being published by UCL Press in 2024. She is also author of The Force of Family: memory, repatriation and kinship on Haida Gwaii, and with Laura Peers, the Haida Repatriation Committee and staff of the British Museum and Pitt Rivers Museum, This Is Our Life: Haida material heritage and changing museum practice. Cara is a mother, and enjoys fitness training, puzzles, baking, and dog walking.

Register here

Photo: Moccasins, circa 1890, Sioux, South Dakota, Smithsonian *National Museum of the American Indian*

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CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

TALKING SENSE LECTURE SERIES

Repurposed Methods

Anna Harris

22 November 2023
12:30 – 14:00
Room EV 10.625
EV Building

The Ethnography Lab and Centre for Sensory Studies are hosting a lunchtime talk on "Repurposed Methods" by Anna Harris of Maastricht University. Repurposing is a term and practice growing in popularity, whether in reference to the repurposing involved in upcycling, the repurposing of pharmaceuticals, or data repurposing, to name a few.

In the context of a new project on upcycling in hospitals, Anna would like to consider with the attendees, what it means to think about repurposing in regard to the project's mythologies both for her work and that of those who attend. During the lunch we'll discuss her work and new methodological approaches being developed relating to re-use, recycling and upcycling of data and materials.

Anna Harris is an Associate Professor in the Department of Society Studies at Maastricht University, the Netherlands. Anna pursues an approach to the social study of medicine that is grounded in ethnographic studies of contemporary medical practices, her clinical experience working in hospitals, and collaborations with historians, doctors, artists, museum specialists and craftspeople. Her research spans the fields of anthropology, science and technology studies, medical education, medical humanities and health sociology. Her empirical cases focus on the anthropology and history of technological medical practices, especially concerning questions of sensorality, embodiment and learning. She also writes about hospital infrastructures Anna has established a reputation for her work on the senses and sensory methodologies. Her book *A Sensory Education* is available free online and now in paperback.

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

Event is a co-production with the Concordia Ethnograpy Lab

Concordia

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

TALKING SENSE SEMINAR

Listening Through Others: Immersive Audio in Ethnography and Sound Art

Florian Grond
Friday, 8 March 2024
12:00-14:00
In-Person: Room H-1120, Hall Building
Virtual: https://bit.ly/48i94Xf

In this talk, Florian will be discussing his past and ongoing research on immersive audio in sound art and ethnography. He will share insights from collaborative research-creation projects in cultural mediation, assistive technology, and independent art projects. His previous projects have focused on bridging academia and the arts in sound art, music, the intersection of art and disability, and assistive technology. Through these examples, he will demonstrate how immersive audio can be a powerful tool to transport the audience through the experiences of first-person perspectives. These experiences enable the listener to dive into various environments, their affordances, and imaginaries when engaging with other people's perspectives across sensory abilities and practices. He will conclude the presentation with his ongoing SSHRC-funded research projects on neurodiverse phenomenology, atmospheres, and sensory-friendly zones with binaural first-person perspectives, in which he deepens the immersive ethnographic methods with colleagues from Concordia and McGill.

Florian Grond is an Assistant Professor at Concordia University in Design, Interaction Design, and Computation Arts. His research focuses on immersive media, assistive technology, and the intersection of design and disability, drawing from his background as an artist and technologist. Grond has published in sound studies, auditory display, and recently in immersive sound recording. His work includes pioneering 6-degrees-of-freedom sound recording systems, contributing to 3D sound recording and immersive sound reproduction. In collaboration with literary scholar and writer Dr. Piet Devos, he also introduced binaural recordings for first-person ethnographies. After a post-doctoral appointment at Concordia, where he was involved with the Critical Disability Studies Working Group, he held a research-creation postdoctoral fellowship at CIRMMT (Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Music Media and Technology) funded by FRQSC. Grond has also been associated with the Shared Reality Lab at McGill and worked as a creative sound engineer for ZYLIA, a company specializing in microphone arrays. Recently, he received with Melissa Park from McGill an SSHRC Insight Development Grant for a project applying immersive sound recording to study neurodiverse multisensory experiences and another IDG grant as PI to explore atmospheres using immersive audio technology with a neurodiversity focus, collaborating with David Howes, Matthew Unger, and Melissa Park.

http://centreforsensorystudies.org

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CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

TALKING SENSE LECTURE SERIES

A Scentimental Education: Freud on Smell and the Origins of Culture

Simon Hajdini

3 April 2024
4:00—5:30 PM EST
In-Person: H-1120, Hall Building, Concordia University
Virtual: Zoom Link

Osmological narratives claim that the onset of culture was conditioned by a suppression of smell, brought about by the landmark evolutionary advent of human bipedalism. The talk will trace the inception and development of osmological narratives originating in the age of Enlightenment and its immediate aftermath. These narratives, dating back to Albrecht von Haller's 1777 *Encyclopédie* article on smell—and resurfacing, among others, in J. G. Herder's 1784 *Outlines of a Philosophy of the History of Man*, in Immanuel Kant's 1785 "Reviews" of Herder's book, as well as in J. G. Fichte's 1797 *Foundations of Natural Right*—situate problems of olfaction at the very point of inception of cultural life. Freud adopted such a narrative (moreover claiming its authorship), proposing that anthropogenesis was in fact conditioned by an "organic repression" of smell. The talk will unpack the key elements of Freud's scentimental education.

Simon Hajdini is Senior Research Associate in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Ljubljana, where he teaches social and political philosophy, and regular Visiting Faculty at The University of Chicago. He specializes in critical theory, political economy, (hyper)structuralism and psychoanalysis. At present, he is researching and writing on the sensorial politics of social divisions. This event marks the launch of Simon Hajdini's latest book *What's That Smell?: A Philosophy of the Olfactory* published in March 2024 by MIT Press as part of the *Short Circuits* series.

**A reception and book launch will follow in the Centre for Sensory Studies office, H-1122.01*

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

Concordia

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

TALKING SENSE LECTURE SERIES

Biohybrid Bodies: The hybridization of the senses now and into the future

Ned Barker

4 April 2024
4:00 – 5:30 PM EST
In-Person: H-1120, Hall Building, Concordia University
Virtual: Zoom Link

Pain – Movement – Breath. These are near-universal sensory features of corporeal existence. They also lie at the intersection of biology-culture, mind-body, and in recent years are increasingly being technologically remade. Through my research into the emergence of hybrid bodies across artistic, sporting, and industrial contexts each of these aspects of embodiment (and many more besides) have come newly under ethnographic focus.

In this talk I introduce the technological and conceptual space in which my Leverhulme project Biohybrid Bodies exists. Then I draw on examples from the field to discuss what sensory studies has to offer here. Cultural approaches help us realise that "The senses are made, not given" (Howes, 2022, p.1). Stepping out from history, through the present, towards the future I ask: is a revolutionary *remaking* of the senses is underway and what is at stake? Without clear answers I sketch a novel sensory research framework for tracking the development of biohybrid bodies as they move into, and across, society.

Ned Barker is Senior Research Fellow at the UCL Knowledge Lab, where he leads the research theme Technology, the Body and Cognition. He has a background in sensory ethnography attuning his practice to performance art, sporting cultures, modes of industrial production, technological mediation of touch, and experimental collaborations with artists. His current research project *Biohybrid Bodies* is funded by the Leverhulme Trust. Recent sensory publications *include An Ethnographer Lured into Darkness*, *Sensory Explorations of Digital Touch*, *An Ethnography of Dirt, Danger, and Industrial Robots*, *Moving Sensory Ethnography Online*, and *Living Capsules.*

**A reception will follow in the Centre for Sensory Studies office, H-1122.01*

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

Concordia University

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

TALKING SENSE LECTURE SERIES

Seeking Vocal Alignment

Gabriel Dharmoo

Wednesday, 23 August 2023
Room LB-362
J.W. McConnell Building
13:15 Performance of *Lip Service*
13:30-15:15 Thesis Defense

This thesis proposes the conceptual model of alignment to describe an artist's quest for coherence between their sense of self and their artistic self. Sense of self is informed by one's values, identity, lived experience, goals, beliefs, and the ways one wants to be in the world. As for the artistic self, it encompasses various characteristics that pertain to one's artistic practice and output. The model helps locate areas of misalignment as potential friction points where things feel incoherent enough to prompt a process of seeking alignment. Alignment is both a process of self-reflection and a research-creation method that leads to discernible shifts in the artist's life and practice.

Gabriel Dharmoo's artistic practice encompasses composition, vocal improvisation, drag, interdisciplinary performance and research. As a vocalist and interdisciplinary artist, his solo show *Anthropologies imaginaires* toured internationally and was awarded at the Amsterdam Fringe Festival (2015) and the SummerWorks Performance Festival (2016). As a composer, he has received many awards for his compositions, such as the Canada Council for the Arts Jules Léger Prize for his chamber work *Wanmansho* (2017) and the Conseil Québécois de la Musique Opus Award for his opera *À chaque ventre son monstre* (2018). He has been developing his drag persona Bijuriya since 2018, working towards his 2022 solo production *Bijuriya*, presented at Montréal Arts Interculturels, the Vancouver Queer Arts Festival, the Music Gallery in Toronto and Springboard Performance's Fluid Fest in Calgary. Gabriel Dharmoo is the winner of the inaugural CSS Doctoral Dissertation Award

Thesis Supervisor: Dr. Sandeep Bhagwati
Examiner: Moe Beitiks
Examiner: Dr. Noah Drew
Examiner: Dr. David Howes
External Examiner: Dr. Ellen Waterman

Ellen Waterman holds the Helmut Kallmann Chair for Music in Canada at Carleton University. Her distinctive musical practice blends flute and vocalization. As a music and sound studies scholar with a strong emphasis on Canada, she focuses on creative improvisation. She is the founding director of Music, Sound, and Society in Canada, an interdisciplinary research centre exploring the complex ways that music and sound are shaped by, and help to shape, our pluralistic society.

Image credit: Paul Neudorf and Jonathan Goulet

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

Concordia University | John Molson School of Business | AACSB

The Marketing of Food — Fall 2023 —

Lectures opened to members of the Concordia Food Studies Working Group

Are you interested in or simply curious about food marketing practices? Have you ever wondered about merchandising tactics used to influence your purchase behaviours and grow your basket?

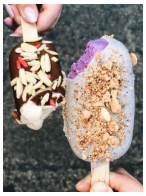
Then join us for two open lectures in MARK 458: The Marketing of Food.

⇨⇨⇨ Limited space, please rsvp as soon as possible: ⇦⇦⇦
foodstudies@concordia.ca

When: Tuesdays @ 5:45pm Where: H-605

Date	Topic
Sept 26	**The Changing Food Retail Eco-System & The Food Store of the Future** In this lecture, we'll examine recent changes in the food retail eco-system: from meal kits and subscription services to third-party delivery and ghost kitchens. We'll take a deep dive into supermarket design and we'll take a significant portion of the lecture to work collaboratively to ***design the food store of the future.***
Oct 24	**Food Innovation Workshop** Consumers and retailers love new products: they add variety to our meals and generate substantial profits. In this lecture we'll put theory into practice and work collectively to create a ***new ice cream product***.

This course introduces participants to the structure of the agri-food system, the operating realities of its key constituents, and some of the marketing challenges facing them. In this course, the marketing of food is approached and treated from a variety of angles, in line with the complex nature of the agri-food system, of our food choices, and of the very act of eating itself. Participants will explore emerging trends as well as longstanding issues and wicked problems facing our food system and will have opportunities to imagine solutions to address some of these problems.



Instructor: Jordan L. LeBel, Ph.D., C.Dir.
Professor, Department of Marketing
Co-Director, Centre for Sensory Studies

Concordia University

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

DISSERTATION DEFENSE AND RECEPTION

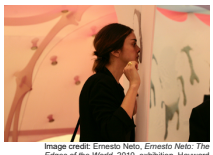


Image credit: Ernesto Neto, *Ernesto Neto: The Edges of the World*, 2010, exhibition, Hayward Gallery: Southbank Centre, London. Image courtesy of India Roper Evans

Constructed Atmospheres: Synesthesia and the Senses in Contemporary Art

Melanie Schnidrig

Wednesday, 14 February 2024
Defense: 10:30 – 13:00,
LB362, Webster Library

Reception to follow at ~ 1:30 PM
H-1122.01, Hall Building
RSVP

This dissertation appropriates the term "synesthesia" from the neurological condition synesthesia, wherein the stimulation of one sense results in the stimulation of another sense. In this study synesthesia is referenced in the proposed terminology "plastic synesthesia," a term used to define multisensorial contemporary artworks and stretch the neurological definition of the condition to encompass the concept of sensory "layering." The concept of "layering" refers to the multiple senses induced by the case studies that are felt at the same time. Plastic synesthesia is also used to define the non-ocularcentric methodology demonstrated in this study. As a methodology, plastic synesthesia identifies the senses and affects involved in multisensory artworks to emphasize how the senses are layered to produce embodied and immersive experiences that augment the "visual" art experience.

This study posits that plastic synesthetic artworks draw attention to the multisensorial nature of perception distorted by the ocularcentric and sensorially segregated model established in the modern period. This point is demonstrated first with an analysis of Brazilian artist Ernesto Neto's sculptures, which stimulate the "lower" senses of touch and smell to facilitate an immersive art experience. It also examines Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson's pieces that use non-art materials to produce multisensory atmospheres. Finally, this dissertation analyzes London-based design group Flying Object's 2015 multisensory installation Tate Sensorium, *Tate Britain, London, which layers visual artworks with non-visual stimuli. In utilizing these two iterations of plastic synesthesia in this dissertation, this study demonstrates an approach to analyzing artworks that considers all of the senses.*

Melanie Schnidrig is an art historian from British Columbia, Canada. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Humanities at Concordia University, Montreal. She graduated with a BFA from the University of the Fraser Valley in 2012, and completed the Contemporary Art, Design and New Media Art Histories (MA) program at OCAD University in 2015. During her masters research, her interests came to focus on problematizing the ocularcentrism of western art history by interrogating the multisensorial and synesthetic qualities of contemporary installation art. The resulting dissertation was awarded the Outstanding Major Research Paper Award from OCAD University. Schnidrig's PhD research continues on this trajectory. Her thesis research amalgamates the disciplines of art history, psychology and anthropology. In so doing she aims to address both the psychological and anthropological foundations of synesthetic responses and multisensorial perception, while exploring ways synesthesia-like responses can be stimulated by artworks.

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

Université Concordia University

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

TALKING SENSE LECTURE SERIES

Re{verbe}

Paula Bath

12 April 2024
2:00 – 4:00 PM
4TH SPACE
J.W. McConnell Building

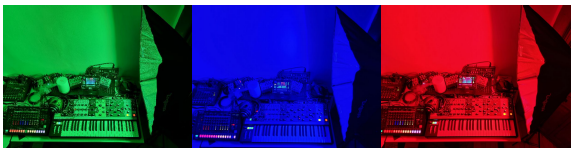
Re{verbe} is a pop-up, one-day exhibition, to present the creative work of deaf and hearing artists exploring their sensory experiences of communication, generated through a research creation project led by Paula Bath, Public Scholar and Ph.D. Candidate at Concordia University, in collaboration with SPiLL Propagation and the Centre for Sensory Studies Concordia University.
Re{verbe} is the reverberation of experience, a story occurring between people. Join us **in person** or **online** by registering for the Zoom Meeting or watching live on YouTube.

Paula Bath is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Social and Cultural Analysis program in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology at Concordia University. Paula holds a B.A and M.A degree in Communications from the University of Ottawa. Paula's research interests map experiences of communicating, and bring images, texts, and the senses together to explore moments when dominant social ideas, beliefs and social structures are lived, felt and discussed by people. Paula is proud to be a founding member of Spill.Propagation, an Artist Center for Creation and Production in Sign Language in Canada where Paula works to bring people into communication though the organizations three main artistic activities: Creation, Collaborative Production, and Research-Creation.

http://centreforsensorystudies.org/

Université Concordia University — CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

Modal Olfactory Atmospheres:
Experiential Design of Olfactive Environments



A modular olfactory experience with multi-sensory components

8-10 April 2024, 10-4PM
Center for Sensory Studies
H-1122.01, Hall Building
Reserve a Spot: Here

How do you experience light and sound in relationship to smell?
If you think this question is asked backwards, with smell having to follow your sense of sound and light, you are in for a treat.

In collaboration with the **ITHQ (Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec) and ExperiSens**, we invite you to encounter a Modal Olfactory Atmosphere. Enter a room filled with a unique scent and modulate light and sound in accordance with your experience of the scent.

Modal Olfactory Atmospheres (MOA) will provide you with the chance to participate in a "performative sensory environment" and partake in the exploration of how we match the experience of designed smells, such as perfumes, with our understanding of light (hue/intensity) and various sound elements (bpm, reverb, noise etc.).

Fonds de recherche Nature et technologies Québec — ITHQ — ExperiSens

deux villes en trois temps

VOYAGE SONORE À TRAVERS MONTRÉAL ET EDMONTON

Découvrez Deux villes en trois temps en faisant l'expérience des sons qui les constituent au fil de trois stations d'écoute. Les paysages sonores de Montréal et d'Edmonton s'opposent au cœur d'une expérience auditive créée à partir de sons captés dans chacune des deux villes. La première station d'écoute enveloppe le public de bruits ambiants à peine retouchés et le transporte sur les lieux de la prise de son. La deuxième station explore quant à elle des motifs rythmiques généraux. Enfin, à la troisième station, l'ensemble des sons est agencé pour former une partition musicale unique. Tout au long du parcours sonore, le public est invité à porter attention aux sons entendus (ou mal entendus) ainsi qu'à son ressenti à mesure que le son ambiant devient rythme, puis musique.

8 au 10 avril 2024
Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec (ITHQ)
3535 rue Saint-Denis
Local 1.08 F
13 h à 17 h (8 et 9 avril)
10 h à 12 h (10 avril)

a tale of two cities in three parts

AN EXPERIMENT IN LISTENING TO THE LOCATIVE IN MONTREAL AND EDMONTON

Three listening acts come together to tell a *Tale of Two Cities* through the sounds that make them. The soundscapes of Montréal and Edmonton clash in these recordings to explore the locative aspects of sound. Act I delves into relatively unedited, ambient sound recordings, inviting listeners to reflect on the locations they're sonically transported to. Act II explores rhythmic patterns, broadly defined. Finally, Act III pairs all the previously heard sounds with music. All the while, listeners will invited to reflect on the sounds heard (or misheard) and the impact left on them as sounds transition from the ambient, to the rhythmic, to the musical.

10 au 11 avril 2024
Centre for Sensory Studies
Concordia University
Hall Building
Room H-1122.01
13 h à 16 h

Fonds de recherche Nature et technologies Québec — ITHQ — ExperiSens — Université Concordia University Centre for Sensory Studies

Image Credit: Jayanthan Sriram

6 RESEARCH ORIENTATIONS

6.1 Axes & Clusters

As contemplated in the Centre's initial proposal for university recognition and explained on the Centre website (in addition to being visualized in the CSS Organigram of Research Concentrations - see below), there are four main axes to our research.

• AXIS 1: CULTURE AND THE SENSES.
The study of the social life of the senses in history and across cultures and geographies.
– Classen, Howes, LeBel, Lafrance, Stolow, Kaell, French, Cambre, Unger, Potvin, Dokumaci, Cucuzzella, Chew, Abu Hatoum, Sicotte, Sotelo

• AXIS 2: MULTISENSORY AESTHETICS.
The study of aesthetics in history and across cultures; the creation of intermedia/multisensory artworks and environments.
– Salter, Classen, Cambre, Unger, Potvin, Dokumaci, Chew, Abu Hatoum, Sicotte, Sotelo

• AXIS 3: SENSORY DESIGN AND MARKETING.
The study of the sensory turn in the design of objects and spaces and the 'race to embrace the senses' in contemporary marketing practice.
– Grohmann, Le Bel, Howes, Classen, Johnson, French, Salter, Potvin, Cucuzzella

• AXIS 4: SENSORY ENGINEERING AND COMMUNICATION.
The study of technologies as extensions of the senses; the development of technologies for expanding the sensorium in innovative ways.
– Johnson, Salter, Howes, Stolow, French, Dokumaci, Chew

In addition to the Axes there are six Clusters, which represent emergent areas of research concentration, where the interests of 3 or more Members coalesce:

Cluster A: Sensori-Legal Studies
– Howes, Lafrance, Classen, French, Unger, Abu Hatoum

Cluster B: Emplacement
– Howes, Unger, Cucuzzella, Abu Hatoum, Chew

Cluster C: Disability and the Senses
– Johnson, Classen, Grohmann, Lafrance, Howes, Dokumaci

Cluster D: Gender and the Senses
– Classen, Lafrance, Potvin, Abu Hatoum

Cluster E: Materiality and Immateriality
– Stolow, Unger, Sotelo

Cluster F: Smartness, the Sensor Society and Sentient Ecologies
– Salter, Howes, French, Cucuzzella

6.2 Graduate Student Training

Concordia already has a doctoral program in Sensory Studies. This research area has been featured as one of the "Research Currents" within the Individualized Programs (SIP) and the Humanities Doctoral Program (HUMA) since the Fall of 2007.
http://www.concordia.ca/sgs/programs/individualized/research-currents.html

It is possible to graduate with a concentration in sensory studies in other doctoral programs as well, such as the Ph.D. in Marketing, the Ph.D. in Communication Studies, and the Ph.D. in Social and Cultural Analysis. A number of students at the Master's level have also pursued research in sensory studies, either through the M.A. program in Social and Cultural Anthropology or the INDI M.A. program.

The benefits of student membership include: supervision for independent studies courses related to degree requirements; participating in both large and small research and research-creation projects (and the joint publications and/or installations that result from these), access to funding in the form of research assistantships; and, access to conference and research travel support.

Research Assistantships take many different forms. For example, Craig Farkash (SOAN PhD) serves as the Coordinator of the Centre; Jayanthan Sriram (HUMA Ph.D.) is the Editorial Assistant for *The Senses and Society* journal; and, numerous student members are attached to diverse research projects directed by faculty members of the Centre. All of these opportunities provide vital training in the research methods and practices of the expanding field of sensory studies. Student members of the Centre are also themselves contributing to expanding the frontiers of sensory studies through their many publications (see section 4.2.2) and conference presentations (see sections 4.4.2)

Image Credit: Craig Farkash

7 DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2020-2026)

The Centre has a long-term development plan, which involves advancing on all 10 fronts (i.e. the 4 Axes and 6 Clusters). Nevertheless, during the Fall of 2019, in preparation for submitting our proposal for renewal, we also devised a medium-term development plan. Central to this plan is the development of a Partnership Grant (PG) application to the SSHRC for submission in two-to-three years' time. The medium-term plan also envisions 10 new projects to be rolled out over the intervening years (see below)

It is now 2024. We find that our research trajectory has strayed significantly from the four Foci of the proposed PG application, namely:

1. Sensory Education
2. Exhibition (Multimodal Art and Museology)
3. Sensory Design
4. Sensorial Urbanism

Research in sensory design remains strong. Research on exhibition (multimodal arts and museology) has grown from strength to strength. However, our research has otherwise come to focus much more intensely on issues in disability and Indigenous studies, digitization, Artificial Intelligence and its relation to sentience and drifted away from its prior focus on sensory education and sensorial urbanism.

In view of these continuing strengths and exciting, refreshing and bold departures, the Co-Directors feel that it is time to critically review and update our long-term plan. They have called a meeting of the entire membership of the Centre in mid-November to discuss emergent trends and chart a path for the future.

END OF REPORT