

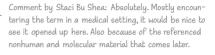
# Visual Essay Queer Life(lines) Within the Death of an Archive Setareh Noorani

And you might circulate this phrase, that is, transindividuate it. Bernard Stiegler, 2020<sup>1</sup>

### The Twisted Border of the Archive

We can see epigenetics, the genetic transfer of experience, as an inheritance of systems, as the retention of debt, trauma, and political joy.<sup>2</sup> We can see it as our inherited tools, codes, and processes that enable us to 'enact', construct alternatives, and with these 'a continuation of life by means other than life'.<sup>3</sup> Among these systems, Western archives are key tools for tertiary retention, a specific spatialisation or exteriorisation of these memories, narratives and tools.<sup>4</sup> Their objective is to simultaneously safeguard 'inwards' and make accessible 'outwards' the knowledge handed down by those that preceded us, in a closed loop. These Western archives retain specific perspectives founded on a 'dominant academic model based on a Eurocentric epistemic canon' proximate to whiteness, masculinity, and heteronormativity – ultimately producing Western institutions and societies.<sup>5</sup> They are encapsulated in a specific exosomatisation: a building or other spatial construction, taking the documents and inscribed knowledge of co-individuation out of its primary circulation. In order to first acquire and then (re-)make accessible certain documents in an archive, to produce the archive consisting out of 'secular texts', a plethora of spatio-structural operations, or ex-organisations, need to be carried out.<sup>6</sup>





but breaking down the Greek origins help! Environment body?

SBS: This one is quite hermetic

SBS: I understand academic institutions but what kind of scale here and for which use? What do these look and feel like?

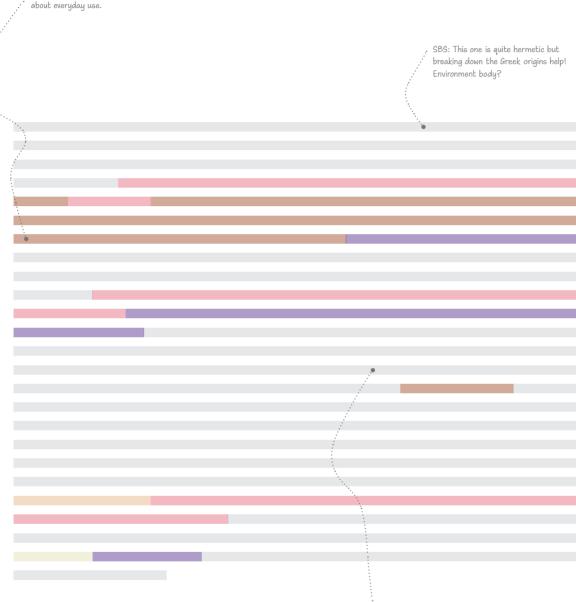
SBS: This one is quite hermetic but breaking down the Greek origins help! Environment body?

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SBS: At the heart of social reproduction

The operations range from the acquisition proposal with its outlines of its strategic importance, to the archival contract, the boxing in, the carrying to a sterilisation facility where fungi and other cohabiting species are removed, the categorisation and thereafter digital twinning by the human-machine acts of scanning and writing of metadata. In order to conserve the archive, it thus needs to be separated, spatially enclosed and its retentions homogenised.<sup>7</sup> The archive is completely decoupled from its material lifespan and kinship, impoverished (démuni), merging it into a witness of gridlocked 'repetition', conditioning, and biopolitical command: '[human] beings disappear; their [selected] histories remain.'8 Out of the Western archive and its ordered procedures of organising and retrieving knowledge the state and its institutions repeatedly and systematically distil proof of its timeless and limitless existence. This happens through a co-dependence with its mortal subjects in an 'organised [form] of a possible satisfaction [which] may satisfy itself in [that] the institution is not to be doubted'.<sup>9</sup> Western archives perversely produce their subjects into a singular modus of life. to the exclusion of Others. They internalise the Other while advocating for diversity, diminishing its proximity and with it disarming any critical potential of being decentred. Simultaneously, the records compressed into institutions and institutional knowledge paradoxically promise eternal life by continuously recalling death: the ruin of the past and the silencing of time by time. This paradox enforces institutional amnesia, entrenching society further into binary oppositions, gaps, lacunas, voids of knowledge, in themselves localisations of perceived 'errors', which we need to placate with proof found in sanitised archives. In turn, this amnesia constitutes a rendering invisible of other knowledges and their-stories on how to organise and inhabit the world around us. These blind spots are institutionally driven and perpetuated gaps; spaces bereft of life and handed back empty to communities - as they inhibit the retention of practice, taking away the ability to collectively individuate. Therefore, 'it is necessary to ask: to whom is it [the institution and its knowledge] useful? To all those who are in need?'10 Who and whose knowledge is in need to be constructed as indispensable, as present outside of the gap? What knowledge constructs whose subjectivity? And, drawing on Sara Ahmed and Achille Mbembe, which institution in which temporality are we even staging, for whose knowledge and subjectivity?

Diagrams: Discursive retentions and protensions of a line of thought. Author and editors.



SBS: Gesturing Decolonial Futures Collective (decolonialfutures.net) explores how decolonization unfolds across soft-reform, radical-reform and beyond-reform institutional settings of higher education. I'll come back to this later.

SBS: What determines the primary circulation, where would it circulate otherwise? It makes me think about everyday use.

As Stiegler mourns, we are deprived of 'savoir vivre'.<sup>11</sup> The deprivation happens not only through the logic of the 'service society' and the 'University of the Singularity' under 'second capitalism' (late capitalism), also observed by Mbembe.<sup>12</sup> It also occurs through the aforementioned logistics of institutional amnesia accelerated by neoliberal politics and its mechanism of atomisation. Within this process we find Western and Westernised institutions in crisis, succumbing to growing critique, reaching in their discomfort to symbolic gestures and temporary promises.<sup>13</sup> With the lasting call to decolonise, institution and archive both became constricted in a tug-of-war between upholding and abolition – two paradigms equally implicated in systemic issues to which the institution and archive can perform as pharmakon: advancing or redressing violence. We cannot move away from this bind as we are 'confronting an entirely different *apparatus* [sic]' of enmeshed instincts from different (non-)human timelines.<sup>14</sup>

Part of the confrontation consists of tracing the twisted borders of the archive's outside space, entangling with other ways of doing that enable us to rethink institutions – to retool the masters tools which currently ingrain institutional amnesia.<sup>15</sup> The retooling is then partially coming to terms which knowledge and bodies we need to survive collectively and in solidarity. Stiegler mentions a 'new way of understanding economy [in which the] primordial value is negentropy' – organisation based on diversity. Yet, retracing our earlier observation of the dilution in the name of diversity, we need to track such diversity and 'what it does'.<sup>16</sup> In the retention of documents for (non-)human society more inclusive notions of archival production need to be considered – refusing some, adapting others. Which institutions and their archives would satisfy instincts of inclusivity, even if it means the material death of certain documents or putting to rest certain (harmful) narratives?

SBS: As I learned from a conversation essay by Annette Krauss and Ferdiansyah Thajib, they introduce Gesturing Decolonial Futures Collective, who refer to the practice of hospicing modern institutions, or hospicing 'the house that modernity built' for these reasons: 'One, that the modern global capitalist system is unsustainable, and that it is already collapsing. Two, that our current languages, identities, and sense-making are inescapably historically connected to it. Three, that we need to be properly taught by the system's successes and failures by facing its death and attending to its affliction rather than turning our back or attempting to murder it before it is ready to go. Hospicing enacts a willingness to learn enough from the (re)current mistakes of the current system in order to make different mistakes in caring for the arrival of something new.' Vanessa de Oliveira Andreotti et al., 'Mapping Interpretations of Decolonization in the Context of Higher Education, *Decolonization* 4, no. 1 (2015).

SBS: If caring were valued more highly, if there was less death anxiety, ritualistic forms of endings, this could be a lot easier to manage and could actually be inspiring.

SBS: Beyond neoliberal frameworks for 'diversity, equity, inclusion and access.

SBS: Which ways exactly, like the essay I shared with you? 'A harm reduction approach to history understands that the archive is your aunt's closet, the last stall in your local dive bar, your phone — wherever stories can be shared. When we give up the idea that only institutions hold the past, we remember that "we make histories". Salonee Bhaman, for the Asian American Feminist Collective, 'Harm Reduction and the Archive', *Harm Reduction Is Not a Metaphor* (zine), undated.

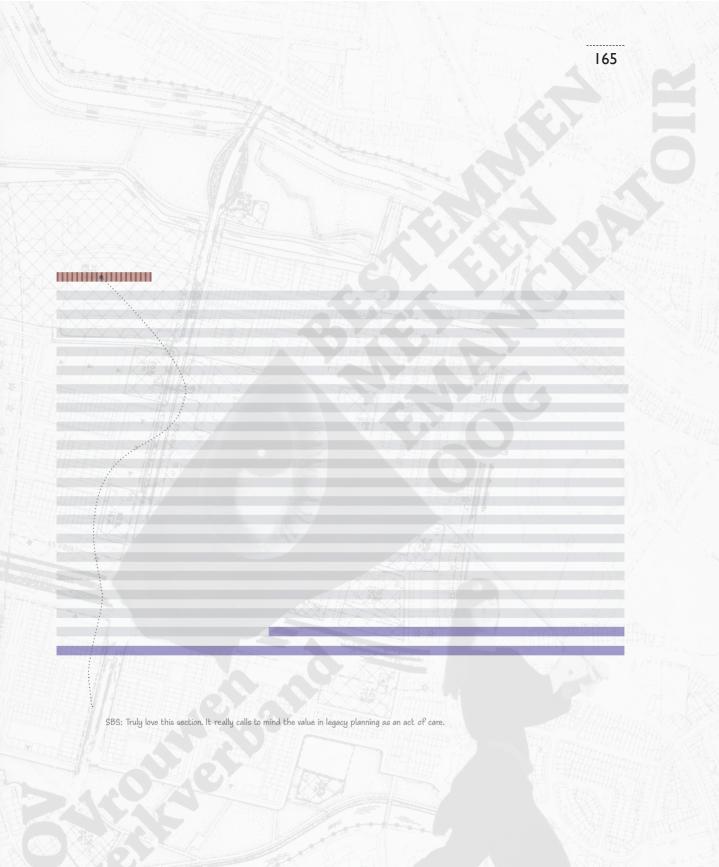
SBS: Haven't encountered this world before! Negative entropy, a sense of, seemingly, consistent normal order? Like planets in the solar system?

### Vivid, yet mortal

In the past years, I have encountered roaming, non-indexed, contaminated, clandestine, multivocal archives that complicate the liberal epistemic push towards transparency and access. I have spoken to donors who questioned the expiration date of their own archives, confronted with their own mortality by the sheer amount of documents and objects sharing their living and breathing space, thus seeking ways to negotiate the life span of their memory.<sup>17</sup> One of the archives I have been researching in this period is a portion of the Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen archive newly acquired by Het Nieuwe Instituut, donated by Lidewij Tummers. In the past months, I have followed it being transported, sterilised, guarantined, and (partially) scanned.<sup>18</sup> Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen is an action group and feminist non-homogeneous network of women with a professional (and personal) interest in building, housing, and urban planning. Their extensive archive, including many 'living room archives' residing with members of the network, marks a period of collective struggle, concern, and caring relationality across intersections from which current and future practitioners can continue to learn. Interestingly, the documents in these archives mainly consist of ephemera: grey literature, letters to and from the network, minutes of meetings, reports, essays. All of these documents are testimonies to the opaque, multi-authored, precarious, joyful, important work of (self-)organising as othered women within the architecture and planning profession and its institutions. They are documents that contest the cleanliness and straightforward monovocality of the 'design outcome'. Their opacity attests the lack of publications 'in which positions of women can be deduced from architectural designs and texts'.<sup>19</sup> Important also, is acknowledging the reductionist hand the Western archive lays on the denominator, and later data field, 'woman' - in the archivist's realm 'a coherent group solely on the basis of a [general notion of their subordination] ... result[ing] in the colonization of [their] specifics of daily existence and the complexities of political interests'.20

Diagrams: Discursive retentions and protensions of a line of thought. Author and editors.

Study "Planning with an Emancipatory Eye", NIROV, 1988 Source: Archive Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen / Bureau Tussen-Ruimte. Donation by Lidewij Tummers, Collection Het Nieuwe Instituut.



An example is the discomfort and contradiction some representatives of Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen felt in narrating their specific positionality vis-à-vis feminism or intersectional feminism (as we currently understand it).<sup>21</sup> In this light, Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen is an example of an archive that needs to be spoken about and felt, rather than read, resulting in a process of information and education 'through which individuals and collectives co-individuate'. <sup>22</sup> Vivid, dirty documents, unfolding spaces of intergenerational activisms, and precarious, gendered care-work entangle fungal threads with desire, (body) politics, technics, human and nonhuman life, resulting in collective becoming. Through their existence, they 'revise the axioms of what knowledge itself is'.<sup>23</sup> These documents refuse to be solely identified as localised data, valorised and produced as insular knowledge - as the future which seems to be given. They unfix 'the authority of the author' with sisterly passion.<sup>24</sup> They neither fit within the TINA paradigm nor an technological accelerationist viewpoint found in Stiegler's need for 'cognitive technologies ... that can create more intelligence, more social bonds, as well as creating turnover, trade, and economy' in the style of 'the Hacker Ethic'.<sup>25</sup> Stiegler proposes the hacker ethic alternative in an attempt to cognitively escape capitalism and its hold on 'Western knowledge'.<sup>26</sup> In this, he likely draws thought from McKenzie Wark's Hacker Manifesto, where hackers, an abstract, faceless group of visionaries, draw commodified information, or archives, away from the capitalist, Western ruling class.<sup>27</sup> However, archives like Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen enable us, albeit in coded ways through their embedded knowledge, to reach back and continue the intensification of life 'by means other than life'.28 The coded artefacts are not to be forcibly 'hacked', unzipped and extracted in the locus of an institution. Instead, they require different procedures, attunement and continuous vigilance, as their custodial complexity engender specific ethics of care and 'caring for' within an alternate (political) economy. This can be traced in friction with Stiegler's attempt to describe a practice of taking care of (prendre soin) and 'giving attention to' by putting certain knowledge in 'caring' service to the pharmakon (meaning for instance archives and institutions), which then could be put to 'therapeutic use' for society.29

Diagrams: Discursive retentions and protensions of a line of thought. Author and editors.

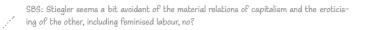
Article "Landelijke Dag Netwerkvorming" [National Networking Day], published in *Interim Newspaper Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen*, no. 3, 1984. Source: Collection Het Nieuwe Instituut.



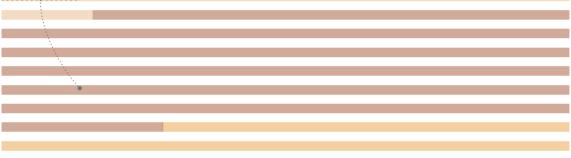
The dangers of putting only certain knowledge in service of the pharmakon is found in an erasure and generalisation by Stiegler of ancestral knowledge as 'archaic' in his last mission 'to invent a new organization of society that develops new ways of creating ... where people *participate* in the creation of the world in which they live'.<sup>30</sup> In this curated *part*icipation, where objects and narratives are taken out of circulation, there is a failure to trace networks back to other knowledges 'out there' that are being 'destroyed by an inverse, anthropic, homogenizing tendency' – authored by those who can 'take part' and taking root in the Western, anthropocentric, ethnocentric humanist project.<sup>31</sup> An interesting additional remark is the tracing of the loci in Stiegler's texts where this knowledge generation and care work for the pharmakon occur – in the future, something to yet be attained and otherworldly, in mythology, such as abstract female archetypes of the 'goddess', and in the cosmic.<sup>32</sup> In this, Stiegler is 'missing out on the wealth of self-generating knowledges in the experiences of women and subaltern people. [He] also fails to address the repression and deprivation of reproductive knowledges that have occurred with colonization, housewifisation and capitalist accumulation across the globe and centuries'.<sup>33</sup>

Yet despite these shortcomings, how can we utilise and create a pharmacology of Stiegler's organology, the 'formation of attention through circuits of transindividuation that cultivate reason through reasons to live and to take care of life in quasi-causality?<sup>34</sup> Life which will not require a 'New Deal' to reinscribe/re-entrench and survive the impending doom of planetary extinction.<sup>35</sup> This survival is one 'lock[ing] all revolutionary struggles into [already existing] binary structures' – the 'power divisions [of the archive as] ... unilateral and undifferentiated source of power'.<sup>36</sup> How can we think through his gestures towards the becoming-other with archival material and the 'tak[ing] care of one another through transductive relations'?<sup>37</sup> How can we trace the question of trans-individuation through the archive, in order to not go 'straight' into it? To circumscribe it with a queer multi-bodied and networked hand, which travels in, out and beyond such institutionalisation. With the imagination this requires from us, we need to think of the archive as a network of possibilities – a space of neither this nor that, a different structure for proliferation, inhabiting, partaking, and connecting with life throughout time. In Stiegler's insistence on 'new systems of care [and] the creation of attention' we cannot simply suffice with rethinking knowledge and the 'media of memory' 'from the very origins [and structures] of the West' – the same locus his knowledge circumscribes.<sup>38</sup> As such, we must also think of archives as a navigation tool) not just a repository, following the specificities instead of the generalisations.<sup>39</sup>

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SBS: Or prompt.

SBS: What are some examples of this?

### Archives for queer survival

The mentioned making and caring for life can once again be followed through the aforementioned example of the Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen archive. Here we have a pluriform source, which relies on networks and intersecting timelines as lifelines for its enmeshed knowledge. The marginalised women of the network transposed their ways-of-doing into each other's bodies, and further down the lifeline into the reader and researcher – the body becoming an external hard drive.<sup>40</sup> They transferred preconditions for their survival into mechanisms of tertiary retention, queering themselves as individual authors while becoming together. While producing the network in the early 1980s, the women were enlarging the chances for epiphylogenetic reproduction of their thought, eventually becoming tertiary protentions with more potential to change institutionalised selection criteria due to their affective capacities. The living body (of knowledge) generates and is generated from 'the first and always disguised fact of incessant variation and the second and always partial fact of reproductive invariance' - delivering selection criteria and conditions of 'cross-fertility'.<sup>41</sup> An other form of collection, production and circulation - or 'stratification' (Deleuze and Guattari) - retains a certain other political economy and social production.<sup>42</sup> Now, the acquisition of Tummers's Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen archive presents an additional case of networks or transindividuations that are endangered, while endangering the life of the archive itself: the biomes that have individuated with the material and are cross-fertile with its embodied knowledge; yet, to which the archival body is intolerant, being understood as 'as a closed and impenetrable unity'.43 Finding favourable growth circumstances, such as fats, fingerprints, hairs and paper, the microorganisms proliferate and become the 'primary agents of deterioration' constituting a relationship with their host, which may be understood as mutually beneficial.<sup>44</sup> What could it mean if we let the different organisational structure of the fungi remain in the archival documents? Together forming a vibrant, albeit materially mortal body - its mortality underscoring the vulnerability of the narratives and networks contained.<sup>45</sup> These networks trace the gap, inhabit and queer it through the noncompliant bodies. They deny the material death by asking what outlives us.

Diagrams: Discursive retentions and protensions of a line of thought. Author and editors.

Flyer about Stichting Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen, 1986. Source: Archive Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen / Bureau Tussen-Ruimte. Donation by Lidewij Tummers, Collection Het Nieuwe Instituut.

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We must destabilise and inhabit Stiegler's thinking further and aim at the degeneralisation of knowledge concepts in order to withstand, queer, and retool the negentropic ordering from the chaos. This reconfiguring of Stiegler's participatory society requires a coupling with the critical theory of thinkers like Karen Barad, Sara Ahmed, Arjun Appadurai, Anjali Arondekar, Erin Manning, Fred Moten, Achille Mbembe, and Anna Tsing to give an outlook on relationalities that are virtual-actual, alive-dead, epiphylogenetic 'affective assemblages interviewing a myriad of agentive actors, dynamic actions and collective activities'.46 This essay and the accompanying multivocal annotation exercise, turning the author's work against itself, is a probing of what it entails to start revisiting, negotiating, and in this, producing Stiegler's alternative otherwise. Here we are urged to encounter text and its imbued knowledge as archival body, as epiphylogenesis, with its many voices and lysergic typing hands forming 'transcribed traces into an individual's transitive experience of power'.<sup>47</sup> Intrinsically, this is an intended 'plat-forming' of other ways of knowing - co-constructing alternatives without homogenising it into a singular narrative. It is a making visible, on the borderline of form and content, a certain discussion and retention of what is accumulated, examining the collective task and ethics of care of constructing archival alternatives to retain knowledge. Through the use of Google Docs as a digital solidarity tool - despite Google's position in Big Tech - and an accessibility paragraph, thought is afforded the possibility to root and rhizome, linking itself to the questions asked in this essay.

Diagrams: Discursive retentions and protensions of a line of thought. Author and editors.

"Letter to Architecture Institute", published in parts in [Women Building Housing Bulletin], 1989. Source: Archive Vrouwen Bouwen Wonen / Bureau Tussen-Ruimte. Donation Lidewij Tummers, Collection Het Nieuwe Instituut.

# rief aan Architectuurinstituut

pas opgerichte Architectuurinstituut in Rotterdam moet meer dacht besteden aan de positie van vrouwen in de stedebouw irchitektuur. Daarom schreven Marga Kuperus en Wies van rsel (respektievelijk architektuurhistorika en kunsthistorika) brief aan eerdergenoemde instelling. Zij kregen Aaarbij esiebetuigingen van vele organisaties, zoals het Arnisteris Steunpunt Wonen, de Vrouwenadvies Commissie voor de inngbouw, stichting Amazone, het SEIROV (sektie emancipaan het Nederlands Instituut Ruimtelewen Ordening en Volksvesting), Stuurgroep Experimentele angesolkshuisvesting, buro anzicht in Wageningen en de stichtigeronen Bouwen en ten van alle universiteiten en Techniste Universiteiten de f. Hieronder volgen enkele citaten. Slechtsumer uit uw de zijn van mening dat het Archi-

zijn van mening dat het Archiuurinstituut een duidelijke heeft in het zichtbaar maken de bijdragen van vrouwen in itektuur en stedebouw. Wij een daarbij aan het verrichten onderzoek naar het werk van welijke architekten uit heden ren en het verwenven, puren en tentoonstellen van hun inter)nationale diskussie over wen en gebouwde omgeving et onderzoek daarnaar. de duidelijkheid zij vermeld, naar onze mening deze aktivi-

wen en gebouwde omgeving iet onderzoek daarmaar. de duidelijkheid zij vermeld naar onze mening deze aktivi n moeten worden geïnte rd in het totale beleid van he tuut. Wel willen wij erop wijzer - wil er binnen afzienbare tij ke kunnen zijn van een repre atief beeld – aan vrouwen ir architektuur vooralsnog extra lacht moet worden besteed.

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dergetekenden zijn van mening it in het Architectuurinstituut de oreng van vrouwen in de archiktuur niet mag ontbreken en roeen u op aan deze tekortkoming is te doen. (...)'



### For the commentators: on footnote accessibility

Here, I outline the intention of the employed collaborative effort as concisely as possible. For this, I base myself on the work of disability activists, unlocking this essay to a wider constituency interested in the above-mentioned questions, yet not necessarily acquainted with Stiegler or fully able in the academic language spoken. In this I will perform the task of curator and translator, explicitly seeking the care-work of bringing together initial thoughts and starting the negotiation of this collective text-archive. This also means that the invited hosts have the freedom to propose other voices, broadening the network of retention. This co-construction of the essay serves as a framing of discussions that could be unfolding different options while placing Stiegler in the midst of different voices. Commenting on each other's interventions is encouraged, to foster more intricate economies of participation and deterritorialising academic thought. Upon placing comments, you can choose to use your name or remain anonymous. Similarly, you can place text bubbles as comments or write in-line. In the latter case, please use a colour distinct from the original (black) text. It is not necessary to interact with the entire text, but please be mindful of your language and the care you return to one another's thought. The editing procedure of the intra-actions to this essay will be minimal, and not necessarily regarding the status-quo of formatting such as adequate footnotes or referencing – in fact actively seeking to queer it.

Staci Bu Shea (b. Miami, 1988) is a curator, writer, caregiver and death doula based in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Broadly, Bu Shea focuses on aesthetic and poetic practices of social reproduction and care work, as well as its manifestations in interpersonal relationships and daily life, community organizing and institutional practice. Their long-term, transdisciplinary project Dying Livingly looks at the architecture and communal life of hospice and highlights emergent cultures of end of life care. Bu Shea currently teaches at Sandberg Institute (Amsterdam, 2022) and Royal Academy of Art (The Hague, 2023). From 2017 to 2022, Bu Shea was curator at Casco Art Institute: Working for the Commons and oversaw its exhibition program, archive and accessibility. They graduated from the Center of Curatorial Studies at Bard College (New York, 2016).

### Notes

- Bernard Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures 2016–2019, ed. Daniel Ross (London: Open Humanities Press, 2020), 187.
- About Gilbert Simondon's take on circuits of transindividuation, see Patrick Crogan, 'Knowledge, Care, And Transindividuation: An Interview With Bernard Stiegler', *Cultural Politics* 6, no. 2 (2010): 160. Debt, following Achille Mbembel, connected to one's lifespan (death) – as never completely losing its traces in life. Similarly, David Graeber, in *Debt: The First 5000 Years*, locates the fiction of debt in the arms of its enforcers, those who seek to remember, landlocking debt in institutional and bureaucratic rituals. Graeber, *Debt: The First 5000* Years (New York: Melville House, 2011).
- Karen Barad quoted in Felicity J. Colman, 'Agency', New Materialism 2018, https://newmaterialism.eu/ almanac/a/agency.html; Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures 2016–2019, 9.
- Western, not 'Westernised', since I am speaking from the contexts of Dutch academic institutions and their related spaces branching out in the rest of Western Europe. Bernard Stiegler, *For a New Critique of Political Economy* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2010).
- Achille Mbembe, 'Decolonizing Knowledge and the Question of the Archive', (presentation at the University of the Witwatersrand, 2015), 9, https:// wiser.wits.ac.za/system/files/Achille%20Mbembe%20 -%20Decolonizing%20Knowledge%20and%20 the%20Question%20of%20the%20Archive.pdf.
- Achille Mbembe, 'The Power of the Archive and its Limits', trans. Judith Ings, in Refiguring the Archive, ed. Carolyn Hamilton et. al (Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic: 2002), 19.
- Gilles Deleuze, 'Postscript On The Societies Of Control', trans. Martin Joughin, October 59, no. 1 (1992): 3–7.
- Bernard Stiegler, Symbolic Misery Vol. 1: The Hyperindustrial Epoch (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2014); Mbembe, 'Decolonizing Knowledge', 14; Stiegler, Symbolic Misery Vol. 1, 23; Bernard

Stiegler, *Technics and Time* 3 (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2010), 131.

- Gilles Deleuze, 'Instincts and Institutions', trans. John Duda, *Autonomedia*, 2003, http://dev.autonomedia.org/node/2525.
- 10. Ibid.
- 11. Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures.
- Ibid., 11; Achille Mbembe further asks: 'Is this the only future left to aspire to – one in which every human being becomes a market actor?' Mbembe, 'Decolonizing Knowledge', 4.
- 13. For example, the New Museum Union rose from the struggle against low pay and lack of support structures in museums. New Museum Union – UAW Local 2110, 'Can Institutions Care about Their Workers?', Arts of the Working Class (website), 28 January 2020, http://artsoftheworkingclass.org/text/ can-institutions-care-about-their-workers.
- 14. Mbembe, 'Decolonizing Knowledge', 8.
- Audre Lorde, The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House (London: Penguin, 2018).
- Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures, 11; the question 'what it does' follows Sara Ahmed's question 'What does diversity do?' Ahmed, On Being Included (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2012), 142.
- 17. For instance, conversations with Lidewij Tummers (Vrouwen Bouwen en Wonen archive), Anna Vos on the Women's Studies research group (1970s–1980s, TU Delft) or with Czar Kristoff on his artist's archive, during Collecting Otherwise working group meetings at Het Nieuwe Instituut (2020–2022).
- Dutch national institute of architecture and urban planning, design, and digital culture.
- Wies van Moorsel, Contact en Controle: Over het Vrouwbeeld van Stichting Goed Wonen (Amsterdam: SUA, 1992), 7, my translation.
- Chandra Talpade Mohanty, Feminism Without Borders (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2003), 30–31.
- 21. From different conversations with affiliated women such as Lidewij Tummers, Anna Vos, and members present during the Vrouwen Bouwen en

Wonen-hosted evening 'Non-Sexist City' at Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam, 27 February 2020.

- 22. Crogan, 'Knowledge, Care, And Transindividuation', 164.
- 23. Ibid., 168.
- 24. Ibid., 165.
- 25. Ibid., 160.
- 26. Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures, 95.
- McKenzie Wark, A Hacker Manifesto (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2004).
- Elizabeth Grosz, 'Deleuze, Bergson and the Concept of Life', *Revue Internationale de Philosophie* 3 (2007): 299; Stiegler, *Nanjing Lectures*, 11.
- 29. lbid., 59, 187.
- 30. Ibid., 11; Crogan, 'Knowledge, Care, And Transindividuation', 162, emphasis in the original.
- 31. Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures, 94.
- 32. Ibid., 44, 95.
- 33. Manuela Zechner and Rübner Hansen, 'Unchained Melodies of the New Proletariat', Generation Online, undated, https://www.generation-online.org/other/stieglerreview.htm
- 34. Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures, 58.
- Crogan, 'Knowledge, Care, And Transindividuation', 163.
- 36. Mohanty, Feminism Without Borders, 38.
- 37. Stiegler, Nanjing Lectures, 47.
- Crogan, 'Knowledge, Care, And Transindividuation', 167, 163.
- Manuel DeLanda, 'The Machinic Phylum', *TechnoMorphica*, V2 (1997), https://v2.nl/archive/ articles/the-machinic-phylum; Deleuze, 'Instincts and Institutions'.
- 40. Stiegler says: 'The brain is a living memory that is to say a fallible memory, in a permanent process of destruction, constantly under the sway of what I call retentional finitude.' Bernard Stiegler, 'Desire and Knowledge: The Dead Seize the Living', trans. George Collins and Daniel Ross, *Ars Industrialis* (website), undated, https://arsindustrialis.org/desire-andknowledge-dead-seize-living.
- 41. Jérôme Rosanvallon, 'Pure Variation and Organic Stratification', *Progress in Biophysics and Molecular*

Biology 110, no. 1 (September 2012): 138.

- 42. Ibid., 149.
- Xenia Kokoula, 'Opening up Bodyspace: Perspectives from Posthuman and Feminist Theory', *Footprint* 21 (Autumn/Winter 2017): 11.
- National Park Service, 'Mold and Mildew: Prevention of Microorganism Growth In Museum Collections', *Conserve O Gram* no. 3/4 (July 1993), https://www. archives.gov/preservation/environmental-control/ mold-prevention.html.
- 45. Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung, Arlette-Louise Ndakoze and Onur Çimen, eds., 'Vulnerable Archives: On Silenced Archives And Dissenting Views', Savvy Contemporary (website), 2021, https://savvy-contemporary.com/en/projects/2021/vulnerable-archives/
- Gökhan Kodalak, 'Affective Aesthetics Beneath Art and Architecture: Deleuze, Francis Bacon and Vogelkop Bowerbirds', *Deleuze and Guattari Studies* 12, no. 3 (2018): 403.
- 47. See especially ibid., 404, where Kodalak offers a useful explanation of Spinoza.

### Biography

Setareh Noorani is an architect and researcher. She uses various media in her projects and artistic contributions to explore ways of publicising and embodying, questioning processes of trauma and time; always moving in the grey space between academic research and art. This is expressed in the researching, disrupting and exposing of archives through spatial research and (self-)publishing, and her spatial and architectural designs. Her current research at Het Nieuwe Instituut focuses on the qualitative, paradigm-shifting notions of decoloniality, feminisms, queer ecologies, non-institutional representations, and the implications of the collective, more-than-human body in architecture, its heritage and ambiguous future scenarios.