

Technoetic Arts: a Journey of Speculative Research

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Abstract

First published in 2003 by founding editor Roy Ascott, Technoetic Arts is a peer-reviewed journal that explores the juncture of art practice, technology and the mind. Drawing from academic research and often unorthodox approaches it opens up a forum for trans-disciplinary speculative frameworks.

In 2020, with the support of the publisher Intellect, Ascott entrusted the editorship to what he defined the editorial organism, an international assemblage composed by: Claudia Jacques, Claudia Westermann, Dalila Honorato, Iannis Bardakos, Tom Ascott and Yong Hu.

The Editorial Organism of the Technoetic Arts Journal is considered an extitution. The term extitution relates to a radically dynamic form of organisation, differentiating itself from the dominant form of organisations, typically conceptualised as static institutions. Extitutional theory is an emerging area of research that provides a set of conceptual tools for describing and analyzing the underlying social dynamics of a variety of social arrangements, such as communities, businesses, organizations, or any other structure.

An extitution is an open, flexible, dynamic and diachronic multiplicity and, in this sense Technoetic Arts, combining academic research and artistic expression throughout the years, has established a unique journey. Within this presentation, we explore the reinvention of the editorial process through an organism that is composed of interdependent conscious units that coexist and apply decision-making in a decentralised way.

Keywords

Technoetic Arts, Roy Ascott, peer-reviewed journal, art research, transdisciplinary publishing.



Photo by Junkai Chen, Roy Ascott Studio, January 2021

Figure 1. Example of the journals cover and inside pages. ©Photo by Junkai Chen, Roy Ascott Studio, January 2021.

Author(s) Biography(ies)

Editorial Organism

Created in 2020, the Editorial Organism is an assemblage of six independent minds and bodies, serving the journal *Technoetic Arts* in its daily operations as principle editors. The Editorial Organism, aiming to expand the boundaries of academic publishing, is dedicated to critical creative enquiry on topics of art, technology and consciousness.

John Bardakos

John Bardakos is an artist and researcher born in Athens, Greece. He studied mathematics, digital, and traditional media in applied and fine arts in Athens, Paris and Madrid. Bardakos lectured in-between theory and practice in Athens and Paris and joined the Roy Ascott Technoetic Arts Studio in 2017 as a course coordinator and senior lecturer at the DeTao Masters Academy and the Shanghai Institute of Visual Arts continuing his research between fine arts, technologies, mathematics, cybernetics and diagrams. He is currently continuing his art and research activities at the Athens School of Fine Arts and the University Paris 8, focusing on interaction, spatial/digital poetics, aesthetics, and mathematical structures following a technoetic paradigm.

Dalila Honorato

Dalila Honorato, Ph.D., is tenured faculty in aesthetics and visual semiotics at the Ionian University, Greece and a collaborator at the Center of Philosophy of Sciences, University of Lisbon, Portugal. One of the founding members of the Interactive Arts Lab, she is the head of the organizing committee of the conference *Taboo – Transgression – Transcendence in Art & Science* and a co-founder of the network 'FEMeeting: Women in Art, Science and Technology'. In 2020 she was invited to join the Editorial Organism of *Technoetic Arts*.

Yong Hu

Yong Hu, Ph.D., is associate professor in the School of New Media Art and Design at Beihang University, China, and a researcher at the State Key Laboratory of Virtual Reality Technology and Systems. He obtained a Ph.D. degree in computer science and virtual reality from Beihang University and then continued to engage in interdisciplinary teaching and research on computer science and art design, such as virtual reality art design and interactive art design. He has published widely on topics in CG, VR and art design. In 2020 he was invited to join the Editorial Organism of *Technoetic Arts*.

Claudia Jacques

Claudia Jacques, Ph.D. (Univ. Plymouth, UK), MFA (SVA, US), is a Brazilian-American interdisciplinary technoetic artist, designer, educator and researcher. Human-computer interactions, cybersemiotics, semiotics, cybernetics, consciousness and design are some of her publication topics. She collaborates with many artists exhibiting and presenting both in the US and abroad. Parallel to serving in the *Technoetic Arts* Editorial Organism (2020), she has been serving as art & web editor for *Cybernetics and Human Knowing* since 2013. She has been collaborating with UCLA's ArtSci Center since 2011 as an Information and Instructional Designer and is the founder and creative director of Knowledge Art Studios Inc. Her studio is in Ossining, NY.

Claudia Westermann

Claudia Westermann (Ph.D.) is an artist and architect, licensed with the German Chamber of Architects, and a senior associate professor in architecture at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University in Suzhou, China. She holds postgraduate degrees in architecture and media art and obtained a Ph.D. from CAiiA, Planetary Collegium, for her research on a poetics of architecture, titled 'An experimental research into inhabitable theories'. Her works have been widely exhibited and presented, including at the Venice Biennale (Architecture), the Moscow International Film Festival, ISEA Symposium for the Electronic Arts, the Center for Art and Media (ZKM) in Karlsruhe, Germany, and most recently at the 2019 Yanping Art Harvest in Fujian, China.