

DIFFRACTIVE WORLD-MAKING

Theatre & Science Beyond the Capitalocene

Gayle Karch Cook Center
November 10 - 12, 2022

*Organized by Teresa Kovacs & Kevin Rittberger. For further information
please reach out to Teresa Kovacs at tekovacs@iu.edu.*

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Gayle Karch Cook Center, IUB
5 - 8 PM

Introduction by Teresa Kovacs and Kevin Rittberger

Entangled Lecture

Karen Barad

Troubling Time/s. Undoing the Future.

Kevin Rittberger

breaking the fourth, fifth, sixth wall. . . ?
on diffractive theatre

Reception

Friday, November 11, 2022

Gayle Karch Cook Center, IUB
10 - 12 PM

Talk

Rebecca Schneider

Gesture, Redaction, Diffraction, and Flight
Arts of the Interstice

Dialogue

Alison Calhoun and Ulf Otto

Rethinking Theatre and Technology
Early, Late, and Never Have Been Moderns

1 - 3 PM

Talk (via Zoom)

Bini Adamczak

Fractional Relationality

Talk

Tavia Nyong'o

Relationality? No Thanks!
On Black Performance and its Critical Refusal

3:15 - 5:15 PM

Reading

Penda Diouf

colonial stories: from France to Namibia

Read by **Eboni Edwards**

Talk

McKenzie Wark

Dysphoric Planet

6:30 PM

FAR Arts Center

Dance

Tzveta Kassabova

Prometheus. Beginnings.

Based on plays by **Kevin Rittberger**

Saturday, November 12, 2022

Gayle Karch Cook Center, IUB

10 AM - 12 PM

Talk

Karin Harrasser

Violence and the care for images

Doing history with strangers

Conversation

Art and Agency: On Mind, Matter, and Media

with **Karen Barad, Karin Harrasser, Tavia Nyong'o,**

McKenzie Wark

moderated by **Rebekah Sheldon**

1 - 3 PM

Reading and Workshop

Penda Diouf and Kevin Rittberger

Blackout White Noise

On "ethico-onto-epistem-ological" Writing

Talk

Luiza Prado

WAVES/WEEDS/WORLDS

4 PM

Performance

Luiza Prado

The Sermon of the Weeds

***Diffractive World-Making: Theatre & Science Beyond the Capitalocene* starts from the smallest possible constellation: one playwright, one philosopher. Berlin-based playwright Kevin Rittberger meets feminist and philosopher of science Karen Barad. On the basis of Barad's book *Meeting the Universe Halfway: Quantum Physics and the Entanglement of Matter and Meaning* and subsequent works, Rittberger explores the potential of a 'diffractive theatre' for our technoscientific age. At the same time, Barad explores our 'troubled time/s' and offers a queer, postcolonial critique that gives the impulse for our discussions on aesthetics and ethics. The initial encounter provides an opening through which to engage with concepts like response-ability and multi-species aesthetics, as well as with issues like colonialism, shrinking population, reproductive justice, and a critical theory for a damaged planet.**

The conference itself takes up Barad's method of diffraction and expands to an exceptional international cast of leading critics, artists, and theorists that think-with and nearby Barad and Rittberger, including McKenzie Wark, Rebecca Schneider, Tavia Nyong'o, Karin Harrasser, Ulf Otto, Bini Adamczak, Alison Calhoun, Penda Diouf, Luiza Prado, and Tzveta Kassabova.

Our aim is not just to shed light on the entanglement of the sciences and aesthetics, but to demonstrate how productive it can be to read them through each other. In so doing, we can investigate their potential to radically rework established Western concepts and categories of causality, time, and space, and contribute to rethinking the troubled times in which we live.

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