Faculty of Arts and Humanities

School of Art, Design and Architecture

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<i>Ubiquity</i>, an end piece

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10.1386/ubiq_00016_7 Ubiquity: The Journal of Pervasive Media Intellect

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Pre-publication.

Aleph: Mike Phillips and Chris Speed. Ubiquity, an End Piece.

Ubiquity, an End Piece. Mike Phillips and Chris Speed.

A little synthetic autopoetic GPT-2 (OpenAI 2019) summary of Ubiquity, the Journal of Pervasive Media, Volumes 1-7, might look something like this:

1	
2	# Load Model
3	print('ubiquity_vol1-7=True')
4	A smart paranoid thing of magnitude and the consequences of designing data
5	experience for potential vintage nonhumans
6	as a vehicle for discursive exploration.
7	
8	Near future phantoms cooking up pervasive bad behaviour with data
9	instruments from the confluence of the scientific dimension.
10	
11	The pathos of the globalization of mobile innovative distributed
12	disruptions and international egalitarian aesthetics
13	(small and big)
14	in the digital vernacular of storytelling - remediating sentimental
15	panorama frames.
16	
17	The future fostering of the disruption of spatial pervasive memory
18	has already happened while it lasted.
19	
20	The posthumous haunting absence of future love, super dreams of the
21	robot frog palace, introducing your dishwashers priorities, the
22	fictions of the uninvited teacher.
23	
24	The phenomena and privileges of yranilcsidsnart backwards, a ghosts
25	unmoving chemical mirror gaze, ripped and uncanny dust, the
26	unpredictability of desire experiments, the banal work, the hooded
27	time, as expression.
28	

29	A manifesto searching for emotions in the charitable cloud,
30	designing regimes of intangible, trustless housing.
31	
32	Balance a mind paradox,
33	a smart nature in transit,
34	the life weaving between
35	an end piece.
36	sys.exit()

Of course, GPT-3 might well score higher on grammar and syntax, but as mutant governments inflict casual algorithmic blunt force trauma on our civic systems, the ubiquity of our dumb digital technologies have never needed greater care and attention. We cannot blame them for the clumsily way they are shaping our culture and its byproducts, such as the economy and the devastation of our ecosystem.

As an End Piece this synthetic autopoetic mirrors the Paranoid Manifesto of Issue 1 (Phillips, Speed 2012), embedded in the code is a hope that this new potential can be harnessed and better designed. But still ubiquity feels like it has been inflected upon us by some external force, something strange and unfamiliar, an uncanny ghost that haunts us from the First Industrial Revolution. The advent of ubiquitous computing has been hastened through our consumption of networked digital devices but in reality, it is driven by deep seated desires that we find hard to reconcile.

The metricization of the world through the harvesting of data through smart technologies is primarily focused on measuring 'instrumental' as opposed to 'intrinsic' value, and as a consequence we are collaborating in designing a world the consists of only the things and experiences that can be measured using these instruments.

The shocking lack of cultural and visual understanding of STEM disciplines is only matched by the data and technological illiteracy of the arts and humanities. In a culture where everyone and everything is connected the transgressions and trauma that follow will be designed by us.

References:

OpenAl 2019. [Online]. [Accessed 11 July 2020]. Available from: https://openai.com/

Phillips, M. Speed, C. 2012, 'Ubiquity: A paranoid manifesto', Ubiquity: The Journal of Pervasive Media, Vol 1, no 1, pp. 3-6(4).

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