

DR. ORIT HALPERN

Lighthouse Professor and Chair of Digital Cultures
Co-Director of Department of Speculative Transformation
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EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany 2022-Present

Lighthouse Professor (W3)

Chair of Digital Cultures

Co-Director Department of Speculative Transformation

Speaker TU Disruption Initiative

Concordia University, Montréal, QC. 2016-2022

Associate Professor(tenured)

Executive Board, Milieux Institute for Arts, Culture, and Technology (<https://milieux.concordia.ca/>)

Director, Speculative Life Research Cluster (www.speculativelife.com)

Strategic Hire in Interactive Design and Theory

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

The New School University, New York, NY. 2007-2015

Assistant Professor

History Department Tenure-Track

Cross-Appointment: New School for Social Research and Eugene Lang College

Core Affiliate: Culture and Media Studies at Eugene Lang and Design Studies Program at Parsons

Duke University, Durham, NC. 2006-2007

Post-doctoral Fellow, Franklin Humanities Institute

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. 1999-2006

Ph.D. History of Science, June 2006

MA. History of Science, August 2001

Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY.

1995-1997

MPH. Master of Public Health in Socio-medical Sciences

Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. 1990-1994

BA. Graduated cum laude with degree in History

SELECT PUBLICATIONS: TEXT AND DIGITAL MEDIA

Books:

The Smartness Mandate with Robert Mitchell
(Cambridge: MIT Press, 2023)

Prizes: 2023 Michelle Kendrick Prize for Best Book of the Year from the Society for Literature, Science, and The Arts.

Reviews and Press: *El País*, December 25, 2023, *Leonardo*, July 2023, *New Books Network* June, 4, 2023, *LA Review of Books*, May 30, 2023, *E&T Magazine* 15, March 2023, *Rhizomes*, Issue 39, 2023, *Bridging the Gaps*, June 6, 2023, *Bayern 2 Kulturjournal*, May 22, 2023, *the Archipelago* February 18, 2023.

Beautiful Data: A History of Vision and Reason since 1945
(Durham: Duke University Press, 2015)

Reviews: *Science & Technology Studies* Vol. 28(3) 2015. *Perspectives on Politics*, vol. 15, no. 4, 2017, *American Historical Review*, vol. 121, no. 2, 2016. *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, vol. 52, no. 2, 2016. *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences*, Vol. 46, No. 2, April 2016. *Neural*, November, 2016, *The British Journal for the History of Science*, vol. 49, no. 1, 2016. *Canadian Journal of History*, vol. 52, no. 3, 2017. *Cultural Critique*, vol. 101, 2018. *American Literature*, vol. 88, no. 3, 2016. *International Journal of Communication*, no.10, 2016 *Computational Culture*, Issue 5, 2016. *Isis*, vol. 108, no. 2, 2017. *Medium*, June 16, 2018.

Interviews: New Books in Science and Technology, March 9, 2015.
Cultures of Energy: March 15, 2018.
The Archipelago, 09/01/2021

Articles:

(in review) "Optimizing Damage: on the Geo-politics of Automation" w/ Ned Rossiter, submitted for review to *Environment and Planning D*, September 30, 2023.

"Financializing Intelligence: On the Integration of Machines and Markets", *E-flux Architecture*, Special Issue *On Models*, Nick Axel, et.al. eds. March (2023).

"Resilient Futures", *Perspecta: The Yale Architecture Journal*, Issue 55, January (2023): 101-113.

"Surplus Data", w/ Patrick Jagoda, Jeffrey Kirkland, and Leif Weatherby, *Critical Inquiry*, special issue Surplus Data, Orit Halpern, Patrick Jagoda, Jeffrey Kirkland, and Leif Weatherby (eds), Volume 48, Number 2, Winter (2022): 1-9.

"The Future will not be Calculated: Neural Nets, Neo-liberalism, and Reactionary Politics", *Critical Inquiry*, Volume 48, Number 2, Winter (2022): 334-359.

"Optimal Brain Damage: Theorizing the Nervous Present" w/ Johannes Bruder, *Culture Machine*, Vol. 20 September (2021).

"Resilient Natures", *Social Text*, November 24 (2020).

"Scenes from a Reclamation" with Tekla Aslanishvili, *E-Flux Architecture*, Special Issue *New Silk Roads*, February (2020).

- “The Planetary Test”, *Zeitschrift für Medien and Kulturforschung*, Vol 10, October 1 (2019).
- “Golden Futures”, *Limn*, Issue 10, January (2019): 107-114 .
- “The Smartness Mandate: Notes towards a Critique”, Primary author Orit Halpern with Robert Mitchell, and Bernhard Geoghegan, *Grey Room*, Summer (2017): 106-129.
- “Hopeful Resilience”, *E-Flux Architecture, Special Issue on Accumulation* April 19 (2017).
republished in *Ways of Knowing Cities*, Laura Kurgan, ed. (Columbia Books on Architecture and the City, (2019)
- “Demoing unto Death: Smart Cities, Environment, and Preemptive Hope,” with Gokce Günel, *Fibreculture_*, August (2017).
- “Smartness as Instrument”, *ARPA Journal*, Issue 04, (2016).
- “Cloudy Architectures” , *Continent*, Issue 4.3, (2015): 34-45.
- “Inhuman Vision”, *Media-N: Journal of the New Media Caucus* , Fall (2014).
- “Cybernetic Rationality”, *Distinktion: Journal of Social Theory*, Vol. 15, No. 2, (2014): 1–16.
- “Test Bed Urbanism”, Primary Author Orit Halpern with Jesse LeCavalier, Nerea Calvillo, and Wolfgang Pietsch, *Public Culture*, special issue on the *Future of the City*, Volume 25, Number 2, Spring (2013).
- “Perceptual Machines: Communication, Archiving, and Vision in Post-war American Design”
Special Issue on Documentary and Science, *Journal of Visual Culture*, Volume 11, issue 3, December (2012): 328-351.
- “Schizophrenic Techniques: Cybernetics, the Human Sciences, and the Double Bind”
Scholar and Feminist Journal On-Line_, Special Issue on Iterations of Social Difference, Issue 10.3, Summer (2012).
- “Cybernetic Sense: Warren McCulloch and Norbert Wiener’s Conception of Perception”
Interdisciplinary Science Reviews for special issue on Warren McCulloch, Vol 37, No.2, Sept. (2012): 218-236.
- “Anagram, Gestalt, Game in Maya Deren: Reconfiguring the Image in Post-war Cinema”
Post-Modern Culture, Volume 19, Number 3,(2009).
- “Dreams for Our Perceptual Present: Archives, Interfaces, and Networks in Cybernetics”
Configurations, 13:2, (2007): 283-320.
- “Transfer of Behavioral Intervention Technology to a Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic”
Nancy VanDevanter Dr.PH, BarbaraCicatelli MA, Isaac Weisfuse MD.,
Orit Halpern MPH., Mira Levinson MPH, Karen Deli MA, EdM, Alan Dunn MD,
Journal of Public Health Practice and Management. Vol.5, Number 5, September (1999): 40-51.
- “Women’s Time Allocation: Implications of Environmental Factors, Work-load and Culture For Health and Nutrition”, Orit Halpern and Mira Levinson, Dr. Zeba Mahmud, *Tufts University Nutrition Working Papers*, June (1999).
- “Expired nitric oxide after bronchoprovocation and repeated spirometry in patients with asthma”, Deykin A. Halpern O. Massaro AF. Drazen JM. Israel E. *American Journal of Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine*, March (1998) :769-75.

Book Chapters and Book Reviews

- “Epilogue: Beyond Smartness”, in *Data Power in Action, Urban Data Politics in Times of Crisis*, Ayona Datta and Ola Söderstrom, editors (Bristol: Bristol University Press Dec. 21, 2023).
- “Automating Freedom”, in *Queering Artificial Intelligence*, Sara Morais dos Santos Bruss, et. al editors (London: Routledge, September 2023)

- “Planetary Intelligence” book chapter in Jonathan Roberge and Michael Castelle (Eds): *The Cultural Life of Machine Learning*, London: Palgrave (2021)
- “Demo”, book chapter in *Uncertain Archives*, ed. Kristine Veel, (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2021)
- “Smartness and Populations as Infrastructure” with Robert Mitchell, in book *The Intelligence of cities and the new urban revolution*, Bernhard Steigler, ed. (Paris : Centre de Pompidou, 2020)
- “Repeating: Cybernetic Intelligence” in *Design Technics: Archeologies of Architectural Practice*, Zeynep Celik Alexander and John May, eds. (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2019).
- “Architecture as Machine: A Brief History of the Smart City, Design and Cybernetics”
Book Chapter in *When Is the Digital in Architecture?*, Andrew Goodman, ed. Canadian Center for Architecture (Winter 2017)/ Sternberg 2019.)
- "The Trauma Machine: Demos, Immersive Technologies and the Politics of Simulation."
Book Chap. 3 In *Alleys of Your Mind: Augmented Intelligence and Its Traumas*, edited by Matteo Pasquinelli, 53-67. Luneberg: Meson Press, 2015.
- “Nervous Networks and Serious Games: The Emergence of Neuro-Politics and Population in Cybernetics and Design” , Book chapter in *Image, Ethics, Technology*, Sharrona Pearl, ed. (New York: Routledge Press 2015)
- “Forensic Methodology”, *ARPA* Issue 03, July 4, 2015: <http://www.arpajournal.net/forensic-methodology/>
- “Obfuscation”. Chapter in exhibition catalogue *Speculation, Now*, Vera List Center for Art and Politics, Vyjayanthi Rao (ed), with Prem Krishnamurthy and Carin Kuoni, (Durham: Duke University Press), 2015.
- “Chris Salter’s Alien Agency”, *Media-n*, April 11, 2015.
- “The Neural Network: Temporality, Rationality, and Affect in Cybernetics”, Book chapter in *The Timing of Affect*, Marie-Luise Angerer, ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press and Zurich: Diaphanes 2014) *This is a reprint of Distinktions article.*
- "The Interface: IBM and the Transformation of Corporate Design by John Harwood"
IEEE Annals of the History of Computing 35.2 (2013): 83-84.
- "The Freudian Robot by Lydia Liu, University of Chicago Press (2011)"
Review in *Isis* Vol. 103, No. 3 (September 2012), pp. 626-627.
- "Affective Intelligence by Elizabeth Wilson, University of Washington Press (2010)"
Review essay for *Technology and Culture*_ Issue 53, (Fall 2011).
- "Psychedelic Vision", *BioSocieties* (2013) 8, 238–242.
- "Historicizing Surveillance"
Social Science Research Council Policy Papers (Fall 2002).

Public Writings and Exhibition Catalogues

- “Becoming Smart”
LAS foundation, Berlin catalogue for Lawrence Lek, NOX exhibition, October 2023.
<https://www.las-art.foundation/explore/becoming-smart>
- “Our Machine Systems Mirror Our Economic Systems”, Weizenbaum Institute Policy Discussions,
<https://www.weizenbaum-institut.de/news/orit-halpern-our-computer-systems-mirror-our-economic-ideas-about-markets/> July 11, 2023.
- “Rethinking Smartness” w/Robert Mitchell
ZFL Blog, <https://www.zflprojekte.de/zfl-blog/2023/02/07/orit-halpern-robert-mitchell-rethinking-smartness/>, July 2, 2023.
- “Options”
Weather Engines Glossary, Onassis Foundation, Athens, Greece, Spring 2022.

- “The Global Risks Report 2022, 17th Edition”, *World Economic Forum* (Part of Frontier Risks Working Group that helped author the report).
- “A History of the MIT Media Lab Shows Why the Epstein Scandal is No Surprise”, *Art in America*, November 21, 2019.
- “Correlating Happiness”, Orit Halpern and Wendy Chun, *Canadian Center for Architecture*, August 2019.
<https://www.cca.gc.ca/en/articles/issues/27/will-happiness-find-us/67765/correlating-happiness>
- “Demo or Die Redux”, Orit Halpern and Gokce Günel, *ARCH+*, October 2019.
- “The Planetary Test” in *Victor Papanek: The Politics of Design*, Matteo Kries, Amelie Klein, Alison Clark, ed. Basel: Vitra Museum, December 2018. Short version of later article for ZKM.
- “Light Infrastructures: Life, Urbanism, and Media Art”
Dooeun Choi and Orit Halpern, Catalogue entry for *Lumières de la Ville (The City’s Lights) 6th Edition of the Toronto Biennale / Montreal/ Lille*, February 21 – 24, 2013 (Montreal: University of Montreal), 2018.
- “Cultures of Energy: Cybernetics and Information”, podcast w/ Dominic Boyer and Cymene Howe, 16 March, 2018 <https://podtail.com/en/podcast/cultures-of-energy/117-orit-halpern/>
- “Cinema/Cybernetics/Visuality: An Interview with Orit Halpern”, with Eddie Loymeyer, *International Journal of Communication* 10 (2016), Feature 3203–3215.
- “Demo or Die! : On Art as Software. Or the cautionary tale of how Mongolian desert gerbils changed the future of machine learning, known today as Artificial Intelligence”
Tate, etc. (Fall 2016).
- “A Short History of Clouds”
Catalogue Entry for exhibition *Poetics and Politics of Data*, Sabine Himmelsbasch and Claudia Mareis, ed. (Basel: Christoph Merian Verlag, 2015). Re-printed in *Continent* in longer format.
- “Skewing the City”, Nerea Calvillo, Orit Halpern, Jesse LeCavalier, and Wolfgang Pietsch—the Milgram Group
Essay for *The Electric City*, (London: London School of Economics, 2013).
- “On Seeing Like a Machine”
Exhibition Catalogue Essay for Seoul Media-city Biennial at the Seoul Museum of Art *Korean and English* (Seoul: Seoul Museum of Art, September, 2012).
- “Det skannande ögat. Cybernetik, seende och efterkrigsdesign”, (Cybernetics and Design) in *Swedish OEI—lek, spel, lesaker*, #48-49-50 (2010):146-155.

In Progress

Freedom, Equality, and “Fraternity”: A Speculative History of Artificial Intelligence:

Monograph: a genealogy of ideas concerning decision making, technology, freedom, and evolution in post 1970’s economics, the human and life sciences, and finance. Intended completion Summer 2026.

The Planetary Experiment: Monograph on planetary-scale experiments and the future imaginaries of human and more than human life. Intended completion 2025.

Against Catastrophe: Edited volume with Nadia Christidi, Eylül Iscen, and Sudipto Basu involving artists, designers, and scholars writing about different forms of futuring and creatively imagining new worlds. Currently in discussion with MIT Press and Duke, expected completion date: December 2024.

New Media/Exhibitions/Curatorial Projects

Part of my practice includes pioneering new models for practice based research studios and engaging the public in critical topics about science, technology and society through new forms of curated events, exhibitions, research studios, and artistic collaborations:

The Conservators w/Tal Halpern KW Contemporary Art, Berlin 2021

<https://opensecret.kw-berlin.de/essays/orit-halpern/>

Reclaiming the Planet, Venice Biennial, Ars Electronica, 2021 /Future Research Platform

www.reclaimingtheplanet.net

Platform Austria, Singularity Rebellion, w/Tal Halpern Venice Biennial 2021

<https://www.platform-austria.org/en/blog/authors/orit-halpern>

Between Spaces/Between Lines: The Mont-Pélerin Re-Write w/ Karolina Sobechka and Johannes Bruder ,Haus

Der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, *The Shape of Practice*, Germany, November 2020.

<https://www.anthropocene-curriculum.org/contribution/between-spaces-between-lines>

Planetary Futures at Milieux Institute, Montréal (2017-2018)

www.planetaryfutures.net

Elusive Life: Extinction, Biodiversity, and Datafication

w/ Hexagram Transmediale Festival April 1-4, 2017

Nervous Systems

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, March 10-May 09, 2016

<https://vimeo.com/172638035>

Reading Algorithms

Leuphana University, Digital Cultures Research Lab, June 8-9, 2016 Germany,

Anthropocene Campus

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (w/ Robert Mitchell, Bernhard Geoghegan, Oliver Hamand, and Stéphane Grumbach), April 14-22, 2016, Berlin

https://archiv.hkw.de/de/programm/beitragende_hkw/persons/personenseite_206964.php

Furnishing the Cloud, New School University (co-produced with Kimberly Ackert)

Exhibition and web-installation at Aronson Gallery, March 9-22, 2015

Milgram, Guggenheim/BMW Lab (co-produced with Nerea Calvillo, Jesse LeCavalier, and Wolfgang Pietsch)

Web based publication, research platform, and QR code pamphlet mapping digital infrastructures. Part of the Poiesis project at the Institute for Public Knowledge, and produced and shown at the BMW/Guggenheim East Village Pavilion throughout August 2011 (in English and German).

Archiving Nature: Preservation Practices for a Digital Age (co-produced with Tal Halpern):

Web-based installation shown at : "Iconoclash", ZKM: Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe, Germany. Spring-Summer 2002. Also published through the Electronic Literature Foundation.

Chromosome 22: Digital Biology and Interactivity, (co-authored with Tal Halpern)

C-Theory Multi-media, Cornell University Press, Issue 2, Spring 2001.

Archived at: <https://artbase.rhizome.org/wiki/Q3637>

Also selected for: "Open Horizons": Human Rights and Art, sponsored by UNESCO, The European Council for Cultural Affairs, March 21-24, 2001. Included in Rhizome Artbase.

RT21: Reproductive Technologies Web: Pedagogy tool and on-line network for the discussion

and dissemination of feminist pedagogy, literature and actions on reproductive health and rights. Developed print and on-line publishing models. Operated from 1998-2001.

Other Exhibitions and Collections Work shown at:

V2 ROTTERDAM, Rhizome Artbase, Electronic Literature Foundation

GRANTS/ FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

Michelle Kendrick Book Prize for Best Book of the Year

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts

2023

Smartness and Wealth, Volkswagen Stiftung

€1.5 million

2023-2027

Lead PI w/African Center for Cities Capetown/
Concordia University Montréal/ Jindal School of Arts Delhi/
Leuphana University Lünberg

HORIZONS: CYMEDSEC, Artificial Intelligence and

€6 million/

2023-2027

Security in Public Databanks

€410,000.00 to my team

Innovation Program, European Research Council

Primary Investigator (10 PI team, lead Stephen Gilbert

TU Medical School)

BMBF/PATH: AI and consent

€2.26million/

2023 -2025

PI w/ lead PI Stephen Gilbert, TU Medical School

€200,000 to my team

Mellon Fellowship, Digital Now Program,

2021-2023

Canadian Center for Architecture, Montréal, Quebec.

Volkswagen Stiftung

€ 536,200 Euro

2021-2024

Collaborator w/ Armin Beverungen(PI) Leuphana University

Automating the Logistical City: Space, Algorithms, Speculation

Hexagram, FQRSC

\$1,827,000CAD

2020-2027

Co-researcher, grant for research-creation network

AUDACE, FQRSC Grant

\$126,000CAD

2020-2023

Reclaiming the Planet,

Principle Investigator

Sinergia Grant, Swiss National Science Foundation

2,397,000 CHF

2020-2024

Design and Geopolitics,

Principle Investigator w/

Claudia Mareis (IXDM) and Kenny Cupers (University of Basel)

Australian Research Council, Discovery Research Projects \$464,271.00 AUD

2019-2020

Geopolitics of Automation, co-principal investigator,

w/ Professor Ned Rossiter; Professor Brett Neilson; Professor Anna

Munster; Dr Liam Magee(Western Sydney University)

Graham Foundation Research Grant

2019-2020

Scholar in Residence, Max Planck Institute for the

2018

History of Science, Berlin, Germany

Senior Fellow, IKKM

2017- 2018

(Internationales Kolleg für Kulturtechnikforschung und Medienphilosophie)

Weimar, Germany

Visiting Scholar Fellowship, Digital Cultures Research Lab

Summer 2016

Volkswagen Stiftung

Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany	
GIDEST Fellowship/Mellon Foundation	2015-2016
Graduate Institute for Design, Ethnography, and Social Thought New School University	
Graham Foundation	2014-2015
Individual Scholar Research Award	
Visiting Scholar Fellowship, Digital Cultures Research Lab	Summer 2014
Volkswagen Stiftung	
Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany	
Provost Office of the New School/ Research Cluster Grant	2013- 2015
Multi-year grant to develop research, software publishing platforms and methods in the study of emergent urban and computing infrastructures.	
The Instruments Project, Social Science and Humanities	2013- 2015
Research Council of Canada	
Collaborator with Zeynep Celik Alexander (PI) and John May (PI) University of Toronto	
Award for Best Paper in 2011 from the Society for Histories of Media Art, Science and Technology	September 2011
For the paper “Influencing Machines: Cybernetics, Bio-politics, And Design”	
Max Planck Institute für Wissenschaftsgeschichte	Spring 2011
Scholar in Residence Fellowship	
Warner Fund Award, Columbia University	2012
Awarded subvention funding for book, “Beautiful Data”	
Poiesis Fellowship	2010-2013
BMW Herbert Quandt Foundation Three Year Fellowship at the Institute for Public Knowledge at NYU for research on design, urbanization, and globalization.	

CENTERS AND LABS

<i>Against Catastrophe</i>	2020-ongoing
Director of a research group dedicated to the future of design. We rethink speculative design practices using critical race, post-colonial, feminist science studies. Part of the multi-year <i>Governing through Design Project</i> that examines design and politics. www.againstcatastrophe.net	
<i>Speculative Life Research Cluster</i>	2016-2022
Founder and former director of a speculative design and arts research cluster at the intersection of the life sciences, architecture and design, and computational media. www.speculativelife.com	
<i>The Instruments Project/Aggregate</i>	2012-2017
Collaboration with Daniels School of Architecture at University of Toronto to produce new methods in the historical study of technology in design and architecture. The focus is to produce new web based and print based histories that can also inform design and architecture pedagogy and research.	
<i>Emergent Infrastructures Research Group</i>	2013-2015
Director of a three year project sponsored by the Provost Office at the New School to produce platforms for research and pedagogy between the divisions of design, humanities, and the social sciences.	

- Poiesis Fellowship/ Digital Infrastructures Research Group** 2010-2013
Part of a three year research collaboration with New York University, Institute for Public Knowledge, for the study of the future of urban life and technology sponsored by the Herbert Quandt Foundation and BMW.
- Visual Culture Lab, New School for Social Research** 2007-2014
Co- founder and director of a collaborative working group and research cluster on visual and sensory culture and politics that integrates faculty from Art and Design History and Theory, History, Culture and Media Studies, and Politics.
- Center for Transformative Media, New School University** 2007-2010
Part of a collaborative center for fostering new open-source publishing platforms, open courseware, and collaborative research between social science and design faculties.

Selected Invited Talks and Keynotes

2023

- Kunst Werke Berlin: Poetics of Encryption**, Keynote *Epistemologies of Ignorance* October 28, Berlin.
Academy of Europe, Keynote *Resilient Futures*, Wrocław Poland October 19.
Interposed: A Program on Designing Communication, Keynote: *Resilient Life*, Mainz, Germany, October 18.
University of Siegen, Digital Twins and Doubles: Data of Cooperation, Keynote, July 19.
Berlin Academy of Arts, *New Practices in Art and Technology*, Performance Lecture, July 6.
Muhlenberg Center for American Studies and Max Planck for Social Science, Guest Lecture: *Financializing Intelligence*, Halle, Germany, June 25.
Max Planck for History of Science, Epistemologies of Planetary Intelligence, Guest Lecture: *Planetary Intelligence*, Berlin, June 9.
Re:Publica Conference 23: Speaker, *Cash, Futures and Utopia*, <https://re-publica.com/en/node/3030> Berlin, June 6.
Human Entities Festival, Triennial of Architecture Lisbon Keynote: *The Smartness Mandate*, Lisbon, Portugal, May 3.
Transmediale Festival, Lecture Performance: “An Engine Not A Camera”, Berlin, Feb. 4. <https://2023.transmediale.de/en/event/an-engine-not-a-camera>

2022

- Leipzig Academy of Art, Any One day the Future Died. Impossible Possibilities of Artificial Intelligence** Keynote, Leipzig, October 27.
Haus Der Kulturen Der Welt, Berlin, Keynote, *Anthropocene/ Memory and Oblivion in Times of Extinction*, May 21
University of Chicago, Keynote: *Smartness Mandate*, Film Theory Symposium in honor of David Rodowick, May 13-14
The Smartification of Everything, Keynote, University of Ottawa, March 7 <https://smartificationofeverything.com/>

- 2021 Centre Pompidou**, Paris, Keynote, “Reprise de Vues”, January 28, 2021. <https://www.reprisedevues.org/>

2020

- Contagion Design**, University of Western Sydney, Australia, November 11, 2020 (on-line) <https://networkcultures.org/blog/2020/10/08/contagion-design-labour-economy-habits-data-event-in-sydney/>

- ACADIA Conference, Keynote, “Data and Bias”,** Keynote, San Francisco, USA, October 26, 2020. (on-line)
- HKW Anthropocene Campus,** Keynote on “Consensus”, Berlin, Germany, October 29, 2020. (on-line)
- Urban Futures Research Lab,** Colloquia Speaker, Torino Italy, May 10, 2020. (on-line)
- STS Futures: A Symposium,** Keynote *STS Futures: A Symposium*, Keynote, York University, January 10, 2020
- 2019**
- Artificial Intelligence / Cultural Technique,** Södertörns University, Stockholm Museum of Science, Stockholm, Sweden, June 14, 2019.
- Architecture History and Theory Seminar,** Keynote, ETH Zurich, Switzerland, June 5, 2019.
- Paranoia conference,** Global Emergent Media Lab, Concordia, Canada, May 2019.
- History of Science and the History of Media,** Symposium, Bauhaus Universität Weimar, Germany, June 10-13, 2019.
- Immersion,** Radcliff Institute for Advanced Study, Symposium, Harvard University March 3, 2019
- Year Zero,** New York University, Symposium, February 22, 2019
- Urban IQ Test,** Keynote, Daniels School of Architecture, University of Toronto, January 18-19, 2019.
- Rice University,** Anthropology Colloquia, January 8, 2019.
- 2018**
- Videoart at Midnight,** Keynote, Berlin, Germany, December 11, 2018
- Metabolism Conference,** Keynote: Resilient Futures, Erfurt, Germany, December 9, 2018.
- Annual Lambert Architectural Seminar,** Université de Montréal, School of Architecture, Montréal, QC. “The Planetary Test”, November 3, 2018.
- It Wasn't Written: Designerly Ways of Historiography,** “The Nervous System”, Museum of Modern Art, New York September 5, 2018.
- Re:publica,** Keynote: “Extreme Futures”, Berlin, Germany, May 9, 2018
- Maerz Music Festival,** Keynote: “Time Wars”, Berlin, Germany, March 16, 2018
- Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Colloquium,** “Smartness”, Berlin, Germany, March 7, 2018
- IKKM Weimar,** Keynote, “The Smartness Mandate”, Weimar, Germany, January 10, 2018
- 2017**
- V2 Institute for Unstable Media: “Smartness Mandate”: Evening of Black Box Concerns**
Rotterdam, Holland, December 7, 2017 <http://v2.nl/archive/people/orit-halpern>
- Project Bauhaus: “Resilient Hope”**
Berlin, Germany, December 2, 2017
https://www.hkw.de/de/programm/projekte/veranstaltung/p_136956.php
- Haus der Kulturen Der Welt: 1948 Unbounded**
Berlin, Germany, November 30, 2017
<https://askhelmut.com/events/2017-11-30-19-00-haus-der-kulturen-der-welt-1948-unbound-switches>
- New York University, German Studies, The Quantity of Quality**
New York, USA October 27, 2017
<http://as.nyu.edu/content/nyu-as/as/research-centers/deutscheshaus/cultural-program/events/fall-2017/the-quality-of-quantity--the-german-critical-tradition-in-the-er.html>
- Max Planck Institute for History of Science, Workshop “The Intelligence of Algorithms”**
Berlin, Germany October 19-21, 2017.
- Eastern Bloc, Earthly Survival, Sight+Sound Festival**
Montréal, Canada October 1, 2017
- Concordia University, Putting Infrastructure in Its Place**
Montréal, QC. Canada, October 11, 2017

Stanford University, Department of History of Science Colloquium

Palo Alto, California, October 5, 2017

Papanek Foundation Symposium, Design and Ethics

Austrian Embassy, London, UK September , 22,2017 <http://papanek.org/symposium/>

University of Warwick, Workshop on the Ambivalences of Abstraction

London, UK June 15-16, 2017

University of Westminster, Digital Objects Digital Subjects

London, UK. May 20-21, 2017

University of Toronto, Techniques of the Corporation

Toronto, ON. Canada, May 6-7, 2017

Radcliff Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Data, Design, Decision Colloquia
Cambridge,

MA, USA April 21, 2017

Institute for Contemporary Art Miami, Public Lecture Series: Smartness Mandate

Miami, FL. USA. April 20, 2017 <https://www.icamiami.org/seminar/orit-halpern-seminar/>

University of Pennsylvania, Initiative on Culture, Society and Critical Policy Studies

Philadelphia, PA. USA, April 13, 2017

University of Copenhagen, Uncertain Archives: Vulnerability Workshop

Copenhagen, Denmark, April 6-7, 2017

Transmediale Festival, “The Alien Middle” and “Elusive Life”

Berlin, Germany. February 4, 2017 <https://transmediale.de/content/orit-halpern>

University of Chicago, Design Dialogues: Design as Pedagogy

Chicago, IL. USA. January 19, 2017

University of Pennsylvania, Price Lab for Digital Humanities

Philadelphia, PA. USA November 10, 2016

2016

Bauhaus Colloquium, University of Weimar, Weimar, Germany

Keynote: “The Smart Mandate” October 26-29, 2016

<http://www.e-flux.com/announcements/69106/xiii-international-bauhaus-kolloquium/>

Cornell University, Humanities Center, Ithaca, NY.

October 6, 2016

Leuphana University, Lüneberg, Germany

Keynote: “Cybernetic Hypothesis” and “Queering Algorithms”

June 1-3 and 8-9, 2016

Harvard University, Radcliff Institute for Advanced Study, Cambridge, MA.

“Urban Intermedia: the City between Experience and Information”

May 2, 2016

New York University, Remarque Institute, New York, NY.

Rethinking the Environment, Remaking the Human: Human-Environment Dynamics and the Emergence of Rights Discourses, April 29-30, 2016

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany

Technosphere Campus, April 14-22, 2016

Lafarge Holcim Forum, Detroit, Michigan

April 7-9, 2016,

University of Chicago, Chicago, Il.

“Preemptive Hope”, March 17, 2016

Michigan State University, Lansing, MI.

“Smartness”, in conference “Critical Institutions”, February 19, 2016

Princeton University, “After the Spectacular Image”

Princeton, NJ. USA February 11-12, 2016

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Il.

Terra Foundation Forums on the “Image and the City”
January 26, 2016

2015

Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Yale Modernist Forum, December 1, 2015

German Cultural Studies Association Keynote

University of Leuphana, Luneberg, Germany, November 11, 2015

Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Monitoring Modernity Colloquium, Department of Social Theory, October 23, 2015

Germany Media Studies Conference Keynote

University of Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany, October 1, 2015

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany

“Speaking from the Laboratory”, September 30, 2015

University of Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany

Media Studies Colloquia, July 8th, 2015

IXDM, Critical Media Lab , Basel Switzerland

Data Traces Conference: <https://vimeo.com/138845881>

July 3 and 4, 2015

The New Museum, New York

(Temporary) Collection of Ideas, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7s1yO0OJbs>

June 14, 2015

CNRS, Paris France

May 10, 2015, Paper: The Rise of the Responsive Environment

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO.

Media Studies and Communication, January 2015

2014

University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Anthropology Department Colloquia, November 24, 2014

Paper: Demo or Die!: The Rise of The Responsive Environment

Princeton University School of Architecture, Princeton, New Jersey

The Instruments Group Public Conversations, November 22, 2014

IXDM, Critical Media Lab , Basel Switzerland

November 20, 2014

Keynote Speaker for Laboratory Launch

University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Post War Working Group, October 27, 2014

Paper: Test-Bed Urbanism

Cambridge University, Cambridge, England

Sociology Department, October 4, 2014

Paper: Apocalyptic Hope: Optimism, Computation, and Design in a time of Global Insecurity

MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Science Technology Studies Colloquium, September 29, 2014

Paper: “The Response Mandate: Computing, Capital, and Territory in an Apocalyptic Age”

Goldsmiths, University of London, London, UK.

Visual Cultures Department, August 6, 2014

Paper presented: *The Response Imperative: The Media Lab, Race, and the Future of Urban Territory*

Digital Cultures Research Center, Leuphana University, Germany

In-Silico Workshop, Smart Cities and Systems Workshop, Art and Technics

June 19-21, 25 and July 9, 2014

MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Instruments Group Workshop, April 5, 2014.

Paper presented: Cybernetic Architectures

University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York

Techné Institute for Arts and Emerging Technologies at the University at Buffalo, March 24, 2014

Paper presented: Test-Bed Urbanism

Open Society Archives, Budapest, Hungary

Archive/Image: New Archival Epistemes in a Digital Landscape, March 7-8, 2014

Paper presented: *The Archival Eye: Cybernetics, Design, and Politics in the Cold War*

2013

University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Architecture and Technics Workshop, September 20-21, 2013

Paper presented: *A Circuitous Genealogy of Computer-Aided Design*

University of Warwick, Warwick, England

Where do Neo-Liberals Go After the Market: Calculation, Computation and Crisis, June 13, 2013

Paper presented: *Algorithmic Territories: Calculation, Computation, and the Spatial Product*

Kunsthochschule für Medien, Cologne, Germany

The Timing of Affect, May 30, 2013

Paper presented: *The Neural Network: Temporality, Rationality, and Affect in Cybernetics*

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

Commencement Speaker for Art History Graduate Program, May 4, 2013

Department of Rhetoric, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.

January 17, 2013 Paper presented: *The Governance of Sense: Designing Information and Reconfiguring Population circa 1959*

2012

Annenberg School of Communication, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Image, Ethics Technology, November 30, 2012

Paper presented: *Bio-politics, Multimedia, and the Cold War*

University of Chicago/Renmin University, Beijing, China

Knowledge+Value Series, September 7, 2012 Paper presented: *Perceptual Machines*

BMW/Guggenheim Lab, Berlin, Germany

July 23, 2012

Presentation: *Beautiful Data: Visualization, Territory, and the Future of Urban Form*

Buell Center, Columbia University, New York, NY.

Technics and Art, April 14, 2012 Paper Presented: *Psychotic Infrastructures*

Brown University, Department of Culture and Media, Providence, RI.

February 17, 2012 Paper Presented: *Rational Formations: Cybernetics and the Transformation of Reason*

Goldsmiths, University of London, London, England

The New Numeracy, February 17, 2012 Paper Presented: *Numbers, Reason, and Cybernetics*

Transmediale Art Fair, Berlin, Germany

February 4, 2012 Paper delivered: *Rationality and Crisis in Cybernetics*

2011

University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Technoscience Salon, December 2, 2011 Paper Presented: *Psychotic Circuits*

Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany

Data, Diversity, Difference Conference, November 24-26, 2011

Paper Delivered: *Cybernetics, Design, and Bio-politics in 1959*

American Anthropology Association, Montreal, Canada

November 15, 2011 Special Panel on *Crisis*

Graduate Center of the City College of New York, New York, NY.

Multi-Species Salon, October 19, 2011 Paper presented: *Archiving the Senses: Cybernetics, Perception, and Affect.*

University of California, Davis, CA.

Tweak! :Workshop on Digital Media and the Future of the Sciences

September 21-23, 2011

Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University, New York, NY.

May 4, 2011 Paper presented: *From Neural Nets to Nervous Spectators: Cybernetics, Design and*

Securitization in the Cold War

Sociology Department Colloquia, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY.

April 15, 2011 Paper presented: *Rational Psychosis*

Media Studies Colloquia, Pratt Institute, New York, NY.

March 25, 2011 Paper presented: *Influencing Machines: Cybernetics, Vision, and Design*

Teaching

Subject topics of classes taught (at Graduate and Undergraduate levels):

- Introduction to Science Studies
- Methods in Historical Research for Dissertating Students
- Planetary Futures: Research Studios for Ethical Speculative Design
- The Cultural Study of Artificial Intelligence
- Introduction to the History of Science and Technology
- Introduction to the History of Race and Sex
- History of the Cold War, Science, and Contemporary Media
- Militarized Vision: The Study of Militarism and Contemporary Media Technologies
- Designing Security: Introduction to the Study of Networks
- Introduction to Digital cultures
- Design and Politics
- Infrastructure and Geopolitics
- Introduction to the Anthropocene
- Methods in Anthropology, Sociology, and History for the Study of Media
- Introduction to the Study of Media in Contemporary Society
- Feminist Screen Studies: Introduction to Feminist and Queer Approaches to Studying Film and New Media
- Design/History/Revolution: Introduction to the Study of Design History and Theory
- Origins of Contemporary Visual Culture
- Historical and Ethnographic Methods in the Study of Vision and Visuality

Master Thesis and Ph.D. Supervision:

Currently, I have advised 10 master's thesis and been on the committees of 17 dissertations at my time in TU Dresden, New School, and Concordia University. My current students work on topics such as: the history and politics of the idea of the Anthropocene, artificial intelligence and discrimination, sound architectures and war in the Middle East and South Asia, genealogies of GIS/GPS systems, the phenomenology and history of hand held gaming devices in Japan and the US, the biopolitics of war injury and prosthetics in the American military, the attention economy of hand held devices, big data in contemporary astronomy, art-practices as a form of sociological research.

Other Employment

Project Manager/Research Associate, Harvard University

7/00 – 9/01

Special Project on Technology and Ethics, Cambridge, MA.

Directed programs for web based public engagement on issues in science and society.

Project Director, Harvard School of Public Health,

8/97 – 9/99

Department of Population and International Health, Boston, MA.

Director for an international internet network project building communication and computing

capacity in non-governmental organizations working in the fields of gender, human rights, and reproductive rights.

- Participated actively in Resource Development and Program Management
- Worked closely with Development Office in Fundraising
- Worked extensively in South Asia, particularly in India and Nepal
- Developed on-line epidemiology sharing systems, research libraries, electronic publishing systems, working groups, and pedagogical tools for both non-profit and university environments.
- Coordinated activities of 30 employees

Research Associate, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee and
Micronutrient Initiative/ Tufts University Micronutrient Support Project,
Dhaka, Bangladesh 12/96-9/97
Conducted a pre- implementation program assessment and evaluation for a large-scale World Bank sponsored micro-nutrient intervention.

Project Coordinator, Columbia University School of Public Health,
New York, NY 9/95- 12/96
Researched behavioral interventions in high risk for HIV/ AIDS populations.

Research Associate, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA. 1994-95
Coordinated and ran clinical trials for asthma related treatments.

Professional Organizations/Participation

Member of World Economic Forum, Frontier Risks Working Group, (2019-2022)
Advisory Board *Operational Images Research Group*, funded by Czech Science Foundation (2019-2021)
Advisory Board and Associated Researcher, Matters of Activity, German Excellence Research Cluster in Design and Materials Science, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany (2019-2023)
Advisor, United Nations Department of Political Affairs, Artificial Intelligence in Security and Humanitarian Aid Working Group (2019-2020)
Director Speculative Life Research Cluster, Milieux Institute, Concordia, 2016-present
Executive Board, Milieux Institute, Concordia, 2016- present
Organizer w/ Henning Schmidgen, Concordia-Bauhaus Universität Weimar, Science Studies and Media Working Group. Coordinating a new international partnership bridging history of science, architecture, design, and media studies (Summer 2019-present).
Editorial Advisory Board of *International Research in Design (BIRD)*
Board of *Digital Culture and Society*
Board of Media/History/Art Conference for 2014-15
Editorial Review Board *Sensate* 2013
History of Science Society
Society for the Social Studies of Science
Society for Cinema and Media Studies
Cultural Studies Association
Society for Language, Science and the Arts
Reviewer for *Science in Context*, *Technology and Culture*, *Configurations*, *Isis*, Swiss National Science Foundation, European Research Council, DFG, Duke University Press, MIT Press, University of Minnesota Press

Languages

Fluent in English and Hebrew, French level B2, German A1