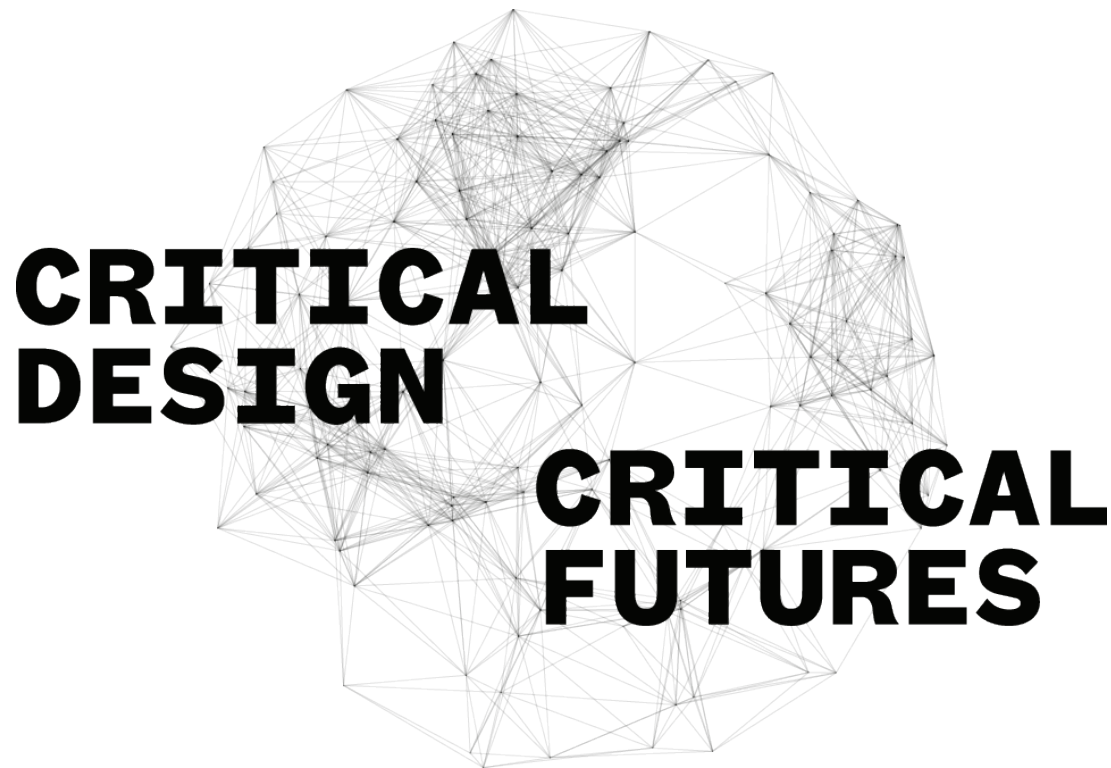


4/24/15

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/critical-designcritical-futures-tickets-16017720433>



RISD CHACE CENTER

Introductory Remarks

Damian White, History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences, RISD
Ian Gonsler, Engineering, Brown

9:30 - 9:45

Critical Design and Critical Futures

How are contemporary designers and design theorists envisaging modes of design that are critical, future directed and challenge the status quo? In this roundtable panel, we explore and discuss the different ways in which forms of critical design are now being conceptualized and enacted from “speculative design” and transitional design to “discursive design” and beyond. Does the turn to critical design constitute a new kind of political and social engagement? Does it imply the need for new modes of critical design thinking beyond design thinking? Does it imply new modes of design pedagogy?

Susan Yelavich, Design Studies, Parsons
Paolo Cardini, Industrial Design, RISD
Cameron Tonkinwise, Design Studies, Carnegie Mellon
Charlie Cannon, Industrial Design, RISD

9:45 - 11:15

Worker-Centered Design +The Critical Social Sciences

The workplace is a center of creative making and a critical space for exploitation, surveillance and control. Designers are workers. Workers could potentially be designers. Workplaces and the broader economy could potentially be subject to social design? Yet, the relationship between design, work and the potential for a worker-centered design is veiled. In this panel, we discuss the designer as a worker, the worker in design. We discuss the hidden histories of workers functioning as designers of co-operative and self organizing institutions and we consider the room for more co-operative and participatory working futures.

Damian White, History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences, RISD.
Jose Itzigsohn, Sociology, Brown
Caroline Woolard, Art Workers and Freelance Unions
Richard Locke, Watson Institute, Brown

11:30 - 1:00

Obfuscation/Decontextualization: The Limits of Critical Design

Is current design pedagogy - through its obsessions with styling, the façade, the tyranny of fashion and “the cult of cool” - complicit in hiding suffering that is embedded in designed goods? Is design deeply implicated in rendering whole categories of people and places invisible? Should art and design aesthetics be concerned with justice? Are there ways of making existing social relations and forms of human different more visible? How can we think about the creation of meaning, value and the creation of culture in ways that allow design to be more directly engaged with questions of social and environmental justice? This roundtable will grapple with some of these issues.

Ijlal Muzaffar, History of Art and Visual Culture, RISD
Yuriko Saito, History, Philosophy and Social Science, RISD
Daniel Peltz, Film, Animation and Video, RISD
Bhrigupati Singh, Anthropology, Brown

2:00 - 3:30

Speculative Design Futures: Theory + Praxis

Can speculation about the future play a productive role in design pedagogy? Should design reconnect itself to future speculation? In this roundtable we consider the role that “futures” and futuring should place in design education and the critical social sciences more generally.

Ian Gonsler, Engineering, Brown
Anne Tate, Architecture, RISD
Kathleen Grevers, Apparel Design, RISD
Beth Mosher, Industrial Design, RISD
Erik Anderson, History of Art and Visual Culture, RISD
Lili Herman, DESINE-LAB, RISD

3:45 - 5:15

