

DESIGN AND FUTURES STUDIES AS CRITICAL PRACTICE

Ramia Mazé

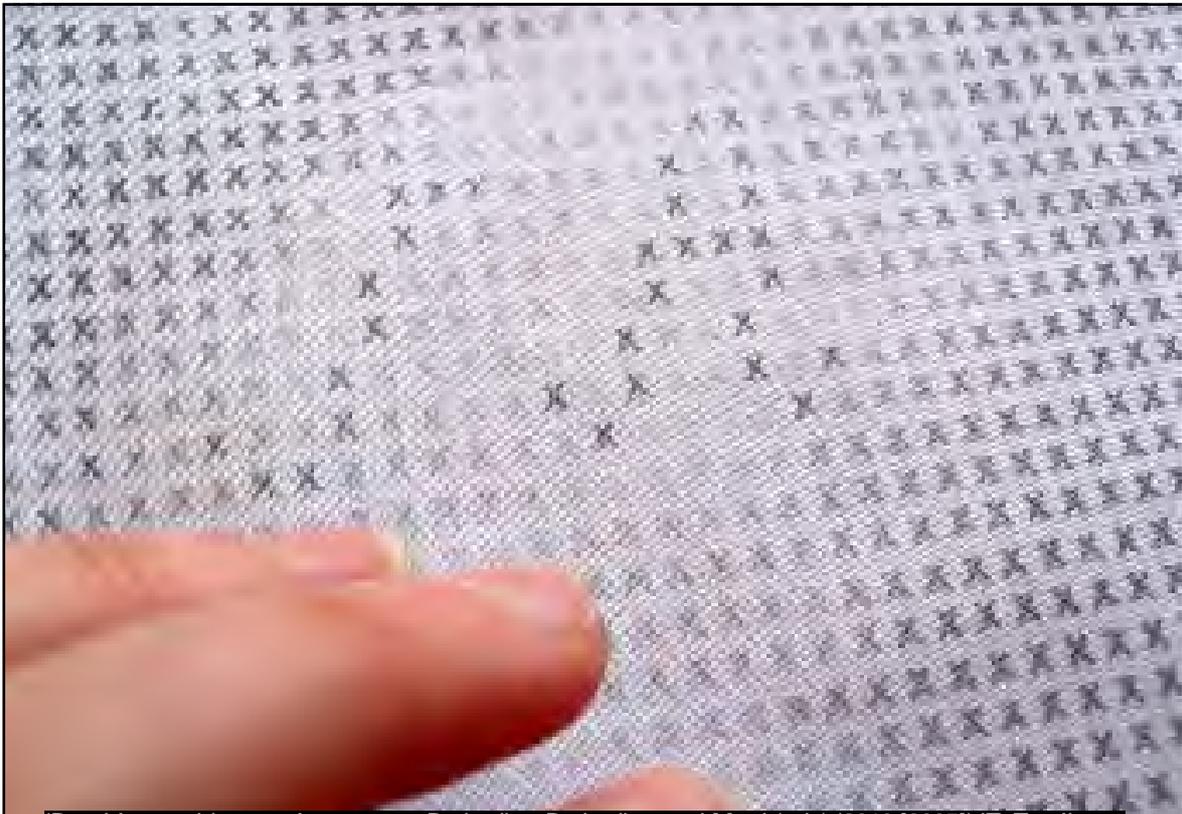
Professor (Design Practices)
School of Arts, Aalto University

ramia.maze@aalto.fi

A?

Aalto University
School of Arts, Design
and Architecture

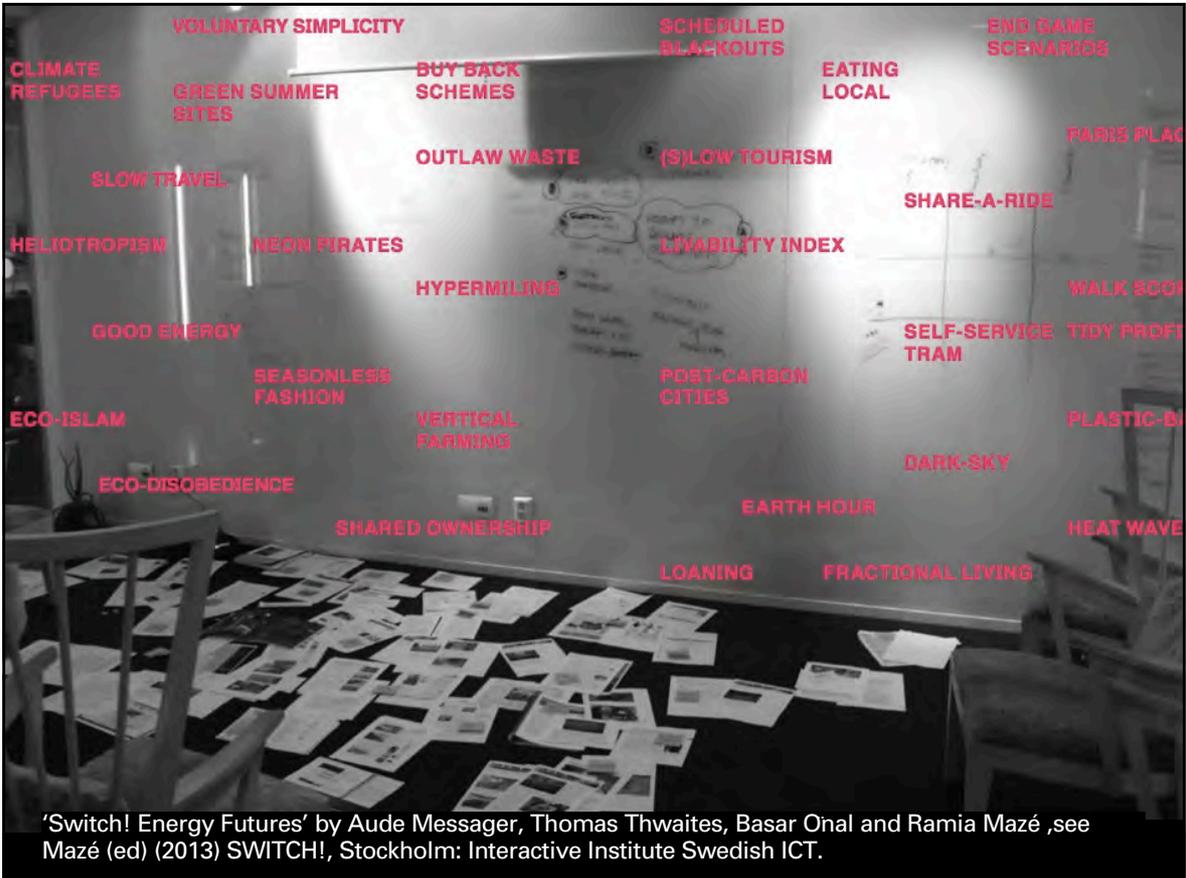
Mazé, R. (2016) 'Design and the Future: Temporal politics of 'making a difference'
in R.C. Smith and T. Otto (eds), *Design Anthropological Futures*, 37-54. London: Bloomsbury.



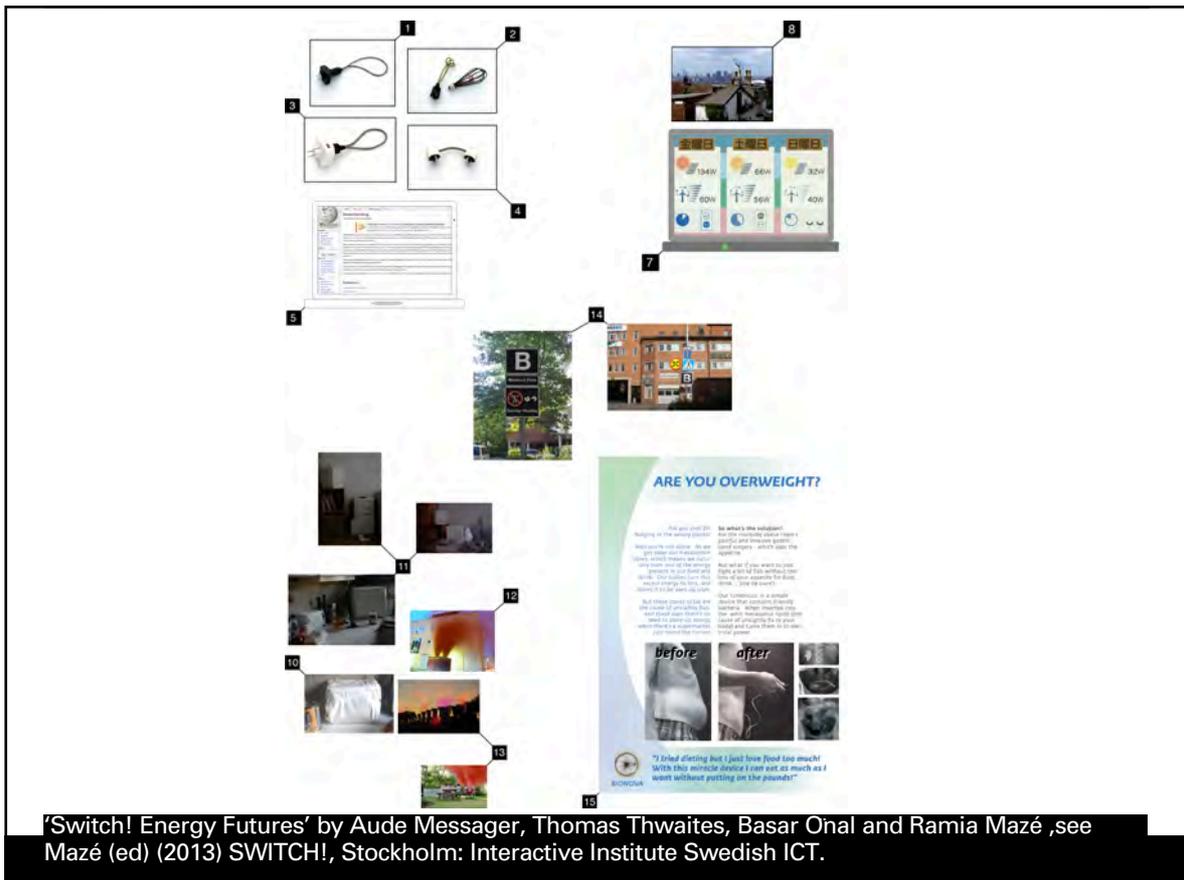
'Reach' wearable experiments, see Redström, Redström, and Mazé (eds) (2010 [2005]) *IT+Textiles*,
Borås: Centre for Textile Research ; Mazé (2007) *Occupying Time*, Stockholm: Axl Books.



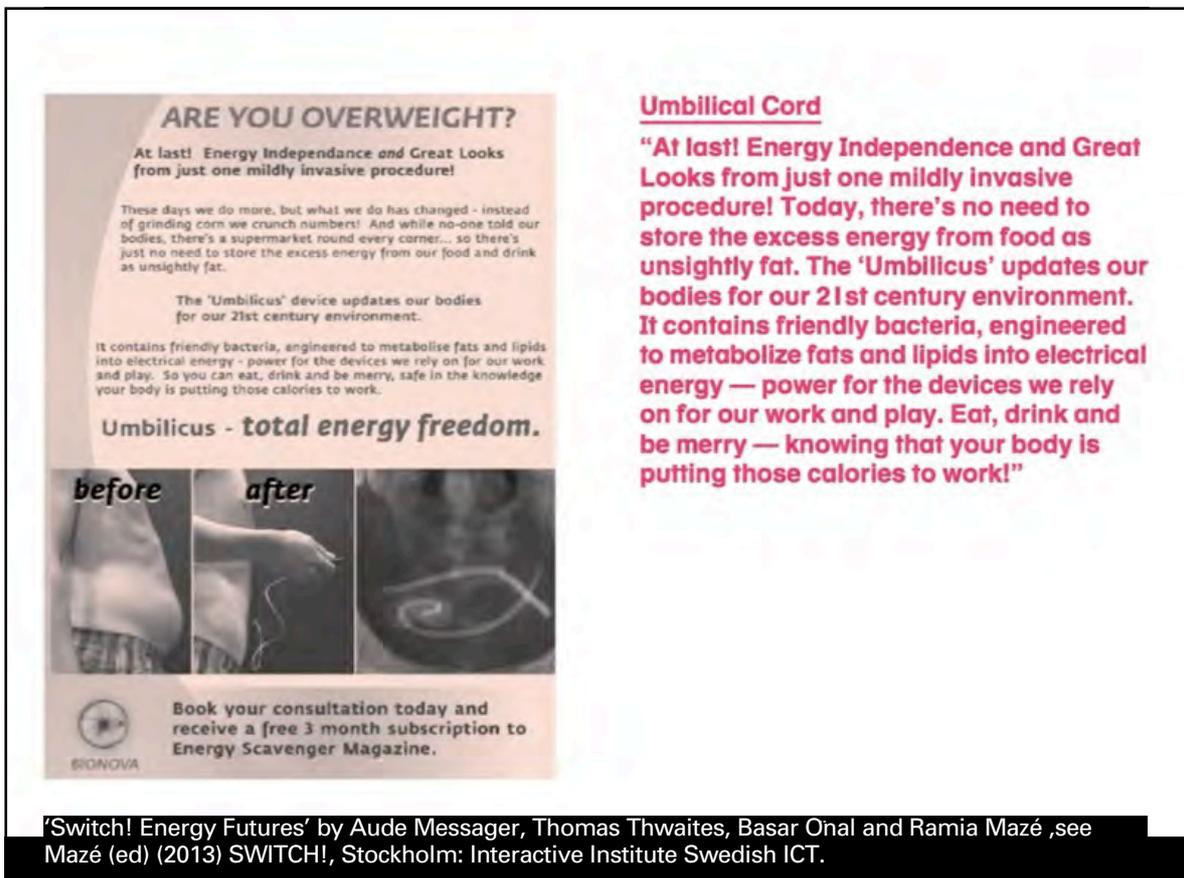
'Tejp' tactical media exhibition in Public Play Spaces project, see Mazé (2007) *Occupying Time*, Stockholm: Axl Books.



'Switch! Energy Futures' by Aude Messager, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé, see Mazé (ed) (2013) *SWITCH!*, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.



'Switch! Energy Futures' by Aude Messenger, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé ,see Mazé (ed) (2013) SWITCH!, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.



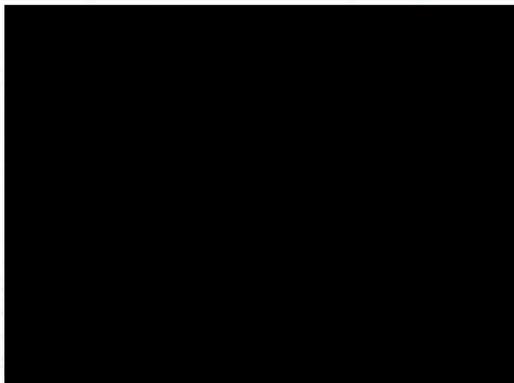
'Switch! Energy Futures' by Aude Messenger, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé ,see Mazé (ed) (2013) SWITCH!, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.

Socket Bombs

“Socket Bombing is direct action performed as a protest against excessive electricity consumption. It involves purposefully causing a short circuit in a building’s electrical mains or light sockets. Consisting only of cheap and rewired electrical hardware and timers, socket bombs are typically planted to target supermarkets, chain stores and corporations. Incidents have been reported in London, Paris, Istanbul and Stockholm. One group managed to cut the power to the majority of shops in Kista Galleria in Sweden on the 6th of September 2008.”



‘Switch! Energy Futures’ by Aude Messenger, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé ,see Mazé (ed) (2013) SWITCH!, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.



Energy Forecast Report

“And now for the Power Forecast. This afternoon, we’ll see some bright sun of about 80W per square meter for around 3 hours, so it’ll be a great time to get those appliances working. Things get a bit dimmer towards the weekend with only about 46W per square meter penetrating the clouds, so plan for a quieter Sunday. If you’ve got the big family lunch planned, you’ll have to use dirty power, I’m afraid, as there also won’t be much wind.”

‘Switch! Energy Futures’ by Aude Messenger, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé ,see Mazé (ed) (2013) SWITCH!, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.

Voluntary Blackouts

"Before, we were living in a kind of fast-forward dream world — our senses constantly assaulted by all the usual so-called 'modern conveniences' — everything wanted our attention. We didn't know it, but we just didn't have time to think. Then, the power went out for a week, and we found we preferred it. So we decided to move to a Blackout Zone that has electricity for only one hour in the evening. Now, we get more sleep, we spend more time together, we're calmer — it saved our family life!"



'Switch! Energy Futures' by Aude Messenger, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé ,see Mazé (ed) (2013) SWITCH!, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.

The doors open at 18:00. The gallery is empty and bare — but drinks are served, visitors begin to gather and meet. By invitation only, the visitors include designers, architects, educators, engineers and historians. After some time, they begin to look around for the organizers, to wonder whether this is, in fact, an opening at all. A mobile phone rings — someone excuses themselves from a conversation to answer. Suddenly, everyone is reaching for their ringing or vibrating phone — they answer, and all of them hear the same greeting.

Hello!

Can everyone hear me OK? There'll be time for questions at the end, but if you can't hear me then please say so... Right! I know you were expecting an exhibition but, well, we've really just got research. That's what's in the case you can see there on the table... If you all go over there and open the case, you'll see some envelopes and objects — I'll tell you a little more about these.

Energy Futures are closely linked to the looming future of climate change.

Usually, we see either eco-horror from a post-crash world or 3D renderings of bright new technologies for some sort of future eco-topia. We've tried to stay away from these extremes in our research. But, where technology is concerned, the future comes around quickly. In avoiding the extremes, perhaps we've not gone far enough? In fact, we found that most of the things we researched about energy futures already exist in one form or another. So, all we can do is present our findings...

If you open envelopes 1 to 4... and get out and open the laptop with the number 5... These are 'socket bombs', made according to instructions we found on a website. The loops of wire cause a short-circuit, which causes the circuit breakers to trip, cutting the power to sockets in a building. The bombers use timers so they can get away — you can read about how they work on the laptop — just open a web browser and look



it up on Wikipedia. So, it seems that energy consumption is becoming politicized. Do they target institutions who use energy 'wastefully', or those that buy their electricity from sources to which they object? Is it strange that access to electricity is so unguarded?

We downloaded the next thing from YouTube — we had to get a friend to translate it into English, you can see the movie on the laptop labelled 7... In envelope 8, there's something we found at the Clas Ohlson hardware store...

We printed these photos out from Flickr — someone's wrapped all their electrical appliances at home. We tried it out and it's quite fun — see the wrapped object 10 and 11, 12 and 13... The wrapping is part of some sort of tradition, a kind of Earth Day — a reminder to not buy more unnecessary things, the things stay wrapped for the three months before Christmas, which is celebrated by unwrapping the things you already have. There's apparently a story they tell the kids, about a Sun that gets jealous of all the electric lights and gizmos, and so they have to wrap them all up to stop the sun getting angry and hot. CAREFUL — Don't pull the string as you get out object 12. It's something for turning the sky red — I think that's meant to be something about making the atmosphere visible. Read the label on the object out loud...

If you open 14, you'll see an example of a kind of sign that my aunt was telling me about. Planned blackouts are common in parts of the developing world to share the limited power available — why not live with such limits elsewhere? My aunt lives in Wellington (I'm half New Zealandish, did you know?), in some kind of new zone — there's some snapshots she sent me in the envelope...

In envelope 15, there's something you can take home with you to ask your healthcare professional about. Will new and advanced technologies save us from our own bad habits?

'Switch! Energy Futures' by Aude Messenger, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé ,see Mazé (ed) (2013) SWITCH!, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.



'Switch! Energy Futures' by Aude Messenger, Thomas Thwaites, Basar Onal and Ramia Mazé, see Mazé (ed) (2013) SWITCH!, Stockholm: Interactive Institute Swedish ICT.

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

“By presenting an audience of potential users with a new product – whether as simple as a plow or a new form of hybrid corn, or as complex as an electric light bulb or a computer – designers have directly influenced the actions of individuals and communities, changed attitudes and values, and shaped society in surprisingly fundamental ways.”

Buchanan (1989) 'Rhetoric, Argument, and Demonstration in Design Practice,' in Design Discourse, Margolin (ed), 91-109, Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

“By presenting an audience of potential users with a new product – whether as simple as a plow or a new form of hybrid corn, or as complex as an electric light bulb or a computer – designers have directly influenced the actions of individuals and communities, changed attitudes and values, and shaped society in surprisingly fundamental ways.”

Buchanan (1989) 'Rhetoric, Argument, and Demonstration in Design Practice,' in Design Discourse, Margolin (ed), 91-109, Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

“Everyone designs who devises courses of action aimed at changing existing situations into preferred ones,” thereby “addressing differences between the desired and the present.”

Simon (1996) The Sciences of the Artificial, Boston: MIT Press.

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

- as change- and future-making
- as (re)producing particular desires/preferences
- related concepts in design theory:
 - Buchanan, ie. design as a '(liberal) art of (political) rhetoric'
 - Winner, ie. design as 'political ergonomics' and 'statecraft'

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

.....

'modern'
industrial
open
social
sustainable
humanitarian
democratic
'just'
gender-neutral
inclusive
participatory
antagonistic
critical
feminist
decolonial
etc...

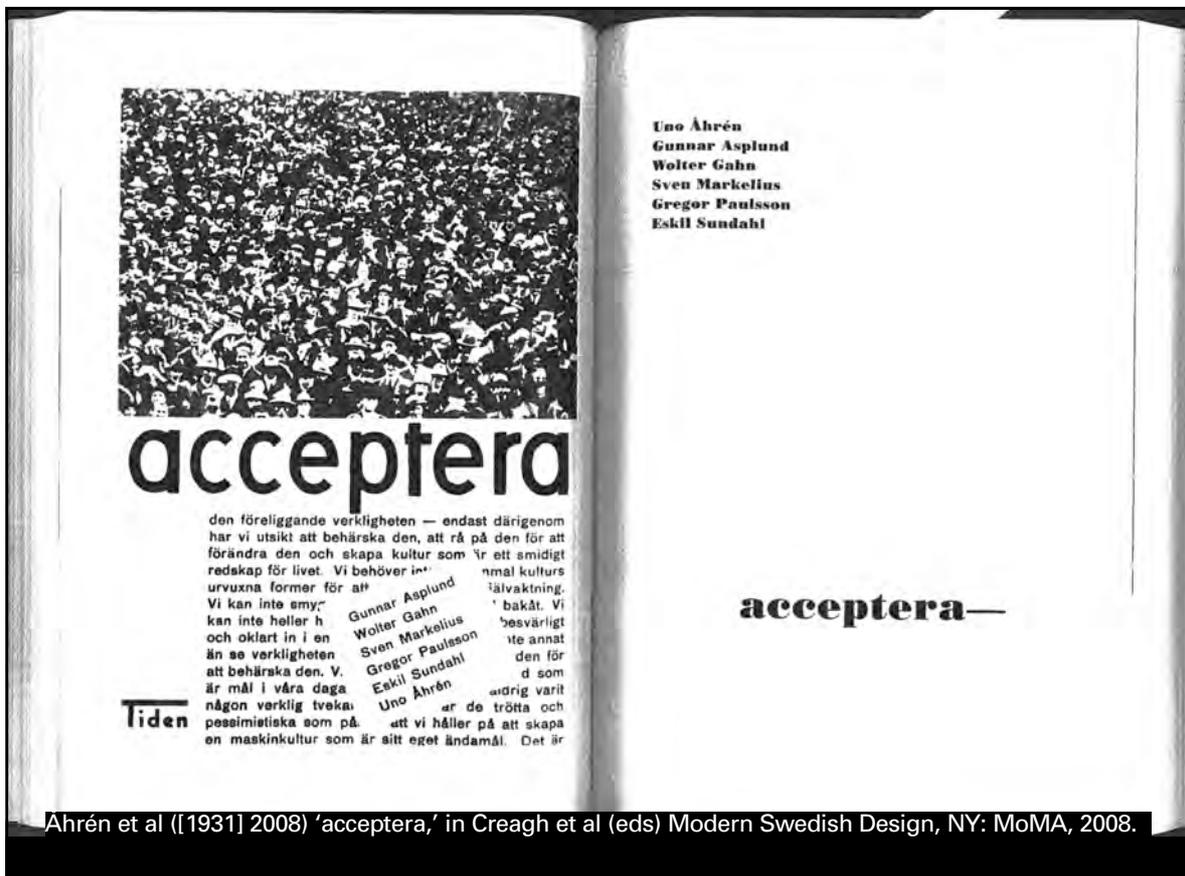
Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

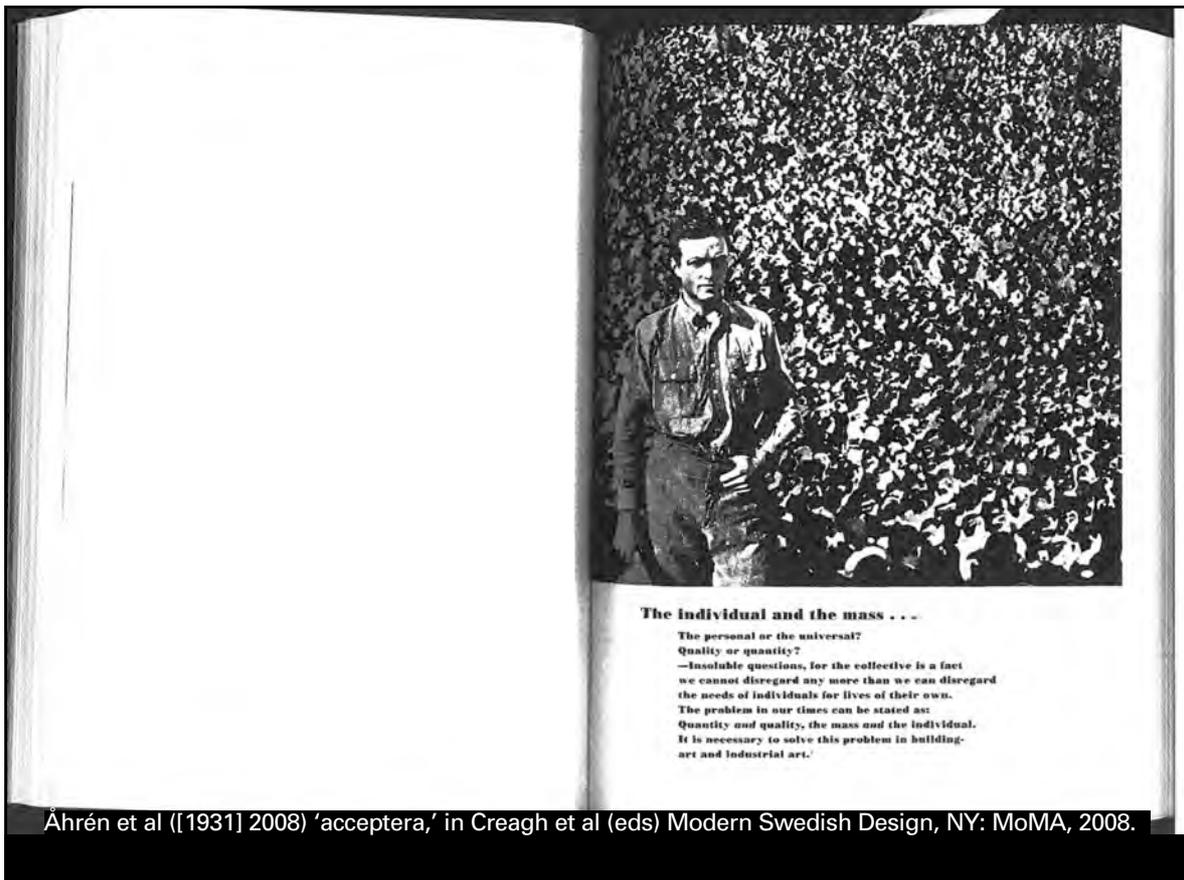
Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

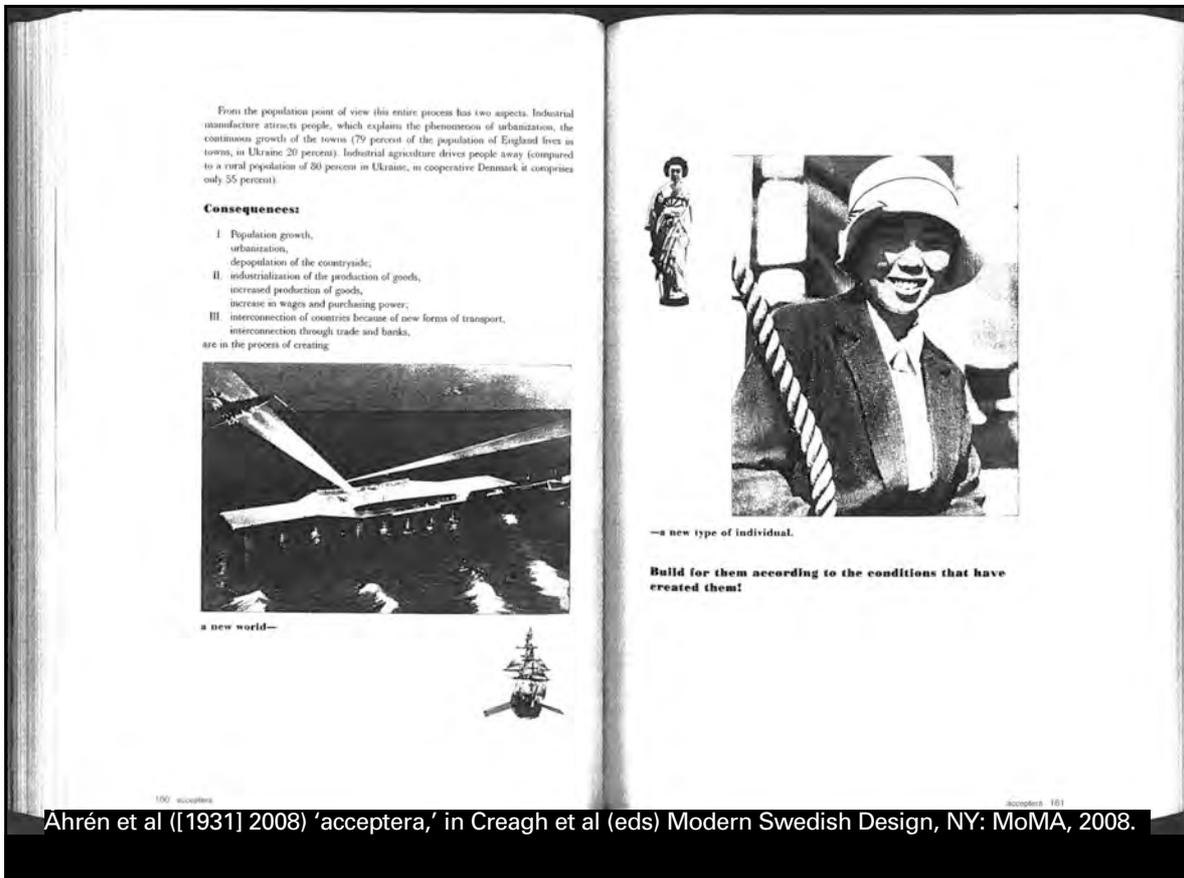
Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'



Åhrén et al ([1931] 2008) 'acceptera,' in Creagh et al (eds) Modern Swedish Design, NY: MoMA, 2008.



Ahrén et al ([1931] 2008) 'acceptera,' in Creagh et al (eds) Modern Swedish Design, NY: MoMA, 2008.



Ahrén et al ([1931] 2008) 'acceptera,' in Creagh et al (eds) Modern Swedish Design, NY: MoMA, 2008.

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

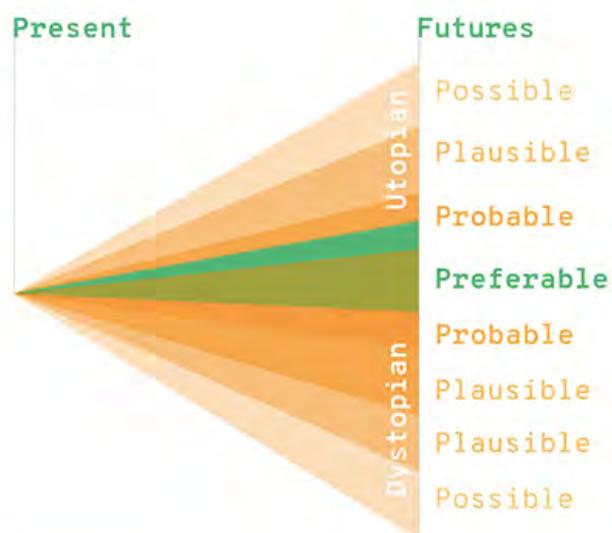
As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

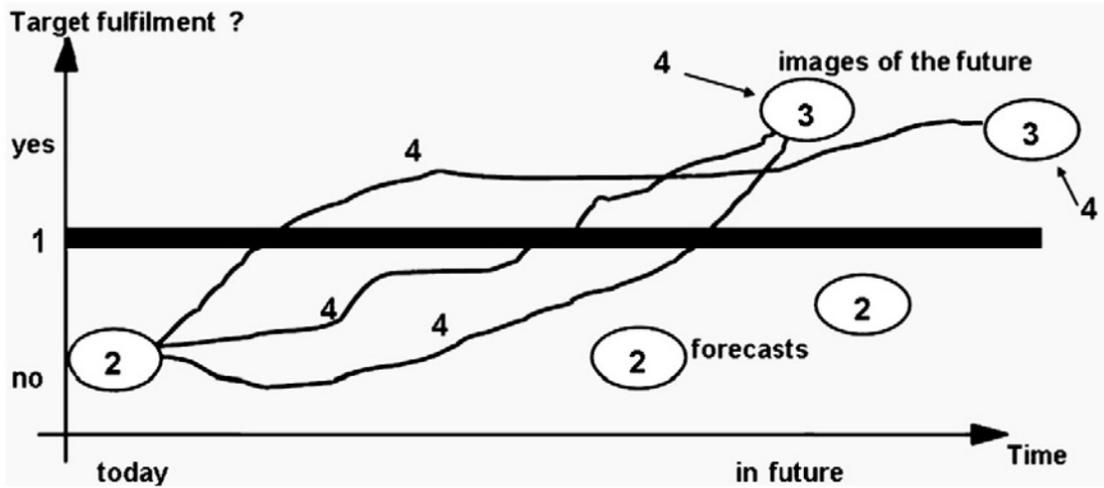


Anthony Dunne and Fiona Raby (2013), *Speculative Everything: Design, Fiction, and Social Dreaming*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

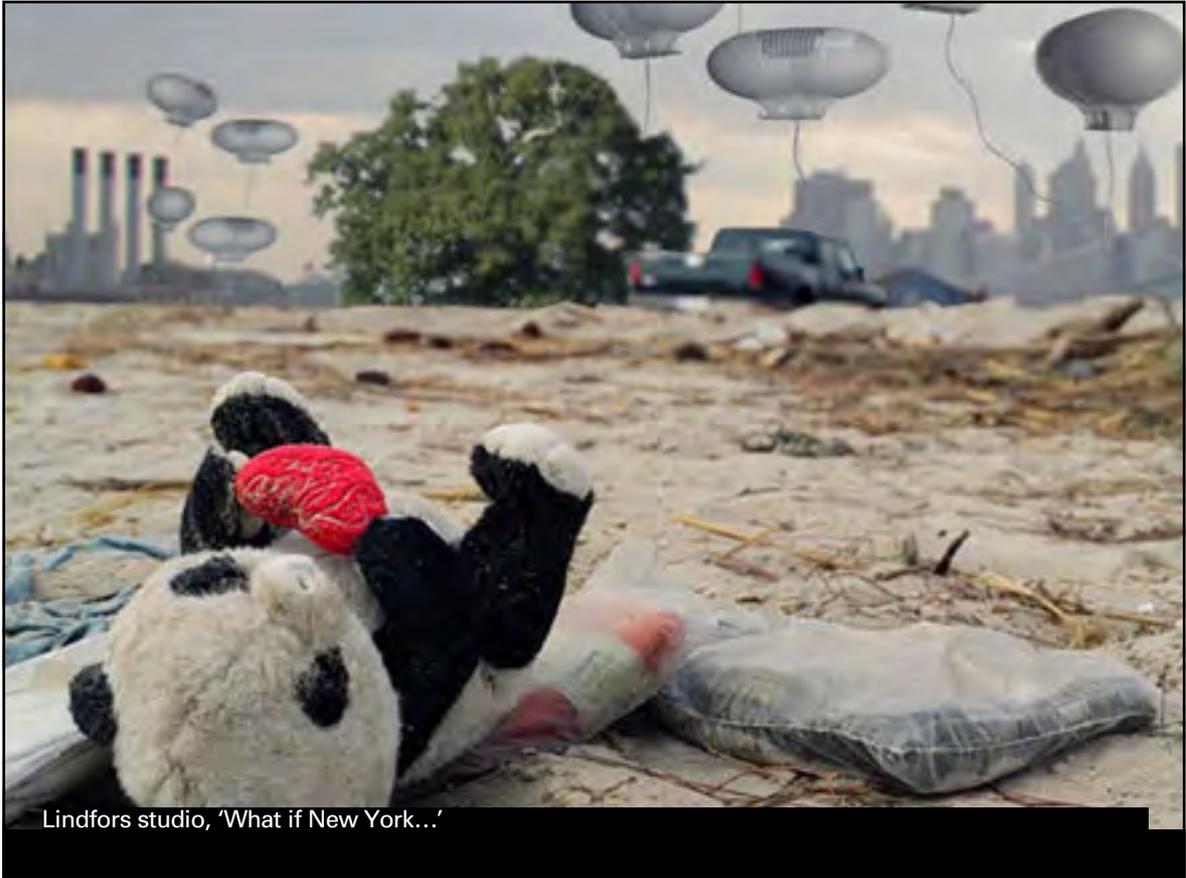
As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change



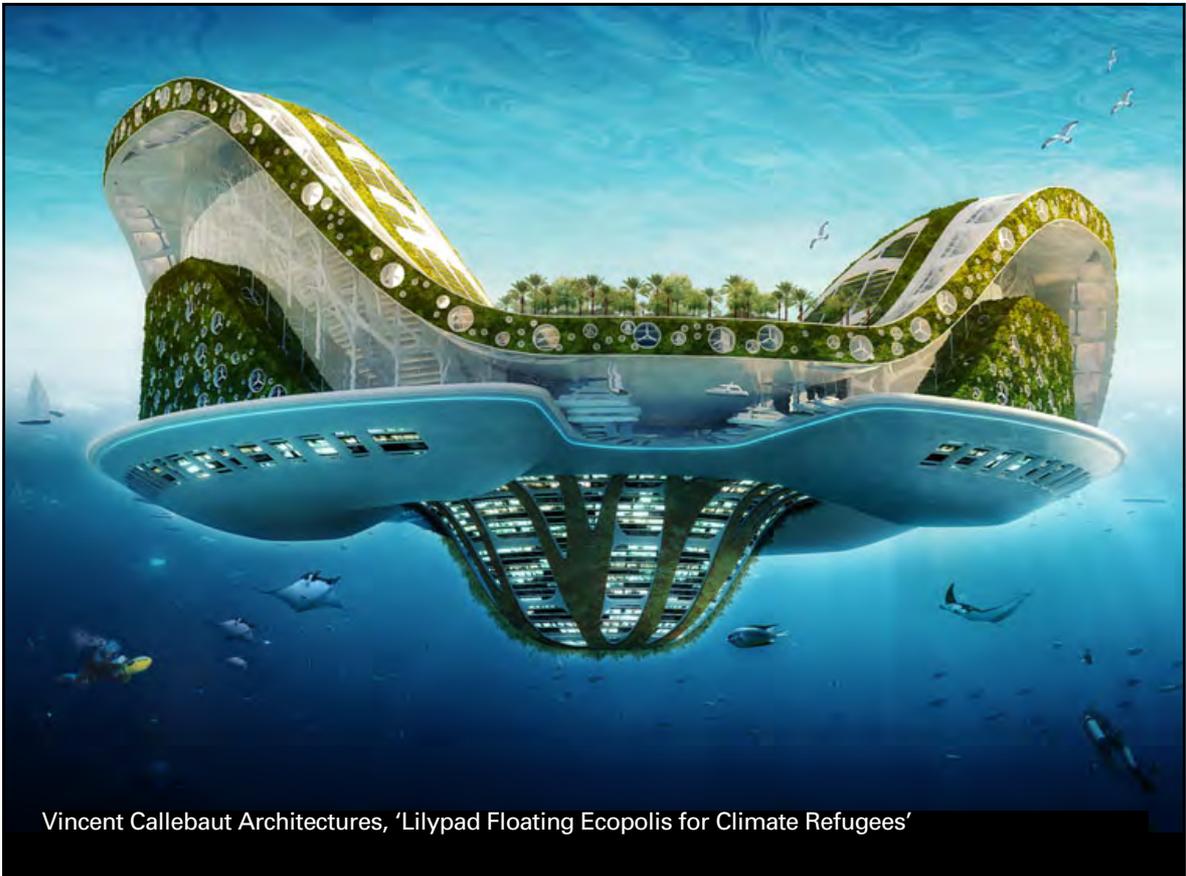
Höjer, Gullberg, Pettersson (2011) Backcasting Images of the Future City: Time and space for sustainable development in Stockholm, *Technological Forecasting & Social Change* 78.



Robert Graves and Didier Madoc-Jones, 'Postcards from the Future'



Lindfors studio, 'What if New York...'



Vincent Callebaut Architectures, 'Lilypad Floating Ecopolis for Climate Refugees'



KTH SUPD Hanna Granholm, Stefania Kapsaski, Sara Malm, Bryans Mukasa, Dennis Söderholm



Robert Graves and Didier Madoc Jones, 'Postcards from the Future'



Vincent Callebaut Architectures, 'L'ippod Floating Ecopolis for Climate Refugees'



Lindores studio, 'What if New York...'



KTH SUPD Hanna Granholm, Stefania Kapsaski, Sara Malm, Bryans Mukasa, Dennis Söderholm

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Ontological politics

...of a Western, Modern, tri-partite conception of time (Inayatullah 1990)

...of (re)producing, choosing and multiplying different realities (Mol 1999)

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Ontological politics

...of a Western, Modern, tri-partite conception of time (Inayatullah 1990)

...of (re)producing, choosing and multiplying different realities (Mol 1999)

Political rhetoric/ergonomics

...what is prioritized and privileged (Mazé & Wangel 2017, Wangel 2012)

...who is in/excluded, whose issues and interests (Gunnarsson-Östling 2011)

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Ontological politics

...of a Western, Modern, tri-partite conception of time (Inayatullah 1990)

...of (re)producing, choosing and multiplying different realities (Mol 1999)

Political rhetoric/ergonomics

...what is prioritized and privileged (Mazé & Wangel 2017, Wangel 2012)

...who is in/excluded, whose issues and interests (Gunnarsson-Östling 2011)

All envisioning and planning is a "politics of the real"

Cannot be reduced to a question of what can/cannot be known

What is or is not negotiable, what is considered significant or trivial

“Every planning effort involves philosophical assumptions as to what is considered immutable and what is negotiable; the significant and the trivial. Thus, every effort to plan the future is submerged in an overarching politics of the real.”

Inayatullah (1990) 'Deconstructing and Reconstructing the Future: Predictive, Cultural and Critical Epistemologies', *Futures* 22: 115-14.

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Ontological politics

...of a Western, Modern, tri-partite conception of time (Inayatullah 1990)

...of (re)producing, choosing and multiplying different realities (Mol 1999)

Political rhetoric/ergonomics

...what is prioritized and privileged (Mazé & Wangel 2017, Wangel 2012)

...who is in/excluded, whose issues and interests (Gunnarsson-Östling 2011)

All envisioning and planning is a “politics of the real”

Cannot be reduced to a question of what can/cannot be known

What is or is not negotiable, what is considered significant or trivial

Other ways of knowing, seeing and acting

“If dominant modes of knowledge (causal, statistical) are incapable of envisioning the absolutely new, maybe other modes of knowing, other forms of thinking, need to be proposed.”

Grosz (ed) (1999) *Becomings: Explorations in Time, Memory and Futures*. Ithaca, US: Cornell University Press: 21.

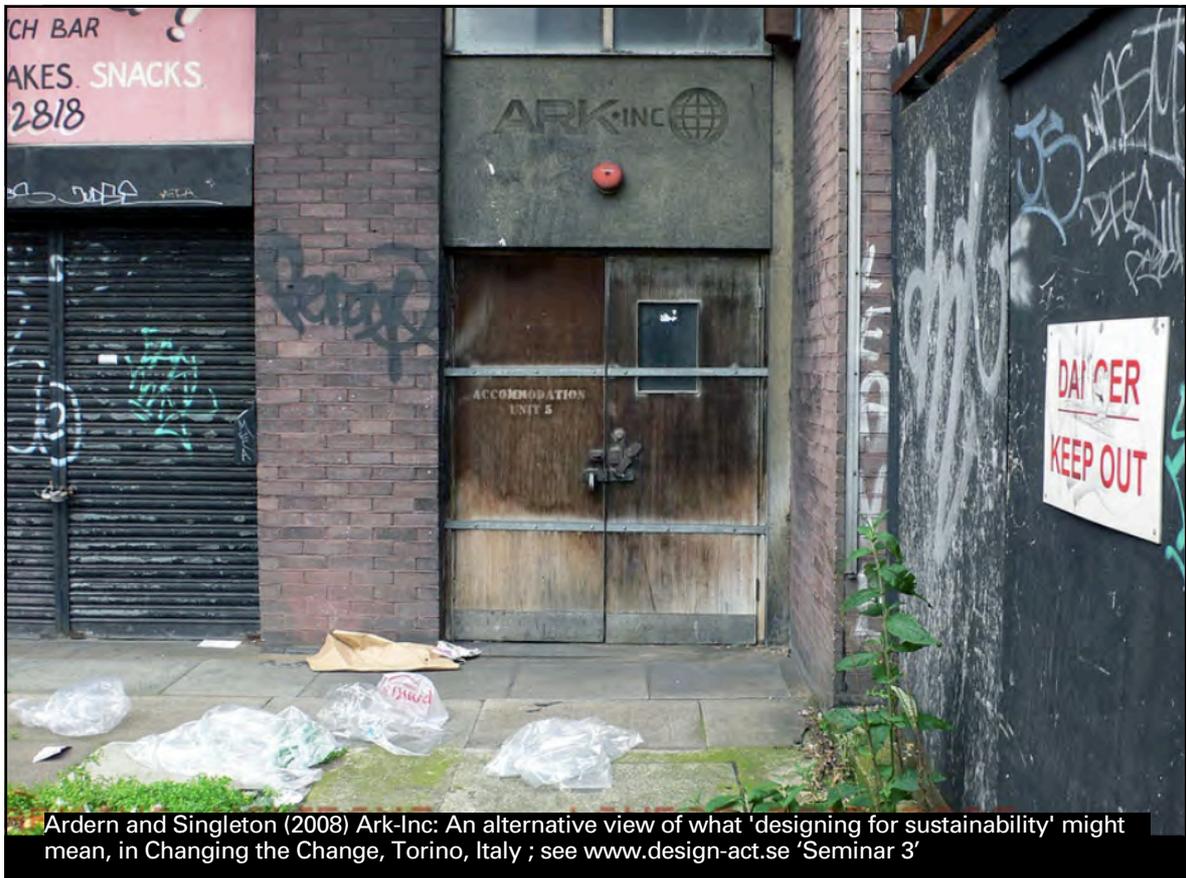
“If dominant modes of knowledge (causal, statistical) are incapable of envisioning the absolutely new, maybe other modes of knowing, other forms of thinking, need to be proposed.”

John Rajchman calls for another ‘art of seeing and acting’ than those preoccupied with future causalities or determinisms, prophesy or prediction.

Grosz and Rajchman in Grosz (ed) (1999) *Becomings: Explorations in Time, Memory and Futures*. Ithaca, US: Cornell University Press: 21.



Ardern and Singleton (2008) Ark-Inc: An alternative view of what 'designing for sustainability' might mean, in Changing the Change, Torino, Italy ; see www.design-act.se 'Seminar 3'



Ardern and Singleton (2008) Ark-Inc: An alternative view of what 'designing for sustainability' might mean, in Changing the Change, Torino, Italy ; see www.design-act.se 'Seminar 3'



Ardern and Singleton (2008) Ark-Inc: An alternative view of what 'designing for sustainability' might mean, in Changing the Change, Torino, Italy ; see www.design-act.se 'Seminar 3'



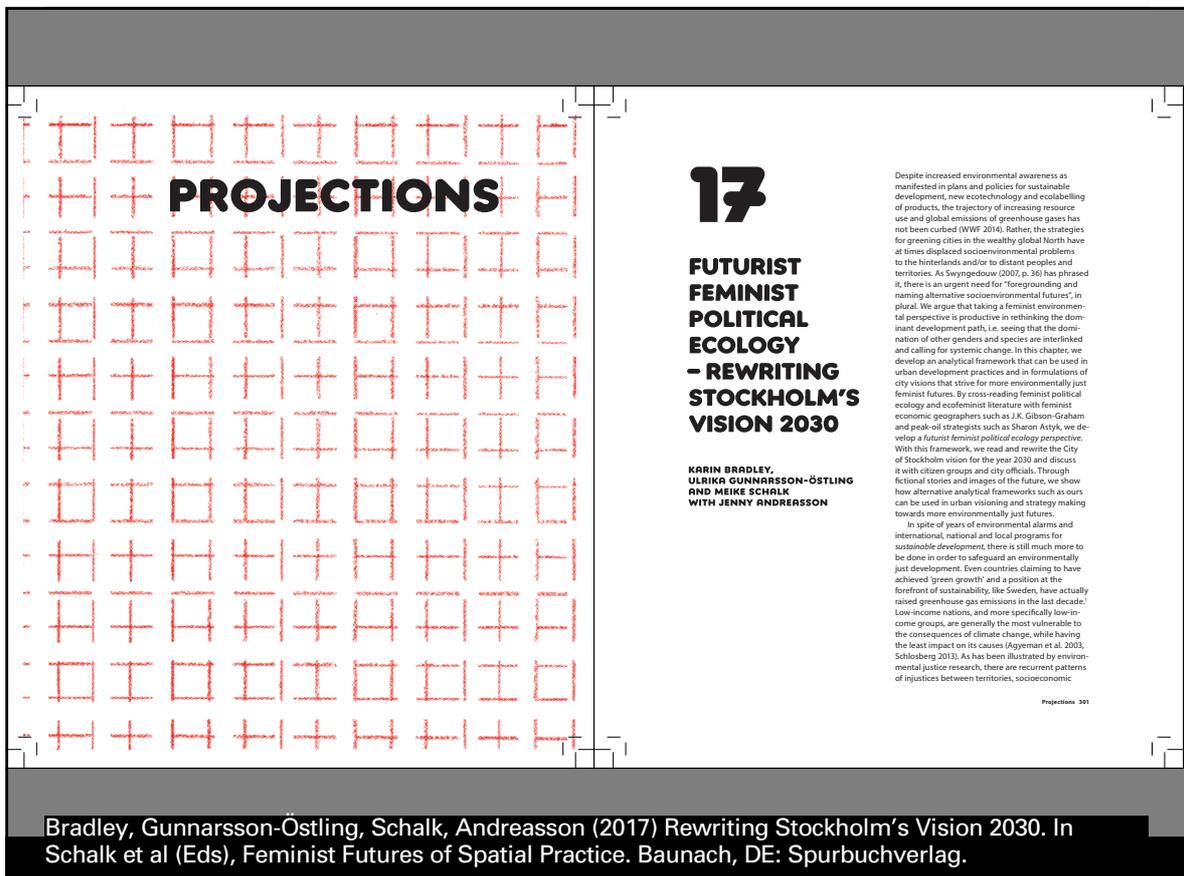
Ardern and Singleton (2008) Ark-Inc: An alternative view of what 'designing for sustainability' might mean, in Changing the Change, Torino, Italy ; see www.design-act.se 'Seminar 3'

“Critical theory and practice... provides a chance to reflect upon what there is, but also to imagine something different – to question and transform rather than describe and affirm”

Rendell (2004) *Architectural Research and Disciplinarity*, *Architectural Research Quarterly* 8 (2).

“modes of operation that feature strongly in a predominantly feminist mode of critical spatial practice”

Rendell (2011) 'Critical Spatial Practice,' in Brown (ed) *Feminist Practices*, 17-56. Surrey UK: Ashgate.



PROJECTIONS

17

**FUTURIST
FEMINIST
POLITICAL
ECOLOGY
– REWRITING
STOCKHOLM'S
VISION 2030**

**KARIN BRADLEY,
ULRIKA GUNNARSSON-ÖSTLING
AND MEIKE SCHALK
WITH JENNY ANDREASSON**

Despite increased environmental awareness as manifested in plans and policies for sustainable development, new ecotechnology and ecolabelling of products, the trajectory of increasing resource use and global emissions of greenhouse gases has not been curbed (WWF 2014). Rather, the strategies for greening cities in the wealthy global North have at times displaced socioenvironmental problems to the hinterlands and/or to distant peoples and territories. As Sveindegrou (2007, p. 30) has phrased it, there is an urgent need for “foregrounding and naming alternative socioenvironmental futures”, in plural. We argue that taking a feminist environmental perspective is productive in rethinking the dominant development path, i.e. seeing that the domination of other genders and species are interlinked and calling for systemic change. In this chapter, we develop an analytical framework that can be used in urban development practices and in formulations of city visions that strive for more environmentally just feminist futures. By cross-reading feminist political ecology and ecofeminist literature with feminist economic geographers such as J.K. Gibson-Graham and peak-oil strategists such as Sharon Astyk, we develop a *futurist feminist political ecology perspective*. With this framework, we read and rewrite the City of Stockholm vision for the year 2030 and discuss it with citizen groups and city officials. Through fictional stories and images of the future, we show how alternative analytical frameworks such as ours can be used in urban visioning and strategy making towards more environmentally just futures.

In spite of years of environmental alarms and international, national and local programs for sustainable development, there is still much more to be done in order to safeguard an environmentally just development. Even countries claiming to have achieved ‘green growth’ and a position at the forefront of sustainability, the Swedes, have actually raised greenhouse gas emissions in the last decade! Low-income nations, and more specifically low-income groups, are generally the most vulnerable to the consequences of climate change, while having the least impact on its causes (Aggerman et al. 2003, Schölsberg 2013). As has been illustrated by environmental justice research, there are recurrent patterns of injustices between territories, socioeconomic

Projections 301

Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk, Andreasson (2017) *Rewriting Stockholm’s Vision 2030*. In Schalk et al (Eds), *Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice*. Baunach, DE: Spurbuchverlag.

Table 1: Goals, strategies and practices for a more environmentally just Stockholm

MACRO GOALS FOR THE CITY	INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGIES for local, regional, national and international institutions	MICRO PRACTICES of civil society
A diverse and localized economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce social and environmental costs of products, services and transportation through taxation. Ensure that the region has complementary primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. Shift higher value-added work to the north. Provide infrastructure for sharing vehicles, spaces, machines and other resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop existing entrepreneurial economies, such as farming, learning and cooperatives. Start local exchange of skills systems, such as a time bank or local currency.
A circular economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce schemes for individual emissions quotas involving the environmental benefits of Make producers liable on the costs of reuse and maintenance. Provide the skills and resources for local recycling of unwanted items. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower the level of resource-intensive private consumption. Re-use and re-use items for good. Recycle, share, trade and fix things. Recycle and compost what you cannot reuse, rethink, reuse or trade. Use and develop common spaces for shared facilities.
A local food system with biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All main land use planning to consider qualitative green space for increased biodiversity and food production. Facilitate for local farmers to sell their goods to standard food stores. Allow schools and other facilities around children and families eat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize gardens and empty lots, create a local garden club or a community-supported agriculture in the region. Start a food cooperative. Bring together the artists in open and gardens, home visits.
Robust technical infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that energy, waste and water systems are robust and can be repaired with local skills and materials. Facilitate for communities to connect local water and waste systems, particularly a larger system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Component high-tech with low-tech solutions that can be easily repaired with local skills and materials.

318 Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk with Andreasson Future Feminist Political Ecology - Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030

Renewable and local energy provision

Provide grids where renewable and other assets can be with production and consumption of energy.

Allow public institutions like schools and kindergartens to generate their own production of energy.

Use up individual or collective stocks of local renewable energy (solar, wind, hydro, geothermal).

Buy renewable energy locally through practices that lower energy use.

Affordable restricted housing for all

Assure that there are different forms of affordable housing – such as co-ops, rental, half-owned, cooperatives, co-housing.

Facilitate for a wide array of housing and household configurations.

Develop home progressively.

The need of being together with others.

Use existing existing buildings.

Use local and recycled materials.

Consider developing alternative types of forms of the neighborhood: a small-scale block, a small apartment, a social space, a common garden – making home ownership with the public sphere.

Expanding after-society

Facilitate democratic conversation of society and the built environment.

Ensure that there are good common spaces for non-commercial activities.

Use things by providing the infrastructure of all genders, young and elderly.

Use engaged, engage in projects.

Human-intentional, political and practical ways to generate change in life.

Quantity and use that space for social organizing, education of youth, education.

Fair accessibility

Map the potential of transport in the region and minimize the need for car-based transport and facilities for the driver.

Ensure that there are work and health care services.

At least for local work and neighborhood activities.

Facilitate for non-motorized forms of transport (walking and biking) and neighborhood facilities.

Ensure that living environments are equitable for all.

Use and work nearby.

Use local services.

Care for your neighborhood.

Forget individualist, mass bottom-up and market-oriented, something meaningful for a change ground of life.

Projections 319

Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk, Andreasson (2017) Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030. In Schalk et al (Eds), Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice. Baunach, DE: Spurbuchverlag.

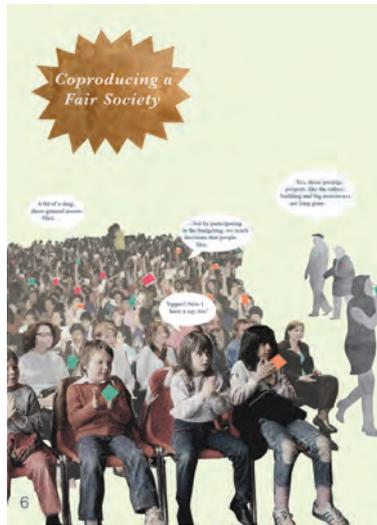


Projections 311



316 Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk with Andreasson Future Feminist Political Ecology - Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030

Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk, Andreasson (2017) Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030. In Schalk et al (Eds), Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice. Baunach, DE: Spurbuchverlag.



316 Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk with Andreasson *Feminist Political Ecology - Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030*



Projections 321

Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk, Andreasson (2017) *Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030*. In Schalk et al (Eds), *Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice*. Baunach, DE: Spurbuchverlag.



320 Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk with Andreasson *Feminist Political Ecology - Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030*



Projections 327

Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk, Andreasson (2017) *Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030*. In Schalk et al (Eds), *Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice*. Baunach, DE: Spurbuchverlag.



322 Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk with Andreasson Future Feminist Political Ecology - Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030



Projections 323

Bradley, Gunnarsson-Östling, Schalk, Andreasson (2017) Rewriting Stockholm's Vision 2030. In Schalk et al (Eds), Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice. Bannach, DE: Spurbuchverlag.

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

as change- and future-making

as (re)producing particular desires/preferences

related concepts in design theory

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing 'visions of the future'

Ontological politics

Political rhetoric/ergonomics

All envisioning and planning is a "politics of the real"

Other ways of knowing, seeing and acting

“For futures researcher Jerome Glenn, this entails that a core question of futures studies is ‘What difference does it make?’ rather than ‘How well do you know it?’.

One way to address this core question is to examine the future as different from a given current situation. A possible or preferred future can be developed, intervened and studied – not only in terms of the knowledge it is based on but in terms of how it can affect the present. For example, its capacity to ‘expand mental horizons’, ‘enhance anticipatory consciousness’ and ‘stimulate change in the present’ can be studied using existing or extended methods from the social sciences and design.”

Mazé, R. (2016) ‘Design and the Future: Temporal politics of ‘making a difference’ in R.C. Smith and T. Otto (eds), *Design Anthropological Futures*, 37-54. London: Bloomsbury.

Design and Futures Studies as Critical Practice

In this lecture

Design as a normative (as opposed to neutral) practice

as change- and future-making

as (re)producing particular desires/preferences

related concepts in design theory

As such, an instrument in futures studies and societal change

Political dimensions of designing ‘visions of the future’

Ontological politics

Political rhetoric/ergonomics

All envisioning and planning is a “politics of the real”

Other ways of knowing, seeing and acting

Implications

Call for increasingly critical practices of design –
criticism from ‘within’ and ‘without’

The future as ‘outside’, the future as agency (Mazé 2016)

Attention to the ‘supervalence of the future’ (Grosz 1999)

“Whether our feminist future involves the production of new architectures, new archives, new knowledges, new practices, or the production of an entirely new world, a task exists in preparing the crowds in the bleachers for the unfamiliar modes of address to come. The capacity to projectively bring into being another world might, I suggest, ultimately lie in the crafting of the conditions of its reception.”

Runting (2017) Projections Prologue: The waiting room. In Schalk, Kristiansson, Mazé (Eds), *Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice*. Baunach, DE: Spurbuchverlag.