

Topping, Jane (2018) The influencing machine.
[Show/Exhibition] In: The Influencing Machine, 1 December
2018 - 20 January 2019, nGbK, Berlin, Germany.

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**neue Gesellschaft
für bildende Kunst**

Exhibition

The Influencing Machine

Saturday, 01 December 2018 — Sunday, 20 January 2019





Adress: nGbK, Oranienstraße 25, 10999 Berlin
Open: Daily 12:00-19:00, Wed-Fri 12:00-20:00
Language(s): › German
› English
Entry: free
Organized by: neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst

(The exhibition is closed on 24, 25, 26 and 31 Dec 2018 as well as on 1 Jan 2019)

Artists: Anna Bromley, Kajsa Dahlberg, Egemen Demirci, Fabien Giraud & Raphaël Siboni, Fokus Grupa, Eva & Franco Mattes, Mimi Onouha & Mother Cyborg, Sascha Pohflepp & Chris Woebken, Tactical Tech, Jane Topping, Sarah Tripp, Clement Valla, Laura Yuile

Bots (from robot and Czech robota, socage, forced labor) are inconspicuous computer programs that perform tasks automatically.

Bots manipulate the masses, turn fake news into facts, supersede human labour, colonise our objects and lead us into temptation: Based on digital code, bots perform thousands of minute routines which supplement and at times displace human agency and labour, thus shaping virtual and analog structures. They are often given human features—names, voices, bodies on occasion. Yet even when remaining invisible, they are increasingly becoming part of our everyday.

The Influencing Machine examines these diffusions and formations. Clustered around a series of famous bots, the exhibition assembles contemporary artistic positions examining the automation and datafication of our life worlds and work environments. Here, bots are understood as socio-technical phenomena; their efficacies requiring and provoking novel and manifold relations and imaginations:

How do bots and data form politics? In what ways do they transform political orderings of participation, accountability and knowledge? Why do racist or sexist logics reproduce and intensify on digital platforms, social networks, and data-driven expert systems? What does it mean for the value of labour and, more generally, human agency if transactions, communication, and decisions are increasingly carried out by fully automated devices? Which cultural imaginations shape the design and function of human-machine interfaces?

The exhibition provides insights into the socio-material ecologies of this new influencing machine and seeks to problematize the figure of the bot beyond the dominant narratives of society and technology.

nGbK project group: Vladimir Čajkovac, Kristina Kramer, Bettina Lehmann, Sophie Macpherson, Tahani Nadim, Neli Wagner

Supported by the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, the Institute for European Ethnology, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the Centre for Anthropological Research on Museums and Heritage(CARMAH) – especially Tahani Nadim, Juniorprofessor for Socio-cultural Anthropology and head of the Department Humanities of nature (MfN)

Related page(s)

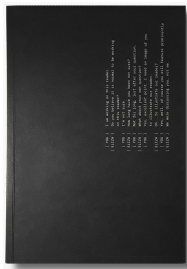
To access the online artwork by Jane Topping please follow this link:

<https://rabbitcottontoothcottonrabbit.com>

"A People's Guide to AI" by Mimi Onouha & Mother Cyborg can be downloaded here:

<https://www.alliedmedia.org/files/peoples-guide-ai.pdf>

Publication



The Influencing Machine
ISBN: 978-3-938515-74-7

Further Dates

- 30** **Friday, 30. November 2018, 19h**
Opening: Exhibition
- 8** **Saturday, 08. December 2018, 16h**
Guided tour: in the exhibition with the curators
- 13** **Thursday, 13. December 2018, 19h**
Book launch: The Influencing Machine
- 29** **Saturday, 29. December 2018, 16h**
Guided tour: in the exhibition with the curators
- 12** **Saturday, 12. January 2019, 16h**
Guided tour: in the exhibition with the curators
- 19** **Saturday, 19. January 2019, 16h**
Series of events: Bots and Politics
- 20** **Sunday, 20. January 2019, 16h**
Series of events: Bots and Labour



