Digital Political Theater 11.18

* General
	+ Talk on Thursday with Beltran and Marcos
* Poster
	+ Citizenship is perhaps not adequate for the digital age
		- Critique of the nation state
			* Citizenship is not possible along the lines of the nation since the internet is a border less place that can’t be regulated
		- Critique of the universality of citizenship
			* Western concepts and principles don’t have an adequate line of critique
			* West represents the forces of imperialism and globalization that it can’t shake
				+ If they imposes human rights and citizenship at the same time of extraction politics then it is its own imposition
				+ No longer viable or productive way of thinking of rights
		- Consumption and political activity
			* With technology, two concepts of conception and politics have merged
			* We interact directly with politics through consumption
	+ Politics as Consumption
		- We become “consumer-citizen”
	+ News and Entertainment
		- Collapse of these categories
	+ 4 points of why citizen and rights of man may not work
		- Universality: faulty starting point
			* We need to think more about difference
			* Political systems need to take into account these differences
		- The Natural no longer exists as a realm of citizenship
		- Technology has “humanized” nature
			* Now, any principles must take up the social construction of the “human-machine” interface
			* We are now “human machines”
			* Thinking of a new subjectivity when we are online and offline at the same time
	+ “planetary” democracy
		- No longer based on nation
		- A reaction against universality
		- Critique of Balibar
			* Balibar is trying to reconcile universality with particularity
			* Poster says that this term has too much baggage and try to get to a “planetary democracy”
		- Everyone has rights by living in the world
			* The practice of treating others as equals and systems of equality
			* No longer given by corporation or state or organization
	+ Can you say this today?
		- Probably not, doesn’t consider those outside of the human
	+ Netizen
		- Has the internet just become a spur of the conservatism movement?
		- There are forms of resistance that can only exist online
			* To Look At: Electronic Disturbance Theater
				+ Made to interrupt the internet, does digital sit-ins, etc.
	+ Closing: internet is not utopian, but looks at post-national reforms
		- New register of time and space, body to mind, new imaginary of culture to reality
		- Creates “planetary political subjects” through modes of collective information
		- VERY aspirational
* Review
	+ Much more radical:
* CAE
	+ Pf. Dominguez : Founder of CAE also founded the “Transport a Migrant” tool
		- The right wing folks went crazy over him
			* Accused him of using taxpayer money to assist terrorists
		- Had to fight to keep his job
		- Electronic Frontier: Group of lawyers that will defend rights and expression on the digital stage
			* Defended him!
		- They didn’t fire him !
			* Shows the power of performance, didn’t even have to do it because just talking about it was enough
		- In 2000 was thinking about what the digital could and couldn’t do
			* Thinking of the ways in which the analog and digital work together
	+ They are one the groups that is mapping the movement from analog to digital
		- Compared to the epistemic shift from the oral to print culture with the Gutenberg Press (Diana wrote on this in “Save As”
		- We don’t know how to archive this yet, we haven’t lived it!
	+ Katherine Hayles- she thinks we are going to call this the new dark ages
		- We’re not going to have a record of any of this stuff we created as we figure out how to archive these items
	+ Hardware/Software and Wetware
		- We are becoming posthuman
		- They ways Trump plays with the news cycles and ubiquity-of the image, crisis driven, collapsing news an entertainment
			* We have a new political subjectivity that
	+ Recombinant Theater
		- End the essay on an optimistic note
		- When the recombinant theater works, it contributes to a generative space and new politics emerge
			* Creating a theater of becoming
* Edwards
	+ Logic of Digital Circulation
		- Thinking about Image economies as well
	+ Simulacra Boardroom presupposes the cabniet room
		- Trump’s start as a celebrity was similar to Reagan’s rise to power
		- Establishment of credibly that allowed Trump to take the white house
	+ Transfer of common sense as public to the formal figure of Trump in the Board room
		- Not necessarily “common sense” but the shared experiences of the world
		- Instead of creating the common sense of universalizing actions, we are able to shift a common visions of reality TV to reality
			* Notion of the digital logic of circulation to real world manifestations
	+ Cult of the Personality (the star)
		- Everything is about HIM
			* Not about beliefs or systems, just the person
		- He isn’t even talking to anyone
	+ Machines and interface
		- Modes of measurement have changed:
			* Enthusiasm of the base is the important element
			* Aided by the use of technology that creates a form of political coherence
		- How machines have become part of the voting block (bots on twitter) and connections to the polling machines
		- Voting machines are very easily manipulated
	+ “At this moment, he became the president”
		- What does it mean that that makes him presidential?
	+ Trump has mastered the art of Reality TV and mafia work
		- Brings these skills to the office
			* Are these stronger than the branches of the government?
	+ Selfie-Determination
		- It is not just about *a* picture but about what the picture means
		- What would Azoulay say about the selfie?
			* Azoulay is more about responsibility
			* Selfie-culture is more about conversation
				+ The selfie is also the creation of Self

The selfie with another person will be the performance of relationally

* + International Relations
		- Point of pride that it is perceived unevenly
* Starr review of Zuboff
	+ Changes our political lives and emotions and politics
	+ “We create the music and they dance to it”
	+ Political Parties vs. Outsiders
		- Many of the most successful candidates have been outsiders
		- World of the digital in this is important!
	+ Not just facebook or twitter
		- These modes can create new ways of influencing and modeling behaviors
			* AOC and Zuckerberg: we can now post fake news
			* So we are now guided how to act based on something that is not true
	+ Where they place the stuff:
		- Experiment with 61 million users
			* News headlines at the top
			* No news headlines
			* News was hidden
		- 30% more people voted when at the top
	+ Creates new forms of power and behavior modification outside of awareness and accountability
		- “New Priesthood”
		- Not static- algorithms constantly adding
			* Us versus them gets created
	+ “No Future”
		- Americans are far from mere puppets…
	+ Behavior Surplus
		- Information from google and they develop prediction products
		- Able to create massive expansion of intelligence
	+ “Actuation”
		- What better way to predict than to teach them how to act
	+ Surveillance
		- Not necessarily totalitarian, but the potential is THERE