The Material Pragmatism Circle (MPC)

By Professor Ole B. Jensen, C-MUS (v. 5, May 6 2019)

> *Pragmatism reminds us of the ways in which our practices contain errors and injusticies, and draw upon those practices in order to offer re-descriptions with a view to making our lives and our world richer and freer* (Bacon 2012:201)

Background

During the last 10 years, the research into Mobilities and urban design/architecture at C-MUS has led to a growing exploration of pragmatism as one underpinning stream of thought (Jensen 2010, 2018; Jensen et al. 2016; Jensen et al 2019). Pragmatism is not one coherent position and neither is the research into Mobilities and design confined to one ontological and epistemological framework. However, at least since the publication of 'Staging Mobilities' in 2013 the relationship between Mobilities design and pragmatism has been emerging as a field of enquiry. The time has now come to consolidate this discussion into a platform and a forum for reflection and exchange. Therefore, what is proposed here is set establishment of a discussion forum (or study circle) within the Centre for Mobilities and Urban Studies (C-MUS). Alongside other standing forums such as the Mobilities Design Group (MDG), and the Mobility and Tracking Technology (MoTT), groups the Material Pragmatism Circle (MPC) is now proposed to host this discussion. The scope of the discussion forum is at the same time wider and more focused than some of the other C-MUS forums. It is wider in the sense that we shall explore Material Pragmatism as a stream of thoughts that combines ANT, STS, Assemblage Theory, New Materialism, Critical Design Thinking, Post-phenomenology, and Pragmatism. At the same time, it will focus towards articulating on the underpinning assumptions in ontological and epistemological terms. The key questions will be if there is such a thing like Material Pragmatism? Furthermore, if so, what would such a position look like? What kinds of knowledge claims would emerge from a position of Material Pragmatism? What kinds of research agendas would surface because of this way of thinking? It is an experiment, and the result may well be that this is not a road to go down. We cannot know. However, the research undertaken so far (see the '*C-MUS Mobilities Design & Material Pragmatism Literature*' below) seems to justify that these questions are explored.

Key Questions

The Material Pragmatism position take it's outset in the Mobilities Design research field. The initiating research questions will therefore also be derived from this work (Jensen 2013, Jensen & Lanng 2017). Here are some of the material and pragmatic questions to mobile situations that helps framing the discussion:

> • *What makes this specific mobile situation possible?*
>
> • *What are the actual consequences of given design decisions and interventions, and how are these 'staging' mobilities?*

• What is the name of 'my' mobility experience, what does it mean, and how does it materialize?

• How does it feel to be moved and be moving within contemporary infrastructural landscapes of Mobilities?

• What kinds of agencies are present in specific mobile situations, and what is the dynamic relationship between human and non-human actants?

• How is agency manifesting itself as 'distributed' and what is the role of materiality, materialities, and materials in this relational 'dance of agency'?

James asked the question 'Under what circumstances do we think things are real?' (James 1889:50) and Goffman 'what is this situation?' (Goffman 1959). These are equally pragmatic questions that has inspired the Mobilities design research agenda. Asking such 'naïve' questions can be cultivated into a pragmatic method with a strong critical potential. Most people tend to think that they 'surely know what this situation is'. However, as we exercise these pragmatic and situational enquires we find more detail and complexity, and quite often also, that things are not quite as they were thought to be (one of the key tasks for research … to render the well-known in a new light). The Mobilities design research field has already taken on the discussion about 'materialities' (Jensen 2016:594-595). Hence, there is a further set of research questions and discussions that might stimulate the discussion in the MPC:

> • How to create further conceptual and theoretical explorations that seek more coherence to the notion of material pragmatism? In particular, there is a challenge in avoiding the 'human exceptionalism' (Grusin 2015) which seems embedded into the various versions of phenomenology and multi-sensorial analysis
>
> • How to engage things and artefacts from new perspectives taking point of departure in things rather than humans? (e.g. as in Harry Parker's fascinating novel 'Anatomy of a Soldier') Herein, he gives an account of the assemblages of artefacts that it takes to make and sustain a soldier seen from the point of view of the things and artefacts themselves; Parker 2016)
>
> • How to make active connection to experimental methods and performative interventions from design and art practice? (as illustrated by Sheller 2015)
>
> • How to engage in public acts of co-design, co-creation, participatory design and 'speculative design'?
>
> • How to explore notions of 'design justice' and differential mobilities through an investigation of 'Dark Design'? (Jensen 2016) In other words, to investigate how power and social exclusion manifest itself through material design decisions and interventions
>
> • How to address the process of designing for differential abilities and disabilities

As many would know, asking the 'good questions' might be as insightful as trying to give the right answers. In line with the didactics of the classical pragmatism from James and Dewey, Material

Pragmatism must keep the open-ended and exploratory attitude to research questions (as well as to the theories and methods of relevance). A short note on the order of terms: I am speaking of Material Pragmatism and not 'Pragmatic Materialism' precisely because I do not consider this position to be 'materialism'. Rather, I am trying to stick to the territory of pragmatism as the foundational space and then indicate an interest in and sensitivity to issues of materials of materialisms. This order of words may indeed become part of the discussion.

Framing

The outset for articulating the notion of Material Pragmatism connects to the research in Mobilities design in general, and in particular to the pragmatic investigation of situational Mobilities. Whenever facing a mobile situation, we have cultivated a way of asking about 'what enables this situation?' As we are looking at empirical investigations of mobile situations we have relied on the 'Staging Mobilities' framework (Jensen 2013) and its focus on materiality, sociality and embodiment. This has further pointed us to search for the cross field between designerly ways of thinking, materialities, and Mobilities. Hence, the framework for enabling this further exploration will set Material Pragmatism at the centre and then explore how design thinking, pragmatism, new materialities, ANT/STS, and Post-phenomenology might (or might not) connect. The list of positions consulted is not exclusive, but rather based upon more than a decade of pragmatic and situational Mobilities research. One of course could imagine a number of other inspirational positions. However, in order to keep this discussion somewhat manageable these are the proposed positions that we will set out to discuss (see fig. 1).
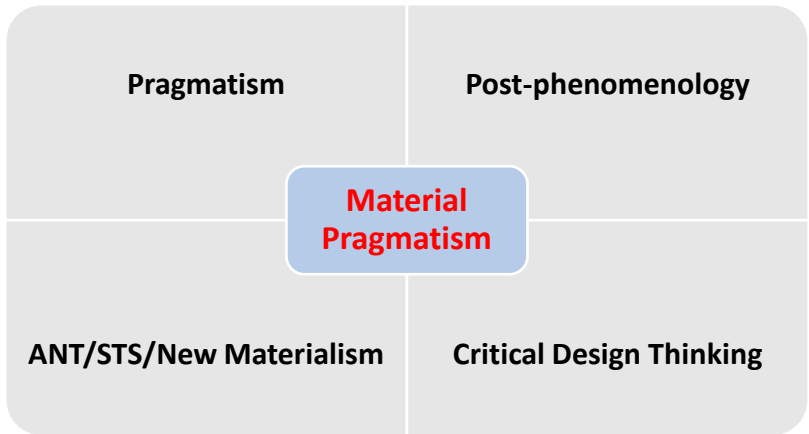

Pragmatism	Post-phenomenology
Material Pragmatism	
ANT/STS/New Materialism	Critical Design Thinking

Figure 1: *Material Pragmatism Diagram*

It is surely debatable if this diagram is accurate or if it is comprehensive. The latter it definitely is not, however, it will serve as heuristic tool for facilitating the discussion in the MPC. Moreover, the 'pigeon-holing' of the different theorist may indeed also be discussed. For example: can one meaningfully 'lump together' ANT and the New materialism? And further, is the new materialism actually a homogeneous position? Suffice to say that if there is no framework for discussing this, the discussion will be much harder. It might be that the frame will serve its purpose as a proverbial 'Wittgensteinian Ladder' (i.e. as a concept we will abandon or throw away after reaching higher understanding). Below I shall very shortly span out the space of Material Pragmatism by referring to key references within each of the four 'corners' of the diagram above. More detailed discussion and arguments for coherence will follow in the actual MPC meetings.

Classic Pragmatism in the sense of Peirce, Dewey, and James is the point of the departure. The so-called pragmatic maxim of Peirce states that: '*Consider what effects, which might conceivably have practical bearings, we conceive the object of our concepts to have. Then, our conception of these effects is the whole of our conception of the object*' (Peirce in Bacon 2012:25). The idea is that we need to explore the practical outcomes and consequences of both our actions as well as of our conceptualizations. In Dewey's words, we have to connect meaning to existence:

> *In order to attribute a meaning to concepts, one must be able to apply them to existence. Now it is by means of action that this application is made possible. And the modification of existence which results from this application constitutes the true meaning of concepts. . . . It is [therefore] not the origin of a concept, it is its application which becomes the criterion of its value: and here we have the whole of pragmatism in embryo* (Dewey 1931:25-37)

Furthermore, pragmatism means exploring the total situation by approaching it with a 'holistic' view. In Dewey's terms to move beyond a Cartesian spilt of objects and subjects and towards an understanding of the *'total environment'*:

> *In actual experience, there is never any such isolated singular object or event; an object or event is always a special part, phase or aspect of an environing experienced world – a situation. The singular object stands out conspicuously because of its especially focal and crucial position at a given time in determination of some problem of use or enjoyment which the total complex environment presents* (Dewey 1986: 72)

Bruno Latour connects to the classic pragmatists in a positive and accommodating way when he argues that:

> *Those American philosophers [Dewey, James and Peirce] call their tradition pragmatism, meaning by this word not the cheap realism associated with being 'pragmatic', but the costly realism requested by making politics turn toward pragmata – the Greek name for 'Things'. Now that's realism! (*Latour 2005b: 38)

The position of Bruno Latour is very stimulating for the discussion of MP. Here the critique of human exceptionalism is one thing (mostly know in Latour's so-called 'symmetry thesis'). However, ideas about agency and the notion that anything that modifies a state of affair deserve to be named 'agent' (or actant) is also a key pointer to pragmatism (we might also discuss Harman's critique of agency as 'active' in his argument in favor of 'immaterialism', Harman 2016):

> *[A]nything that does modify a state of affairs by making a difference is an actor [...] Thus, the question to ask about any agent is simply the following: Does it make a difference in the course of some other agent's action or not?* (Latour 2005a:71, emphasis in original)

Accordingly we are dependent upon technologies and artefacts as much more than simple 'things' separated from us as humans and under our command:

> *Our collective is woven together out of speaking subjects, perhaps, but subjects to which poor objects, our inferior brothers, are attached at all points. By opening up to include objects, the social bond would become less mysterious* (Latour 1996:VIII)

This notion of 'inferior brothers' and the ways in which we are attached to them in complex assemblages (Faris & Bender 2010) suggests that we are scripted and enrolled into situated relations that need a pragmatic (and material) analytical framing. Or in the word of John Law:

> *If you took away my computer, my colleagues, my office, my books, my desk, my telephone I wouldn't be a sociologist writing papers, delivering lectures, and producing 'knowledge'. I'd be something quite other – and the same is true for all of us. So the analytical question is this. Is an agent an agent primarily because he or she inhabits a body that carries knowledges, skills, values, and all the rest? Or is an agent an agent because he or she inhabits a set of elements (including, of course, a body) that stretches out into the network of materials, somatic and otherwise, that surrounds each body?* (Law 1992:382)

Furthermore, a notion such as *'delegation'* speaks very clearly to a material pragmatic understanding. Many technologies and artefacts perform their agency through acts of delegation. This is for example the case with Latour's famous example of the 'door closer' substituting the door opening and closing of a janitor (Latour 1988). Latour's perspective points towards a pragmatic and materialist understanding of architecture and design as 'made'. The fact that the world increasingly is 'made' suggests that there is no outside to the 'artifactual':

> *To define humans is to define the envelopes, the life support systems, the* <u>Umwelt</u> *that make it possible for them to breathe ... we are enveloped, entangled, surrounded; we are never outside without having recreated another more artificial, more fragile, more engineered envelope. We move from envelopes to envelopes, from folds to folds, never from one private sphere to the Great Outside* (Latour 2008:8, emphasis in orginal)

The work of Albena Yaneva is illustrative to the importance of connecting the material with a pragmatic inquiry. She does so in detailed field studies of how architects work with models, how they gesture, and how the get into a 'dialogue with the material':

> *I depict how architects involve themselves in a comprehensive dialogue with materials and shapes. Their material dialogue takes into account dispositions, resistance, stability and other properties that change proportionally with scale ... The tiny material operations of 'scaling up', 'jumping the scale', 'rescaling' and 'going down in scale' enable architects to think of the building and to gain new knowledge about it* (Yaneva 2005, 867 & 870)

Yaneva see architecture as an 'ecology of practice' and argues for redefining the relations between its various elements such as '*habits, skills, buildings, sites, city regulations, designer's equipment, clients, institutions, models, images, urban visions and landscapes*'. Seeing these as ecology or an assemblage dissolves boundaries and redistributes agency (Yaneva 2017:33).

The discussion of new materialities needs to be equally short here, and I shall focus on only a few exponents. Jane Bennett is one such exponent and her epistemological project is so well articulated. She want '*to think slowly an idea that runs fast through modern heads: the idea of matter as passive stuff, as raw, brute, or inert*' (Bennett 2010:vii). I think this is a very interesting notion that lead Bennett to speak of matter as 'vibrant' and not inert and static. Hence, there is another layer of

relevance to an ontology underpinning Mobilities studies. Bennett speaks of 'thing-power' as another way of stating the relational interdependency of artefacts and things somewhat similar to Latour. The focus on materialities, things, and artefacts should not however lead us away from the important dimension of people-centeredness. We are exploring Mobilities design to understand human-made infrastructural landscapes and urban metropolises. We hopefully will correct our elevation of humans, and identify a more modest place for 'homo movens' (Vannini 2010:118), but we should still explore how moving in these systems creates social lives and cultures. One way into such an exploration is to insist on the multi-sensorial and embodied understanding of mobile situations but with a much more sophisticated emphasis on the mediation of things. This is the space of 'post-phenomenology' as articulated by techno-philosophers Don Ihde and Peter-Paul Verbeek. Let me turn to Ihde first:

> The matter may be put simply: there is no bare or isolated micro perception except in its field of a hermeneutic or macro perceptual surrounding; nor may macro perception have any focus without its fulfilment in micro perceptual (bodily sensory) experience. Yet in the interrelation of micro- and macro dimensions of perception, there may lie hidden precisely the polymorphic ambiguities which most particularly emerge in the later work of Merleau-Ponty and Foucault in particular (Ihde 1993:77)

Ihde is interested in how we can keep an alertness to the embodied and multi-sensorial engagement in the world at the same time as he insists that our capacities and acting bodies are mediated:

> Only by using the technology is my bodily power enhanced and magnified by speed, through distance, or by any of the other ways in which technologies change my capacities. These capacities are always <u>different</u> from my naked capacities (Ihde 1990:75, emphasis in original)

To the Post-phenomenologists '*things and artifacts, too, can become actors and thus deserve to be studied on par with humans'* (Verbeek 2005:102). This seems to be in line with Latour's analysis. Verbeek sees affinities with Latour's position in his argument for post-phenomenology:

> This more radical phenomenological perspective, in which subject and object are not merely intertwined with each other but constitute each other, does justice to the contextualism of contemporary philosophy as it is expressed in the linguistic turn, in postmodernism, and also, for instance, in Latour's actor-network theory. I shall call this reinterpretation of phenomenology "post-phenomenology" (Verbeek 2005:112)

The detailed and situated analysis that we may apply based on Ihde and Verbeek goes hand-in-hand with Latour's notions of 'distributed agency', as well as it reaches back to the materialities perspective and points forward to the design dimension that is a vital part of Mobilities design research. Dunne and Raby's call for 'critical design' is one such position where I see both the critical-creative potential of 'designerly ways of thinking' and a strong pragmatic and experimental basis for exploration:

> Critical design might borrow heavily from art's methods and approaches but that is it. We expect art to be shocking and extreme. Critical design needs to come closer to the everyday; that's where the possibility to disturb lies. A critical design should be demanding, challenging, and if it is going to raise awareness, do so for issues that are

not already well known. Safe ideas will not linger in people's minds or challenge prevailing views but if it is too weird, it will be dismissed as art, and if too normal, it will be effortlessly assimilated. If it is labelled as art it is easier to deal with but if it remains design, it is more disturbing; it suggests that the everyday life as we know it could be different, that things could change (Dunne and Raby 2013:43)

The design dimension of Material Pragmatism is therefore both a methodological and procedural dimension, as well as it is an experimental and spatialized approach to mobile situations. By exploring the world through design interventions, mock-ups, and experiments we have found that we both gain insight into materialities of situated practices, but also a window into the potential of citizen involvement and co-creation (Jensen & Lanng 2017).

I have tried in a compact space to unfold some of the theoretical sources of inspiration that has influenced Material Pragmatism. The notion of 'desigernly ways of thinking' or 'design thinking' is an important inspiration to the research into Mobilities design and the realm of non-representational thinking, critical design thinking, utopian imaginaries and much more are fields of inspiration. Even though these positions are not highlighted here they will influence the discussion in MPC to come. Needless to say this needs to be done with much more detail and rigor. I have primarily wanted to strike a few opening chords here. I will therefore end this framing by returning to the research in Mobilities design. The discussion will unfold from these and many other perspectives that we shall bring into the discussion circle. So let me end this framing by pointing back to ideas already articulated within the mobilties research on Material Pragmatism. As here in the 'Designing Mobilties' book from 2014:

> *... a new 'material turn' within the already established field of mobilities research. There is a need for research targeting the material, physical and design-oriented dimensions of the multiple mobilities from the local to the global. Despite its cross-disciplinary identity the 'mobilities turn' has not capitalized from the potential in exploring issues of material design and physical form. The exchange value with design is twofold; first this means getting closer to the 'material' which is needed if mobilities research can claim to have understood contemporary mobilities. Second it means that the creative, explorative and experimental approaches of the design world become within reach to mobilities research offering new potentials for innovative research. Design research, on the other hand, might enter into a fruitful relationship with mobilities research, taking in a 'mobile' perspective on design objects and issues, including methodological insights, concepts of space and place, and relations between fixities and flows* (Jensen 2014:239)

The question is how to bring together an analytical sensitivity to spaces, sites, artefacts, and technologies, at the same time as we keep exploring the embodied and multi-sensorial engagements between human and non-human agencies:

> *The analytical position of material pragmatism points to the actual effects and situations and not some abstract and generalised perspective. Material pragmatism ask 'what enables this particular mobile situation?' and in answering it seeks to move beyond subjects standing before objects, humans before spaces, people before infrastructures. Rather, material pragmatism argues for a situated, holistic, materially sensitive understanding of Mobilities. Such a position ask the pragmatic question of how design decisions and interventions stage mobilities? Moreover, it is attempt to*

answer such enquiry through a realization of the importance of a new sensitivity to the 'material surfaces, the tactile engagements with technologies, the spatial volumes shaped by architectural intervention, the socio-technical geographies of complex networks and so on' (Jensen & Lanng 2017: 40) (Jensen 2017:10, emphasis in original)

I wanted to give a sense of what Material Pragmatism might mean without closing off the discussion. Furthermore, I wanted to point to its outset within Mobilities design research. Having done so I hope to have shown the meaningfulness of having a conversation about Material Pragmatism, but also that this is in no way a settled discussion.

Organization

The MPC will be a sub-group to C-MUS. Thus is will be open for all C-MUS members across faculty lines at Aalborg University. Moreover, the discussion will also connect to discussions of the 'Design Research Epistemologies' that is a continuous theme in the PhD Program of Media Technology, Architecture and Design (MAD) as well as it touches upon the recurrent PhD course I am offering with the same title. The seminars will be organized under C-MUS and will therefore also be announced in the C-MUS mailing list as well as there will be information about MPC on the website of C-MUS. If there is an interest in organizing a *conference* with the theme of Material Pragmatism this will be explored, as well as any ideas for *joint publications* (journal theme issues or book volumes). Ultimately, we shall also investigate if this could lead to a *research application* for either a more permanent network or a research project. As this work springs out of many years of collaboration first in the Urban Design Section, and since in the Architecture and Urban Design Section, members hereof who are not C-MUS members will also be invited (and hopefully thus encouraged to join C-MUS). This is central since the ongoing discussion in the Section of Architecture and Urban Design related to interdisciplinary thinking and further development of what 'Integrated Design' might mean could profit from engaging with this theme. Furthermore, the discussion of themes such as 'Ambience/atmosphere' and 'Affordances' that already have been carried out in the Section for Architecture and Urban Design, has a very large relevance to the discussion of Material Pragmatism. The meetings and the program is organised by Professor Ole B. Jensen (C-MUS) but with an always open invitation for participants to suggest new themes, new readings etc. The announced readings for each seminar can requested by sending an e-mail to [obje@create.aau.dk.](mailto:obje@create.aau.dk) I have chosen four themes for the first MPC meetings: 1) *Material Pragmatism – Opening Discussion, 2) Designerly Ways of Thinking, 3) Ethnographic Approaches, and 4) Embodiment and Multi-Sensorialism*. However, many other themes could have been chosen and a few I would like to do if the circle continues are: *Power and Exclusion through Design* as well as *Climate Change and Agencies* would be of relevance.

MPC I: *Material Pragmatism – Opening discussion*

Date and venue: Friday September 27 2019, 13:00-15:00, Rendsburggade 14, room 4.531

The first event is dedicated to exploring if the proposed framework (see above) is an adequate and operational framing to work with. Moreover, we will read the first texts in order to set in motion the discussion. If participants have thoughts on own publications (future or existing) the floor is open for presenting these as well. Furthermore, since it is the opening discussion and on a Friday we might carry on the discussion over a pint in a nearby pub.

Readings

Dewey, J. (1931) The Development of American Pragmatism, in Thayer, H. S. (ed.) (1982) *Pragmatism. The Classic readings,* Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, pp. 23-40

Ihde, D. (2003b) *Postphenomenology – Again?,* Department of Information and Media Studies, University of Aarhus, Working paper from the Centre for STS Studies, no. 3, 2003

Ihde, D. (2016) *Husserl's Missing Technologies*, New York: Fordham University Press, pp. 103-121 (chapter 6) and 122-134 (chapter 7)

James, W. (1936) An Interview: Pragmatism – what is it? in Thayer, H. S. (ed.) (1982) *Pragmatism. The Classic readings*, Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, pp. 131-134

Jensen, O. B. (2016) Of 'other' materialities: why (mobilities) design is central to the future of mobilities research, *Mobilities*, vol. 11, no. 4, pp. 587-597

Latour, B. (1988) Mixing Humans and Nonhumans Together: The Sociology of the Door-Closer, *Social Problems*, vol. 35, no. 3, June 1988, pp. 298-310 (Written under the pseudonym of Jim Johnson)

Verbeek, P. (2005) *What Things Do. Philosophical Reflections on Technology, Agency, and Design,* University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press, pp. 99-119 (chapter 3)

MPC II: *Designerly Ways of Thinking*

Date and venue: Friday November 15 2019, 13:00-15:00, Rendsburggade 14, room 4.531

In this session we continue our conversation of what Material Pragmatism might mean. However, with a particular emphasis on design and design thinking. If participants have thoughts on own publications (future or existing) the floor is open for this as well.

Readings

Dunne, A. & F. Raby (2013*) Speculative Everything. Design, Fiction, and Social Dreaming*, Cambridge Mass.: MIT Press (Chapter 1, 3, 5, and 9)

Ingold, T. (2014) Designing Environments for Life, in K. Hastrup (ed.) (2014) *Anthropology and Nature*, London: Routledge, pp. 233-246

Latour, B. & A. Yaneva (2008) *Give me a Gun and I will Make All Buildings Move: An ANT's View of Architecture,* in Geiser, R. (Ed.) (2008) Explorations in Architecture: Teaching, Design, Research, Basel: Birkhäuser, pp. 80-89

Lanng, D. B. & O. B. Jensen (2017) *IMAGINE Mobilities Design Studio*, Paper for the conference 'Mobile Utopia: Pasts, Presents, Futures' Cemore|T2M|Cosmobilities Conference, 2-5 November 2017, Centre for Mobilities Research, Lancaster University

Levitas, R. (2013) *Utopia as Method. The Imaginary Reconstitution of Society*, Basingstoke: Palgrave, pp. 127-149 (Chapter 7)

Melles, G. (2008b) An Enlarged Pragmatist Inquiry Paradigm for Methodological Pluralism in Academic Design Research, *Artifact*, vol. 2:1. pp. 3-11

Verbeek, P. (2005) *What Things Do. Philosophical Reflections on Technology, Agency, and Design,* University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press, pp. 203-236 (chapter 7)

Yaneva, A. (2009c) Making the social hold: Towards an Actor-Network Theory of Design, *Design and Culture*, Vol. 1, Issue 3, pp. 273-388

MPC III: *Ethnographic approaches*

Date and venue: Friday February 28 2020, 13:00-15:00, Rendsburggade 14, room 4.325

This session is dedicated to explore the usefulness of ethnographic approaches in the field studies of Material Pragmatism. Furthermore, if participants have thoughts on own publications (future or existing) the floor is open for this as well.

Readings

Jensen, O. B. & D. B. Lanng (2017) *Mobilities Design. Urban designs for mobile situations*, London: Routledge (chapter 2)

Otto, T. & R. C. Smith (2013) *Design Anthropology: A Distinct Style of Knowing*, in W. Gunn, T. Otto & R. C. Smith (Eds.) (2013) Design Anthropology. Theory & Practice, London: Bloomsbury, pp. 1-29

Yaneva, A. (2017) *Five Ways of Making Architecture Political. An Introduction to the Politics of Design Practice*, London: Bloomsbury, pp. 31-52 (Chapter 2: How to Study Ecology of Practice)

MPC IV: *Embodiment and Multi-sensorialism*

Date and venue: Friday May 15 2020, 13:00-15:00, Rendsburggade 14, room 4.325

The fourth MPC is dedicated to foregrounding the importance of understanding embodiment relations and the multi-sensorial perspectives. If participants have thoughts on own publications (future or existing) the floor is open for this as well. As this is the last of the scheduled MPC events we shall also discuss if this should be continued or not.

Readings

Degen, M., G. Rose & B. Basdas (2010) Bodies and Everyday practices in designed urban environments, *Science Studies*, vol. 23 (2010), No. 2, pp. 60-76

Jensen, O. B. (2013) *Staging Mobilities*, London: Routledge, pp. 92-120 (Chapter 5: Mobile Embodied Performances)

Jensen, O. B. & P. Vannini (2016) Blue Sky Matter. Towards an (In-flight) Understanding of the Sensuousness of Mobilities Design, *Transfers*, 6(2), Summer 2016: 23-42

C-MUS Mobilities Design & Material Pragmatism Publications

(A Note of caution: There might be more C-MUS publications related to Material Pragmatism, so apologies in advance to anyone who feels that their publications should be on this list. If nothing else one might say, that if there are such publications then the establishment of MPC is precisely needed to bring Material Pragmatist scholars together and to help shaping awareness of these across C-MUS).

Jensen, O. B. (Ed.) (2010) *Design Research Epistemologies I – Research in Architectural Design*, Aalborg: Departmental Working Paper Series, Department of Architecture, Design and Media Technology, Aalborg University

Jensen, O. B. (2013) *Staging Mobilities*, London: Routledge

Jensen, O. B. (2014) *Designing Mobilities*, Aalborg: Aalborg University Press

Jensen, O. B. (2016) Of 'other' materialities: why (mobilities) design is central to the future of mobilities research, *Mobilities*, vol. 11, no. 4, pp. 587-597

Jensen O. B. (2017) Urban design for mobilities – towards material pragmatism, *Urban Development Issues*, vol. 56, pp. 5–11 DOI: 10.2478/udi-2018-0012

Jensen, O. B. (2018) *A Decade (almost) of Brown Bag Seminars – Anniversary Report on the 'Brown Bag' Seminar Series at the Centre for Mobilities and Urban Studies (C-MUS) 2009-18*, Aalborg: Dept. Of Architecture, Design and Media Technology, A&D Files No. 115

Jensen, O. B. (2019) *Dark Design. Mobility Injustice Materalized*, in N. Cook & D. Butz (eds.) (2019) Mobilities, Mobility Justice and Social Justice, London: Routledge, pp. 116-128

Jensen, O. B., Christiansen, E. M. & Bueno, A. V. H. (eds.) (2019) *Design Research Epistemologies III – Research in Architectural Design*, Aalborg: Departmental Working Paper Series, Department of Architecture, Design and Media Technology, Aalborg University

Jensen, O. B. & D. B. Lanng (2016) Mobilities Design. Towards an experimental field of research and practice, in Griffiths, S. & A. v. Lünen (eds.) (2016) *Spatial Cultures. Towards a New Social Morphology of Cities Past and Present*, London: Routledge, pp. 236-246

Lanng, D. B. & O. B. Jensen (2017) *IMAGINE Mobilities Design Studio*, Paper for the conference 'Mobile Utopia: Pasts, Presents, Futures' Cemore|T2M|Cosmobilities Conference, 2-5 November 2017, Centre for Mobilities Research, Lancaster University

Jensen, O. B. & D. B. Lanng (2017) *Mobilities Design. Urban designs for mobile situations*, London: Routledge

Jensen, O. B., D. B. Lanng & S. Wind (2016) Mobilities Design – towards a research agenda for applied mobilities research, *Applied Mobilities,* vol. 1, no. 1, 26-42

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