

Speculative Energy Futures

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BACKGROUND

"The extractivist world-view that has contributed to climate change through the exploitation of land and resources, likewise allows for the exploitation of gendered, classed and racialized bodies, and the erasure of knowledge held by those bodies. Art and storytelling are key to the recovery of past knowledge and the co-creation of new knowledge that can inform more feminist energy transition politics and more equitable and socially just futures" (Wilson, 2017).

ARTISTIC RESEARCH

Our aim is to demonstrate to the other Future Energy Systems teams, and the STEM communities at large, the value of STEAM (adding the arts) research within the academy and beyond, as public intellectual engagement mobilizing social innovation.

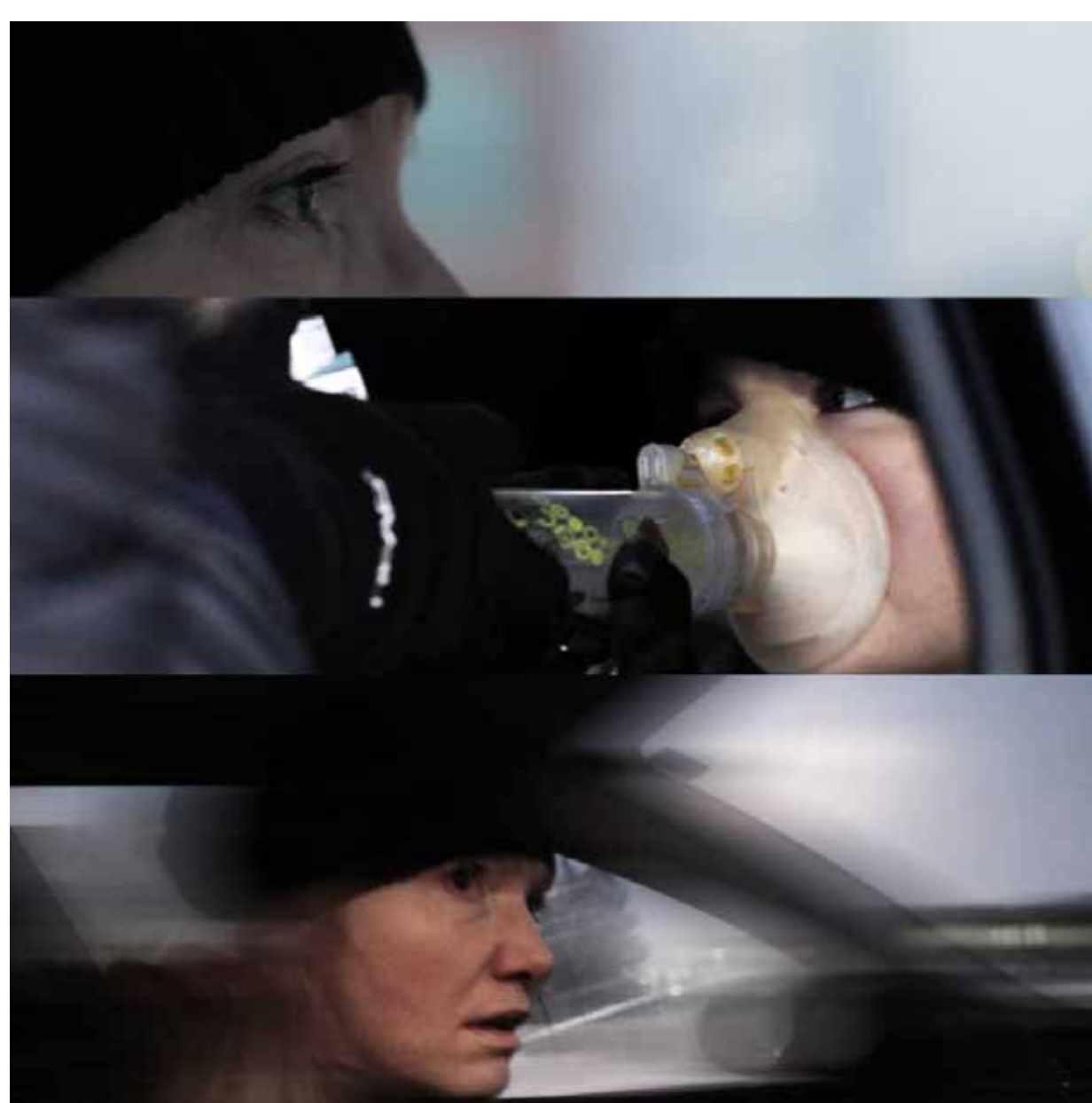
COLLABORATION

Speculative Energy Futures brings together humanities researchers, artists, scientists, and policy experts to develop a truly collaborative and interdisciplinary series of artistic projects and publications.



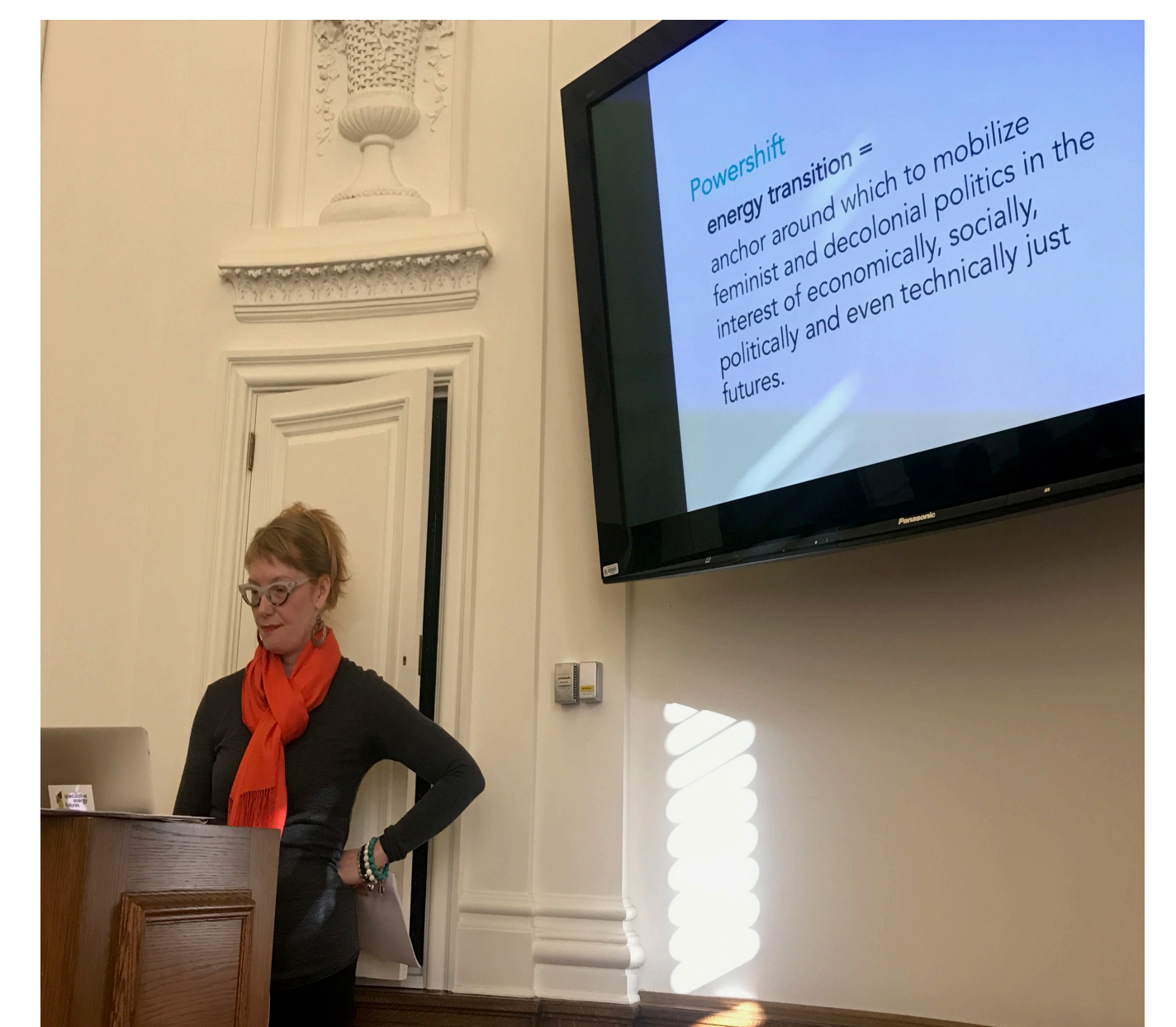
PARTNERS

Project Co-Leads: Sheena Wilson, Natalie Loveless Participants: Ruth Beer, Jessie Beier, Sean Caufield, Salvatore Cucchiara, Evan Davies, Soheila Esfhani, Joan Greer, Steven Hoffman, Tseima Igharas, Satoshi Ikeda, Ursula Johnson, M.E. Luka, Janice Makokis, Patrick Mahon, Sourayan Mookerjea, Lisa Moore, Tegan Moore, Scott Smallwood, Mark Simpson



METHODOLOGICAL PRECEDENTS

Speculative Energy Futures takes its methodological cue from the recently completed Immune Nations Project. Over the course of three years, Immune Nations participants got to know each other, developed self-generated groupings with other participants, researched a key issue related to the topic, and developed an arts-based engagement for a series of high profile exhibitions. More information on the project and exhibition venues is available here: <http://www.immunenations.com/>



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Develop new perspectives on intersectional energy futurity, as realized through research-creation, artistic exhibition & community engagement.
- Explore and mobilize research-creation methods and models for realizing socially just energy futures, as materialized in aesthetic practice, multi-media documentation, and broad interdisciplinary engagement.
- Create public facing, evidence-based, research-creation art exhibitions on the challenges and potentials of energy transition.
- Contribute to public discourse around energy futures.
- Enable truly integrated interdisciplinary dialogue (in addition to more straightforward multi-disciplinary exchanges).
- Publish an exhibition catalogue and a literary anthology.



SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

- Foster interdisciplinary collaboration among artists, researchers, policy makers & public constituencies invested in energy transition.
- Enable the production of new ways of seeing and imagining energy transition and energy futurity.
- Enabling the circulation of such new perspectives among diverse publics.
- Promote education in EH as well as opportunities for interdisciplinary engagement among emerging researchers at the undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate levels.
- Art Exhibition, Workshop, and Public Presentation at the IPCC Meeting in Edmonton.
- Hold first national team workshop.



FES PROJECT OVERVIEW

SPECULATIVE ENERGY FUTURES is a multi-year, collaborative, interdisciplinary project on energy transition as a necessary early response to addressing climate change. It brings together a carefully chosen group of artistic and humanities researchers with activists, science, social science, and policy experts to investigate the challenges of energy transition. Together participants will produce a research-based art exhibition as well as a series of publications, bringing attention to the importance of arts and humanities perspectives on the social and cultural impacts of energy transition informed by the latest cutting edge research coming out of the IPCC and Future Energy Systems.



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