

EVENING ORAL PRESENTATION

Understanding the Intangible: Perceiving Climate Engineering through Art and Design

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This paper explores how art and design may articulate novel perceptions of and perspectives on Climate Engineering research and deployment. If humans are inadvertently engineering the entirety of the Earth, and Climate Engineering is the manifest of that acknowledgement, are we now looking at a proposed climate by design, in contrast to the Holocene's climate-as-given and the Anthropocene's climate-by-accident?

Art offers a discrete lens through which to probe the reversal of agency implicit in Climate Engineering: from being shaped by things to come, to how humans may shape things to come through Climate Engineering interventions. The notion of 'climate by design' is garnering increased international interest, with the 2014 exhibition *Strange Weather* at the Science Gallery, Trinity College Dublin, being the world's first large scale exhibition on Climate Engineering.

The presentation discusses how such art practice opens up new realms of understanding the issues at stake in Climate Engineering, including an overview of the author's art on Climate Engineering in the context of the manifesto of CoClimate, the curators of *Strange Weather*, that "we have always been geoengineers, but we have not been very good at it" and their response to this contention in forming their think tank to "study the technologies and tactics used for sculpting the biosphere of planet Earth."

Such artistic responses are contextualized in a discussion of the role of museum exhibitions on Climate Engineering, drawing on the author's current exhibition in 'Welcome to the Anthropocene' at the Deutsches Museum, and current collaborations with Rachel Carson Centre, LMU, München and 'The Anthropocene Kitchen' project at HU, Berlin.

The paper situates these practices in ethical considerations of Climate Engineering, drawing on the author's co-convened conference 'Fighting Fire with Fire - Climate Modification and Ethics in the Anthropocene' at the University of New South Wales, in 2014.