Some Sahara in the Brain: Deleuze, Collaboration, Event
Psy 620 - 01  Phil Psy 4: Deleuze

We will bring works of Deleuze, and Deleuze & Guattari, into collaboration with aesthetic productions that engage motifs of contemporary psychological relevance – works in film, new media, music, sound, painting, performance, installation, architecture. This collaboration will invite experimentation with grafting customary forms of thought onto “lines of drift” with different hues, saturations, “loops,” timecodes, speeds, “knots,” diagrammatics, gestures, harmonics, and resonant frequencies.

Readings will include chapters and excerpts from Dialogues II, What is Philosophy?, Francis Bacon: The Logic of Sensation, A Thousand Plateaus, Cinema 2: The Time Image, Constructions (Rajchman), More Brilliant Than the Sun (Eshun), and more. (Or less, depending on time and student interest.)

The course will be a working seminar, with an emphasis on integrating readings with students’ evolving work on course projects. We will have one or several outside presenters, each of whom will contextualize her or his work in terms of particular course concepts and collaborative, event-based production schemas.

Office Hours: 544A College Hall, Tuesday 12:15 – 2:00, appt.

Required Texts: Course packet of readings (see reading list)
A Thousand Plateaus by Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari
Constructions by John Rajchman

Grades will be based on:

1) the degree to which the student is actively engaged in the collaborative construction of a life-affirming learning experience in the classroom (10%)

2) the lighted-heartedly earnest and seriously playful manner in which she or he engages each week’s readings (20%)

3) a dynamic 30 – 45 minute presentation of material from one set of readings as related to the student’s course project (20%)

4) a course project, due on Tuesday, April 24th. The medium in which the project is produced (e. g., a paper, short film/video, sound piece, installation, graphic novel, drawings/paintings) is to be negotiated with the instructor. The project can be ‘individual’ or collaborative (involving two or more students in the course) in nature (50%)
Readings

1) e-flux journal #27, September 2011
Lawrence Liang “Is it a Bird? A Plane? No, it’s a Magic Chair”

e-flux journal #27 September 2011
Racq Media Collective “Planktons in the Sea: A Few Questions Regarding the Qualities of Time”


“Constructions” from Rajchman (1999), Constructions (pp. 1 – 9). Boston: MIT Press.


7) "The Brain is the Screen: An Interview with Gilles Deleuze" from Flaxman, Ed. (2000), *The Brain is the Screen: Deleuze and the Philosophy of Cinema* (pp. 365 – 374). Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

"From Chaos to the Brain" from Deleuze & Guattari (1994), from *What is Philosophy?* (pp. 201 – 218). New York: Columbia University Press.

