

paula albuquerque

enter the ghost - haunted media ecologies

opening saturday october 24 15.00 - 18.00 hrs
 rsvp info@nieuwdakota.com limited availability

art talk, saturday october 31 15.00 - 17.00 hrs
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exhibition runs until november 22 2020

Paula Albuquerque's solo exhibition at the Nieuw Dakota in collaboration with Bradwolff Projects continues her research into the hauntology of operative imagery. Extensively drawing from her investigation into visual surveillance practices and the AI-human interdependence in war technologies, Albuquerque's works evokes Jacques Derrida's hauntology and spectality theories, but also Lisa Parks' more recent drone studies and Artificial Intelligence seminars at MIT, as well as Andrea Miller's racial and gender biases of warfare and surveillance technology.

Enter the Ghost - Haunted Media Ecologies brings forth concerns about a bias embedded into actual mediating systems that create meaning under the guise of documenting material reality. From Deep Fake to military drones and vertical mediating surveillance apparatuses, Albuquerque designs scenarios that deconstruct and uncover the inner workings of the visual dispositif while exploring the aesthetic qualities of media as prime matter.

When stepping into the exhibition space, the spectator experiences a media-ecological environment where realtime is constructed and references dating back to the sixteenth century are entangled with present day repertoires of decolonial practices. Five installations fill the space of Nieuw Dakota, divided in surveillance and armed UAV's on the ground floor and Deep Fake on the mezzanine suggesting an ecology of networked media in rhizomatic causal relations. Working by inference, thereby circumventing the impossibility to use sensitive materials exclusively provided for the preparatory study, Albuquerque's installations combine own footage with other imagery gathered from varying sources including journalistic reports, advertisement, Hollywood films, stock footage and gaming, which indistinguishably create interchangeable portraits of the world that Albuquerque is trying to dismantle.

Paula Albuquerque is a visual artist and scholar living and working in Amsterdam. Born in the UK, moving as a young baby to Mozambique and growing up in Lisbon, Albuquerque's work is informed by intersectional decolonial practices, materially focusing on visual technologies both analog and digital, while specifically concentrating on the pervasiveness of surveillance and the construction of operative imagery.

Her artwork has been shown at e.g. Bradwolff Projects, At7 (de Lely), Stedelijk Museum Bureau Amsterdam, International Film Festival Rotterdam and the Sheffield DocFest. She is a Senior Researcher at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy, and heads the Master of Artistic Research at the University of Amsterdam. She regularly presents in conferences at e.g. MIT in Boston, the University of Southern California in LA and gives master classes at e.g. the Pratt Institute in NY and the Dutch Film and Television Academy. Her book *The Webcam as an Emerging Cinematic Medium* has been published in 2018 and launched by Amsterdam University Press at Eye Film Institute.

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 Paula Albuquerque in conversation with Flavia Dzodan and Tania Camara
 Project book with texts by Alice Smits, Flavia Dzodan Matthew Groh, Nim Goede and Richtje Reinsma

Producer: Christine van den Bergh
 Book design: Bas Coenegracht

Thanks to: Dan Bodner, Darren Carter, Fernanda Romann, Joost Koster, Lisa Parks, Mariana Lanari, Tanja Baudoin, Tânia Câmara and William Powers.

An introduction to the work of Paula Albuquerque (English) can be found on the link of Nieuw Dakota and Bradwolff Projects.

Practical Information: opening 24 October 15.00 - 18.00 hrs, rsvp: info@nieuwdakota.com
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