SPECTRALS OF THE SPECTACLES

collectively rinsing our imaginaries by re-collecting spectacles



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PART OF: SPECTRALS OF THE SPECTALLES

Regularly we are subsumed under the projections that are attached to and bundled with the new "megaspectacles" (D. Kellner) of mediatized transmodern capitalism. These new specatacles arose from the fusion of spectacles as they existed all along and the new hyper-medial environments we are now increasingly immersed in. They constitute a paradox milieu for resampling prevalent images of globalism and they illustrate the circulation-economies and -aesthetics of 'Societies of the Spectacle' as well as 'Societies of Control' (or 'Fear') ... or however you want to characterize current global society.

As the Post-Media Age also follows up on the cinematic modes of projection (and production) it is generalizing visual and medial projection as a form of subsumption (i.e. non-coercive power), naturally relying more and more on 'moving images' - ... in all possible senses of the term. For sure new spectacles are socially disseminated in medial channels and fragments of all sorts, with video - in a wider sense - taking a central role as carrier. Often our perceptions and affects (or those of our peer-groups) are skewed and re-directed by these gravitating, serial singularities, rendering hyperbolic meta-images - and dooming a myriad of alternative co-existing realities and worlds to invisibility. These spectacles primarily work by colonizing, monopolizing and tinkering our streams of attention. They segment our social senses in a stop-and-go manner, producing a peculiar form of psychic-cognitive binding and congestion, and - not the least - fractalizing communal senses and alternative social textures.

S.o.S. wants to provide an outlet, traveling alongside the culture of critical event-horizons, setting up a cultural triage mechanisms as soothing overlay to our own conventions. Here we dispose, digest, difract the projections of recent spectacles, for collective and individual cleansing. We playfully inventarize the grammars, aesthetics and hauntologies of radiant spectacles that are just in our back. We also collect, cherish and cultivize with subliminal ease all those tokens of spectral visions, in-/visibilities and social projections that precipitate around these monster events, knowing the alternatives always shimmer nearby, right at the periphery of the centers of vision.

To do this we collect medial fragments (videos, links, snapshots, media sets...) that pertain to recent spectacles, and populate the S.o.S. Box. This will become a traveling black box on the outskirts of the Spectrals of the Spectacle project trajectory - frivolously accompanying alternate events of all kinds and pirating them with the spirits of profanizing and secularizing the new imagescapes. This piratebox-turned-into-an-SoS-Box will be housing boulders of the spectacle alongside fragments commenting and reflecting on them, ... but also keeping track of visions that are - or seem to be - peripheral to these events, projecting alternative visions in the monolithic face of the new society of the spectacle.