

Brunel Tunnel Entrance, Brunel Museum, Railway Avenue, Rotherhithe, London, SE16 4LF
Tuesday 25th February **RCA Sculpture Programme in the Thames Tunnel**

LINA CHOI
YIXIN ZHANG
HUIYI LI
MINYAO FANG
SEAN TSENG
CHRISTINE LEE
AMBA SAYAL-BENNETT
SAMUEL GOUGH-YATES



ZILU CAI
TERE CHAD
SARAH DUYSHART
NANZHEN YANG
CATHARINA BOND
KER WALWORK
INGE VAN GENUCHTEN

Ours is a world that swarms with technological mediation, interlacing our daily lives with new abstractions and complexities. From the loudspeakers to AI, we use technologies (and other bodies) to augment our motor, sensorial states and capabilities – creating a feedback loop of environmental affect. Yet some of the oldest technologies are the most enduring; technological development is uneven and combined – combustion, the wooden spoon, the carrier bag are as central to many lives as the smartphone. **A World in Vertigo** invites responses to the world's first underwater tunnel. In a prescient act of biomimesis – Brunel was inspired to construct the tunnel by the marine mollusc *Teredo Novalis* – commonly known as shipworm. It eats its way through the timbers of ships excreting the excavated wood out of its body to line and reinforce the tunnel behind them as it burrows forwards. Marc Brunel devised the tunnelling shield, a rectangular frame with 36 cells, each cell containing a man with pick and shovel. The clay they cleared before them was made into brick to line the tunnel behind them as the shield was moved forward under the Thames.

readings:

technopoetics, emerging speculative technologies, from biohacking and DIY gene splicing to the alignments that have been made between robotics and slavery, surveillance and hypervisibility and the instrumentalisation of human and animal affective states, bodies and sensoria.

A Praxeological Approach to Subjectivation in a Material World

Jean-Pierre Warnier,

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/135918350100600101>

I Contain Multitudes

Ed Yong

<https://edyong.me/i-contain-multitudes>

XENOFEMINISM A Politics for Alienation Laboria Cuboniks

<http://www.laboriacuboniks.net/>

The Sound of Culture: Diaspora and Black Technopoetics

Louis Chude-Sokei

<http://wayneandwax.com/academic/Marshall-Listening-Sound-Culture.pdf>

The Shock of The Old

David Edgerton

https://rekveld.home.xs4all.nl/tech/Edgerton_ShockOfTheOld.pdf

The Nanoengineering of Desire Luciana Parisi

http://digitalfeminism.net/pdfs/books/PARISI_Nanoengineering_Desire_Ch13_noreen-giffney-queering-the-nonhuman-1-2.pdf

<https://www.media.mit.edu/projects/gender-shades/overview/>

Gender Shades is a preliminary excavation of the inadvertent negligence that will cripple the age of automation and further exacerbate inequality if left to fester. The deeper we dig, the more remnants of bias we will find in our technology. We cannot afford to look away this time, because the stakes are simply too high. We risk losing the gains made with the civil rights movement and women's movement under the false assumption of machine neutrality. Automated systems are not inherently neutral. They reflect the priorities, preferences, and prejudices—the coded gaze—of those who have the power to mold artificial intelligence.

Information Fantasies: Precarious Mediation in Postsocialist China

Xiao Liu

<https://www.e-flux.com/journal/96/246020/information-fantasies/>