# IMAGING



### Past, Present, and Future of the Image

## 2023.11.18 Administration Building 7th Floor Sat. National Chengchi University













PHOTO: Surreal Room Of Sea by Brad Higham/Flicks/CC BY 2.0

#### AI, Theater, and Interface Theory

Keynote Lecture by Alexa Alice Joubin

November 18, 2023

YouTube <a href="https://youtu.be/Bi9a9TBtrow">https://youtu.be/Bi9a9TBtrow</a>



What happens when AI goes to theatre with human audiences? Generative AI's natural-language conversational interface has frequently been cast as an anthropomorphic interface. In performance, digital screen as interface has evolved from a vehicle for dramatic messages to a meaning-making agent with an anthropomorphic presence. While the tendency to anthropomorphize this technology is problematic, ChatGPT can be seen as a ghost of the publics, a synthetic version of the publics, or a shadow public.

In her keynote lecture, "Screen as Anthropomorphic Interface: Remediated Performance and Generative Artificial Intelligence," Alexa Alice Joubin argued that screens are a site where cultural and performative meanings are generated and negotiated. She uses interface theories and performance studies methods to analyze the outputs of Al.

This keynote was part of the "Imaging Across Time": Wenshan International Conference that took place in Taipei, Taiwan, on November 18, 2023. The keynote session was chaired by Professor Siaw-Fong Chung (National Chengchi University). The event was funded and co-organized by Taiwan's National Science and Technology Council, Taiwan Shakespeare Association, National Chengchi University (NCCU), and EARN (Enlightenment and Romanticism Network) at NCCU.

#### AI, Theater, and Interface Theory

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- 00:18 Introduction of Alexa Alice Joubin
- 03:30 Screen as anthropomorphic interface
- 04:33 Generative AI is a ghost of the publics
- 16:58 What is unique about screen as interface?
- 18:16 Lesson from King Lear
- 19:13 What ChatGPT really is
- 19:18 Case Study: All the World's a Screen
- 24:02 Al in Sign-Language Theatre
- 30:58 Case Study: Douglas Boyce's music composition
- 31:09 Case Study: Mark Amerika's use of generative AI in poetry
- 32:58 Case Study: David Jhave Johnston, avant-garde writer
- 33:08 Case Study: Annie Dorsen, algorithmic theatre
- 38:35 Resisting AI: computational opacity and technical authority
- 40:17 Conclusion: AI creates multiple publics, acts as co-spectators through spectatorial proxy

#### 2023 文山國際學術研討會

Saturday, 18 Nove	nber
Chemeria C	Imaging Across Time The 2023 Wenshan International Conference
	主辦單位:國立政治大學英國語文學系 會議地點:國立政治大學行政大樓 7 樓第一、二、三會議室 會議時間:2023 年 11 月 18 日(星期六)
08:20- 09:00	Registration
09:00- 09:10	Opening Remarks 致詞人: 李蔡彦 Tsai-Yen Li (國立政治大學校長 President, National Chengchi University)
09:10- 10:10	KEYNOTE SPEECH I Conference Room 1 主持人: Siaw-Fong Chung 鍾曉芳 (國立政治大學英國語文學系 教授兼系主任)
	主持人·Slaw-rong Chung 鍾晓方 (國立政治入学英國語文学系 教授兼系主任) 演講人: Alexa Alice Joubin (Professor, George Washington University) 演講題目: "Screen as Anthropomorphic Interface: Remediated Performance and Generative Artificial Intelligence"
10:10- 10:25	TEA BREAK

**NOVEMBER 18TH, 2023** 

## THE 2023 WENSHAN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE Imaging Across Time

