GHost Hosting 16: Ghost-making Machines

Friday 16 December / 6.30pm - 8.30pm / Williamson Tunnels Heritage Centre

Doors open at 6pm, refreshments will be available

This is the second of three GHost Hostings, convened by Sarah Sparkes, for FACT and Williamson Tunnels Heritage Centre. The GHost Hostings provide a supporting platform on which invited guests can manifest and interrogate the idea of the ghost, and are an integral part of the creative research project GHost. GHost Hostings 16 looks at how ghosts are found or made through technology.

Creating the Dead - the Psychology of Electronic Voice Phenomena
Ann Winsper

For nearly 100 years there have been reports of anomalous voices and sounds appearing on audio recording devices, which have been interpreted as the voices of the dead attempting to contact the living. More recently, ghost hunters have been using radios that sweep through radio bands in an attempt to communicate with the dead in real time. Ann Winsper will discuss the development of these techniques, commonly called Electronic Voice Phenomena, and the combination of technology, psychology and mental bias that conjoin to create these apparent paranormal phenomena.

Ann Winsper is a Parapsychologist, and is currently a PhD student at the University of Central Lancashire, researching the Psychology of Electronic Voice Phenomena. As well as being a member of the Parapsychological Association and the Society for Psychical Research, she has been actively investigating reported hauntings for nearly 30 years.

Haunted Machines
Natalie Kane

Continuing her work around *Haunted Machines*, a curatorial and research project alongside Tobias Revell, Natalie will be exploring how the myths created around new technologies allow for the capacity for ghosts to appear. We'll interrogate how in understanding how these ghosts are made, and how we begin to see where power is being taken, or hidden from us in contemporary technological systems. Finally, Kane will look to the future, and the possible future ghosts we may need to anticipate as new concerns arise, from artificial intelligence to the 'retired' smart house.

Natalie is Curator and Editor at FutureEverything, an innovation lab for art and digital culture based in Manchester. She holds a research position at critical futures lab Changeist, and is a co-curator of Haunted Machines. She has spoken on culture, futures and technology at the New York Times, Lift festival, South London Gallery and London Design Festival.

Possession Ritual Complex
Chris Boyd

Artist Chris Boyd presents Possession Ritual Complex, a para-theatrical animation, blending digital distortion, glitch and noise in a hypnotic hauntology. Spectral faces read ritual prose from sacrificial blood unctions on motherlands, disembodied floating voices and doppelgangers in an archaic form of Visayan Cebuano dialect (Philippines) and manipulated lines from Euripides's Medea in Spanish and English.

Chris Boyd is an animator and an artist whose multi-media work is preoccupied with the interrelationships with technology and modes of Being.

Tickets can be booked through the FACT website at a cost of £3 full price, and £3 concessions.