

Provoking the Transition:

Non-Institutional Actants in Socio-Political Transitions in the Framework of Social Dynamism

This thesis studies the role of non-institutional actants (specifically artists, activists, and designers) in driving socio-political transitions from the perspective of social dynamism, mainly theorized by the assemblage theory of Deleuze and Guattari, the work of DeLanda, Latour, and others. As argued in the thesis, these actants are involved in discursive practices which allows them to effectively mobilize resources for the societal transformation. While State institutions capture and codify the identity of the societal assemblages, non-institutional actants facilitate the formation of transformative assemblages through creative rupture, open experimentation, difference-production, and an ongoing resubjectification.