periscope

Poetics of Bits - Amy Schissel
Eröffnung am Donnerstag, 28. Dezember 2023, 19 Uhr
Ausstellungsdauer: 29. Dezember 2023 bis 02. Februar 2024
Mi bis Fr, 15 bis 19 Uhr (ausgenommen Feiertage)

Bezogen auf das Zeitalter der digitalen Transformation befasst sich Amy Schissels Arbeit mit den grundlegend neuen Erfahrungen von Orten, die durch die vielfälti- gen virtuellen Welten der digitalen Netzwerke entstehen. Poetics of Bits arbeitet mit einem großen, an der Wand hängenden X-Y-Achsen Zeichenroboter: einer Polargraph-Maschine, die mit einer Open-Source-Software kompatibel ist, die die ur- sprünglich analogen Handzeichnungen übersetzt.

Concerning the age of digital transformation, Amy Schissel's work addresses the radically new experiences of place driven by the multifaceted virtual worlds of digital network spaces. Poetics of Bits incorporates the use of a large wall hanging X-Y axis pen plotting robot: a polargraph machine compatible with open-source software that ‚translates' the initial analog hand drawings.

Given augmented reality, one can now be 'everywhere at once' via smart devices and wearables. There is no argument that every physical space is now also informational space, traversed by onslaughts of data streams. Poetics of Bits explores the intricate dance between Artificial Intelligence and the art of cartography, converging these two realms to unveil the hidden narratives within maps and geospatial data. Here, the conflation of traditional and AI influenced mapping systems seeks out new social cartographies and presents futuristic narratives of analog and digital worlds colliding where boundaries between countries, states and even continents disappear.

With the aid of AI programs utilizing generative algorithms, this installation interprets the world's landscapes and geo-political narratives. Digital tools and data driven scientific visualizations mapping data flows serve as my companions, guiding me through the intricate web of coordinates, elevations, and geographical details from which I create harmonious fusions of technology and drawing. Mostly hand-drawn, overlays of cartographic renderings in graphite and charcoal are later teamed with machine assisted drawing. Here, intense networks and notational systems compose a symphony of data-driven expression, and 'new world' terrains' where simultaneous journeys through the physical and cyber are delineated.

In my exploration, AI programs inspire me to capture the ephemeral essence of time and place. Real time data streams inform the work, allowing me to reflect on the ever-changing nature of our world adapting to the ebb and flow of information, unveiling narratives that would otherwise remain concealed.

Poetics of Bits incorporates the use of a large wall hanging X-Y axis pen plotting robot: a polargraph machine compatible with open-source software that 'translates' the initial analog hand drawings. Initial drawings that sprawl over the entire working surface are digitized into generative images to be fed to the plotter. As it plots, I intervene by shifting the paper and masking areas as it moves across the surface. I work along with the machine, continuing to draw with pen, sharpie, and graphite.

Born from this symbiosis of human creativity and machine intelligence, the work reflects the tension between precision and abstraction. The algorithms introduce an element of unpredictability, blurring the boundaries between chaos and order, much like nature's own patterns. Walking through this exhibition, visual journeys transcending conventional cartography invite the audience to explore both the tangible and the abstract, the real and the imagined. Through the lens of AI, we unravel the layers of meaning embedded in geographical data, uncovering the artistry hidden within the coordinates. Bridging the realms of technology and human expression, 'Alternate Futures' invites one to contemplate the beauty and complexity of our world from a new futuristic perspective. (Amy Schissel)