

STOP THE PRESS: Teknokomrades hijacked....

Shu Lea Cheang for Digital Bauhaus Summit, 2016

Los teknopirates – Ilectronics in Lagos, Nigeria

In spring 2015, I joined a London based research team Bodies of Planned Obsolescence to visit the electronic waste dump in Lagos, Nigeria. Sheltered behind the Alaba electronic market is a self-appointed, open-air e-waste processing factory nicknamed ILETRONICS where boys, young men, elders, dealers, buyers, sellers engage with each other – unscrewing, hammering, sorting, pounding, weighing the electronic parts that are deemed 'junks'. These are current-day teknopirates, resurrecting the dead to Naira's worth.

A landscape fictionalized – cows fed on the e-waste roam the hills, intestines of butchered cows feed the hard working laborers. The obsolete outlives its life span, returns to haunt us. The smart contracts left unsigned. Oops, we crash the Net.

Ilectronics - <https://vimeo.com/122328767>

Note: 1 NGN=0.0045 Euro

Out of all the parts, copper is the most expensive, valuing at 1000 ngn per kilo= 4.5 euro per kilo

The electronic trashscape is our shared future commons.

The electric sheep are set free range.
what do you do with expired humanoids?

In 2000, I released a scifi feature, I.K.U. which earned a sci-fi cyberpunk cult film status, pirated in China and on the net. In 2009, I started developing a sequel to I.K.U. called UKI. I.K.U. tells the story of IKU (orgasm in Japanese) coders, dispatched by the internet porn enterprise GENOM Corp., are made into sex machines to collect human orgasm data. These humanoids' accumulated hard drive data are ultimately downloaded by IKU runners (a la Blade Runner) and made into color-coded orgasm chips for mobile phone plug in and consumption.

I.K.U by Ruby Rich, republished in Rhizome in 2015.

<http://rhizome.org/editorial/2015/may/26/iku-experience-shu-lea-cheang-phenomenon/>

UKI takes us to post-netcrash. The data deprived IKU coders are dumped as pieces of e-trash amidst the discarded electronic parts and bits while GENOM Corp. takes human body hostage to initiate BioNet, a network made up of micro-computing red blood cells (erythrocytes). Inhabiting on the electronic

trash-scape with the last remaining coders, hackers, and netters who work to patch the net, IKU coders unpack their body parts, learn to rewrite the codes to reboot themselves. Trading sex for codes, codes sex codes, the defunct IKU coders infected with body/software virus emerge amidst noise blast to declare themselves UKI the virus. Meanwhile, GENOM Corp.'s BioNet aims to re-program human orgasm into "self-sustained pleasure", a profitable bio-scheme conspired without any precaution for damaging the biosphere. UKI the virus, propagated, transmit, infect and mobilize the citizens to enter the occupied human body - to infiltrate BioNet, to sabotage the ORGANISMO production and finally to reclaim their own lost orgasm data.

UKI is realized in two parts -

UKI viral performance – Live Code Live Spam

Open call clip- CLICK festival

<https://vimeo.com/153970265>

UKI-enter the bionet

Piksel documentation

<https://vimeo.com/112516427>

WE ARE INFECTED. WE ARE THE VIRUS. WE ENTER THE BIONET.

If we review the current advanced R&D in biotech, the embedded biochips, the altered DNA, the recombinant gene, we can envision the arrival of BIONET, our bodies, taken over by the Corporation, the occupied territories. The transhuman the marionette, the virus the hackers.

We engage ourselves in seeking teknokomrades.

How do we mobilize ourselves if we should adopt a [science] fiction scenario?

How do we capture the 'empathy' for each other? Or do we remain as apathetic lost souls? Can empathy/apathy be transmitted? Or mutually intoxicate?

HOODIE2030 is a project I am currently developing with my London based collective TAKE2030. HOODIE2030 proposes a 'shut down' from smart networking by retreating oneself into an intelligent hooded garment. Taking the body energy within, moving onto quantum network, the hoodie for year 2030 is our last shelter towards building self-sustainable network.

<http://take2030.net/hoodie2030/HOODIE2030byTAKE2030-proposal.pdf>

To designate body a network node, self-powered, seeking comrades for the next move.

[Natasha+helmet+codes] <https://vimeo.com/166326943>

Welcome to the liquid future –

After years of cross-breeding and genetic modification, the GMO seeds have failed to produce. The vast farmlands are left barren. The packaged synthetic food bags issued by the government, our tube-fed nourishment. Skin is the interface. Liquid drops of codes are injected. Virus mutated, DNA altered, we enter FLUIDØ.

I am currently working on a feature length film, FLUIDØ.

Set in the post-AIDS future of 2060, where the Government is the first to declare the era AIDS FREE, mutated AIDS virus gives birth to ZERO GEN - humans that have genetically evolved in a very unique way. These gender fluid ZERO GENs are the bio-drug carriers whose fluid ejaculation, a new form of sexual commodity, is the hyper narcotic for the late 21st century, taking over the markets of the 20th century's white powder high. The new drug, code named DELTA, diffuses through skin contact, creates an addictive high. With the government, the drug Lord, the pharmaceutical, all involved, FLUIDØ is VIRUS, SEX, HACK, DRUG & CONSPIRACY.

The ZERO GEN, ZERO generation are transgender, transsexual THEY generation.

They are the nouveau – trans – human, our ever mutating selves have completed a full cycle. Trans-human returns to 0, Minus 1.

I show a short clip of FLUIDØ – leaving us all in a collective wet dream – a liquid future take-over.

<http://mauvaiscontact.info/projects/ISEA2016/images/fluid-eject.mov>