



NEW WORLD ORDER

Furtherfield Gallery, Finsbury Park, London

20 May - 25 June 2017

Sat-Sun, 11-5pm or by appointment

Private View: Friday 19 May 2017, 6-8pm

A mysterious and controversial technology is among us. The Blockchain underpins digital currencies and makes possible dramatic new conceptions of global governance and economy, that could permanently enrich or demote the role of humans - depending on who you talk to.

This exhibition presented by Furtherfield features artworks that envision future world-making by machines, markets and natural processes, free from interference by states and other human institutions.

Artists Jaya Klara Brekke, Pete Gomes, Rob Myers, Primavera De Filippi of O'Khaos, TerraO, Lina Theodorou and xfx (aka Ami Clarke) imagine a world in which responsibility for many aspects of life (reproduction, decision-making, organisation, nurture, stewardship) have been mechanised and automated. Deferred to the blockchain.

NEW WORLD ORDER artworks include a self-owning forest with ideas of expansion, a self-replicating android flower, a tale of lost innocence, a DIY money making rig, a Hippocratic Oath for software developers and a five minute marriage contract.

EXHIBITED WORKS

TerraO is an artwork and prototype for a self-owning, self-exploiting forest by Paul Seidler, Paul Kolling and Max Hampshire. Initiated by humans, over time the forest sells its raw materials, accumulates capital, buys itself and expands to new territories.



From installation by TerraO, since 2016

Plantoid is an autonomous blockchain based artwork. When the metal sculpture of a flowering plant receives a certain number of Bitcoins it commissions an artist to create a new artwork. Contributors set the rules surrounding the genetic traits (the dna) and the soul (the governance) of the new “child” Plantoid. Exhibition visitors will be able to buy Bitcoins to tip the sculpture and determine how Plantoid will evolve.



Plantoid by O'Khaos, since 2015

Satoshi means clear thinking, quick witted and wise. It is also the name of the anonymous founder(s) of Bitcoin and the blockchain. *The Satoshi Oath* by Jaya Klara Brekke and Elias Haase supports developers to consider how their code might affect people and environment. Using three main properties of blockchain technology - immutability, neutrality and decentralisation - *The Satoshi Oath* presents a set of blocks from which to build an ethics for new blockchain projects: Power, Change, Delegation, Disclosure, Dissensus and Exodus.



Bad Shibe illustrations by Lina Theodorou

Bad Shibe is a sci-fi novella by Rob Myers illustrated by Lina Theodorou dealing with the implications of a new wave of fully financialised planetary-scale automation and the struggle to discern right from wrong when human and machine agency merges. It also invites us to think of humans and societies as much as the effects of technology.

untitled, data collection from domestic ether mining rig, by xfx (aka Ami Clarke) is a video as data capture, showing glimpses of the material parts of an ether mining rig. It conveys the energy used and the sweat equity of a DIY cryptocurrency prospector with finely tuned financial calculations and a (not so free) money mining system.



Handfastr - making commitments wherever you are uses blockchain to reconfigure social pledges. Taking marriage as an example of a social contract, *Handfastr* whittles it down to a temporary agreement on a smartphone. Created by Corina Angheloiu, Max Dovey and James Stewart at the Blockchain Body Storming Lab at Design Informatics, Edinburgh University.

The Blockchain - Change Everything Forever, a Furtherfield film directed by Pete Gomes was created to diversify the people involved in thinking about blockchain technologies by bringing together leading thinkers, computer scientists, entrepreneurs, artists and activists to answer some of the key questions: What can a blockchain do? Who builds this new reality? How will we rule ourselves? How will the future be different because of the Blockchain?

EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, WORKSHOPS & WEDDINGS

Manpowertop - free workshop by Network Diagnostics
Saturday 10 June, 2-5pm, Furtherfield Commons
Join Network Diagnostics (Dave Young and Niall Docherty) to discover how the promotional media of Silicon Valley companies envision the role of technology in society.

GeoCoin - Bodystorming Blockchain in the City
Friday 23 June 10-5pm, Furtherfield Commons, Finsbury Park

A day of design-based research using the GeoCoin platform to explore novel ways of reconsidering and reinventing currency through location-specific value transactions.

Book launch - Artists Re:thinking the Blockchain
RESCHEDULED - Date TBC

'Artists Re:thinking the Blockchain' produced in collaboration with the experimental publishing group Torque and Liverpool University Press

Wedding event day - blockchain special

Saturday 24 June from 11am-5pm

Ever wanted to join your partner in bitcoin matrimony?
Or wanted to join another partnership for a short time only?

Visit www.furtherfield.org/programmes/exhibition/new-world-order for more information and booking details



ART DATA MONEY

NEW WORLD ORDER is part of a international programme of labs, debates and exhibitions with leading artists and writers testing alternative economies for arts in the network age. In October 2017 NEW WORLD ORDER will tour to Aksioma (Ljubljana, Slovenia) as part of State Machines: Art, Work, and Identity in an Age of Planetary-Scale Computation.



FURTHERFIELD GALLERY

Furtherfield Gallery is located in the middle of Finsbury Park attracting large numbers of diverse visitors reflecting the Gallery's unusual location. Jenny Judova of Fad magazine picked Furtherfield Gallery as one of the top five galleries in London that show new media art and ArtSlant featured Furtherfield Gallery in 'The Best Non-Profit Art Spaces in London'.

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ABOUT FURTHERFIELD

Furtherfield provides diverse access points for the creation, authoring and appreciation of art forms that arise from networked and digital culture. Through exhibitions, labs and debates around today's important questions, people explore the expressive and democratic potential of our artistic and technological cultures – locally, nationally & internationally.

www.furtherfield.org

SUPPORTED BY

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