

[ij]

idea journal

interior technicity:
unplugged and/or switched on

vol. 17, no. 01

2020

the journal of IDEA: the interior design +
interior architecture educators' association

idea journal

**interior technicity:
unplugged and/or switched on**

vol. 17, no. 01

2020

**the journal of IDEA: the interior design +
interior architecture educators' association**

about

IDEA (Interior Design/Interior Architecture Educators' Association) was formed in 1996 for the advancement and advocacy of education by encouraging and supporting excellence in interior design/interior architecture education and research within Australasia.

www.idea-edu.com

The objectives of IDEA are:

1. Objects

3.1 The general object of IDEA is the advancement of education by:

- (a) encouraging and supporting excellence in interior design/interior architecture/spatial design education and research globally and with specific focus on Oceania; and
- (b) being an authority on, and advocate for, interior design/interior architecture/spatial design education and research.

3.2 The specific objects of IDEA are:

- (a) to be an advocate for undergraduate and postgraduate programs at a minimum of AQF7 or equivalent education in interior design/interior architecture/spatial design;
- (b) to support the rich diversity of individual programs within the higher education sector;
- (c) to create collaboration between programs in the higher education sector;
- (d) to foster an attitude of lifelong learning;
- (e) to encourage staff and student exchange between programs;
- (f) to provide recognition for excellence in the advancement of interior design/interior architecture/spatial design education; and
- (g) to foster, publish and disseminate peer reviewed interior design/interior architecture/spatial design research.

membership*Institutional Members:*

Membership is open to programs at higher education institutions in Australasia that can demonstrate an on-going commitment to the objectives of IDEA.

Current members:

AUT University, Auckland
Curtin University, Perth
Massey University, Wellington
Monash University, Melbourne
Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
RMIT University, Melbourne
University of New South Wales, Sydney
University of South Australia, Adelaide
University of Tasmania, Launceston and Hobart
University of Technology Sydney, Sydney
Victoria University, Wellington

Affiliate Members:

Affiliate membership is open to programs at higher education institutions in Australasia that do not currently qualify for institutional membership but support the objectives of IDEA. Affiliate members are non-voting members of IDEA.

Associate Members:

Associate membership is open to any person who supports the objectives of IDEA. Associate members are non-voting members of IDEA.

Honorary Associate Members:

In recognition of their significant contribution as an initiator of IDEA, a former chair and/or executive editor: Suzie Attiwill, Rachel Carley, Lynn Chalmers, Lynn Churchill, Jill Franz, Roger Kemp, Tim Laurence, Gini Lee, Marina Lommerse, Gill Matthewson, Dianne Smith, Harry Stephens, George Verghese, Andrew Wallace and Bruce Watson.

publishing

© Copyright 2020 IDEA (Interior Design/Interior Architecture Educators' Association) and AADR (Spurbuchverlag) and authors

All rights reserved.

No part of the work must in any mode (print, photocopy, microfilm, CD or any other process) be reproduced nor – by application of electronic systems – processed, manifolded nor broadcast without approval of the copyright holders.

ISSN 0019-1272

ISBN 978-3-88778-916-9

Published by Art Architecture Design Research (AADR): aadri.info.

AADR publishes research with an emphasis on the relationship between critical theory and creative practice. AADR Curatorial Editor: Dr Rochus Urban Hinkel, Melbourne.

IDEA (Interior Design/Interior Architecture Educators' Association)
ACN 135 337 236; ABN 56 135 337 236

Registered at the National Library of Australia

idea journal is published by AADR and is distributed through common ebook platforms. Selected articles are available online as open source at time of publication, and the whole issue is made open access on the *idea journal* website one year after its date of publication.

**idea journal editorial board**

Dr Julieanna Preston, Executive Editor, Professor of Spatial Practice, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand

Dr Anthony Fryatt, Program Manager, Bachelor of Interior Design (Hons), RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

Dr Susan Hedges, Senior Lecturer, Spatial Design, School of Art and Design, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland, New Zealand

Dr Antony Pelosi, Senior Lecturer, Interior Architecture, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Dr Luke Tipene, Lecturer, School of Architecture, University of Technology Sydney, Sydney, Australia

Professor Lois Weinthal, External Advisory Member, Chair of the School of Interior Design, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada

cover image

Photograph and video by Linda Matthews

online publication editor

Dr Antony Pelosi, Senior Lecturer, Interior Architecture, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

copy editor

Dr Christina Houen, Perfect Words Editing

design + production

Jo Bailey, School of Design, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand

correspondence

Correspondence regarding this publication should be addressed to:

Dr Lynn Churchill
c/o *idea journal*
Interior Architecture
Curtin University
GPO Box U1987
Perth 6845
Western Australia

l.churchill@curtin.edu.au

interior technicity: unplugged and/ or switched on: provocation

Interior Technicity: Unplugged and/ or Switched On reflects on how interiors have always been augmenting entities and how they continue to be so—in other words, extending, facilitating and consolidating bodies within socio-cultural environments. Rather than seeing an interior as an ‘inside’ in opposition to a world beyond, it asks what modes of ‘folding inward’ have equipped and enabled the spatial environment? Technicity—the world of tools and technical objects that extend and mediate memory, as Bernard Steigler (1998) describes it—has never been what inside-ness, in its sheltering of life, keeps at bay; mediation is from the start technical, indexed to inscribing practices rich in temporal and embodied implications. By this reading, interiors have always been augmented and augmenting (in the sense of the Latin ‘augmentare’: to increase, enlarge, or enrich).

This *idea journal* issue considers this mode of ‘folding inward’ as a condition of an interior’s specificity. Whether it be a small structure such as a tramping hut or a tiny house, a large complex interior environment such as an airport or shopping mall, handmade with local materials such as Samoan fale, or the result of manufacturing processes assembling artificial and pre-fabricated elements as in the case of a space craft, boat or train, interiors are augmented, mediated, generated or embellished by technologies. The effect of these technologies is not neutral; one’s experience of an interior is significantly influenced by the affective resonance of its technologies.

This issue builds on existing scholarship on the topic of interiors and technology, with special mention of the 2012 issue ‘Special Effects: Technology and the Interior Experience,’ *Interiors: Design, Culture, Architecture* edited by Anne Massey and John Turpin. In doing so, contributions expand knowledge on the topic by addressing these questions:

- + How do interior technologies bear out their allegiances to various forms of political and economic assemblages while making (seemingly) life better, more efficient, more productive, and more comfortable?
- + How do interior technologies serve to meet the minimum standards of human welfare relative to air, light, water and well-being as outlined by United Nations Sustainable Development Goals?
- + What new blended realities and spatial possibilities are being instigated by innovative uses of photogrammetry, virtual reality, augmented reality, laser-scanning, machine learning, and remote sensing?
- + What cultural references, positions and implications do interior technologies offer?
- + What influence do interior technologies have on privacy, safety and well-being?
- + What is the aesthetic signature of an interior technology?
- + What is the materiality of an interior technology? What happens at its boundary or edge condition?
- + How do interior technologies, especially overlooked, antiquated, unorthodox or ingenious spatial contraptions confirm, challenge or speculate on what we understand or assume an interior to be?
- + In a broader context, what is the significant impact of rapidly advancing and widely accessible information and social technologies that are driving the revolutionary upheaval through all that can be conceived as ‘interior’?
- + How do new mediations between environments, bodies, technology and media, including biofeedback, performative actions and affective gesture, sensory and atmospheric production, challenge or expand our understandings of interiors?
- + How are interiors implicated in a shifting relationship [convergence?] between bodies and technology.

reviewers for this issue

Suzie Attiwill
Mary Anne Beecher
Rachel Carley
Felipe Cervera
Maria Costatino
Chris Cottrell
Carl Douglas
Jill Franz
Chon Harah
Susan Hedges
Rochus Hinkel
Jondi Keane
Laurence Kimmel
Ted Krueger
Gini Lee
Linda Matthews
Belinda Mitchell
Jacquie Naismith
Theron Schmidt
Dianne Smith
Mark Taylor
George Themistokleous
Luke Tipene
Jiang Mei Wu

in this issue

- 08** introduction: interior technicity
Julieanna Preston
- 13** the dividual interior: surveillance and desire
Katie Braatvedt
- 29** learning from mars; or, facing our shit
Lydia Kallipoliti
Jestin George
- 51** inside *the architecture of closed worlds, or, what is the power of shit?*
Luke Tipene
- 68** locative atmospheres: practices in networked space
Kate Geck
- 82** re:bodying the virtual: a bilateral excavation in virtual interior(s)
Remco Roes
Alis Garlick
- 94** binding matters: reflecting on the affectivity of a light projection
Isla Griffin
- 107** catoptric theatres: on devices of atmospheric staging
Izabela Wieczorek
- 131** unspecified project: scenes of digital media practice in spatial design
Carl Douglas
Susan Hedges
Rafik Patel
Nooroa Tapuni
- 149** virtually unseen: new digital understandings of reclaimed space
Linda Matthews
- 170** swipe inwards: the technicities of care in a psychiatric precinct
Laurene Vaughan
Melisa Duque
Sarah Pink
Shanti Sumartojo

- 187** 'silvering (slowly)': augmentation, age, and mattering
Carl Douglas
Sue Gallagher
Rafik Patel
Nooroa Tapuni
Emily O'Hara
- 205** the paleotechnology of telephones and screens: on the
ecstatic permeability of the interior
Kris Pint
- 221** the one and the multiple
Müge Belek Fialho Teixeira
Frederico Fialho Teixeira
- 237** *memory in suspension*: chinatown lost and found
Linda Zhang

introduction: interior technicity

Julianna Preston

Executive Editor

idea journal

Welcome.

It is my great pleasure to introduce the newest issue of *idea journal*.

Readers will notice some significant changes to the journal since the 2017 issue *Dark Matter*. In 2019, the IDEA Board appointed me to lead a new editorial team and commissioned us to envision three issues to be published over the course of three years. Over the past twelve months, the editorial team has been engrossed in several interconnected journal specific initiatives prompted by IDEA's desire to increase the journal's ranking and profile internationally, expand its readership, update its visual identity and respond to contemporary issues specific and associated with interiors and interiority.

First, we were charged to put the journal on a path to achieve a Q1 or Q2 status, no small task indeed. Our collective investigations revealed that the criteria required an international publisher of merit, open access, a rigorous review process and at least one issue per year and a minimum of twelve articles per issue amongst other less demanding aspects. With the endorsement of the IDEA Board, we secured Art Architecture Design Research (AADR) as the journal's publisher, Curatorial Editor Rochus Hinkel at the helm. This collaboration prompted the journal to be distributed for the foreseeable future in two different ways: first as an e-pub available to individuals and libraries as a full issue on e-pub platforms such as kindle and iBook, with select articles posted on

cite as:

Preston, Julianna. 'Introduction: Interior Technicity,'

idea journal 17, no.01 (2020): 08–12,

<https://doi.org/10.37113/ij.v17i01.403>.

the IDEA website, and a year later, the whole issue available on the IDEA website via open access. In addition, the online metadata and cross-referencing markers were refreshed, including using search engines such as Google Scholar to increase and document the citations each article attracts, an important factor in today's pressures to publish and demonstrate 'impact' and 'uptake' as research academics. In less than a few months, citation numbers are up significantly. While the journal website portal continues to offer us new challenges, it is proving to be a very useful tool to structure the call, review, revision and production of *idea journal*.

Our second effort focussed on drawing the journal to the attention of a larger world-wide audience of researchers, students and industry professionals centred on spatial design, interior design, and interior architecture. We extended the journal's reach beyond the edges of what would be considered a core readership to engage other knowing bodies grappling with similar concerns of space, perception, sustainability, experience, materials, philosophies and technology in culturally specific and diverse communities, geographies, and political circumstances. This initiative arises from IDEA's commitment to a shared set of values, practices and theories and the rich interfaces these have with other associated disciplines, methods and fields of research.

The changes mentioned above necessitated that the pool of reviewers expand to reflect new aspirations and areas of expertise, a pool that is now in place, doubled in size and actively growing. It also prompted us to refresh IDEA's commitment to support new and emerging researchers especially with regard to developing critical, reflective and experimental skills to communicate and present innovative design. The forthcoming issues include articles and visual essays from a number of new researchers that have been mentored extensively to bring the text and images to a high standard. In addition, on-going world events remind us again and again of the importance of turning to indigenous writers and makers, a matter that asks us to question our review criteria and processes, become more aware of systemic colonising practices and more open to other world views. These aims are a work-in-progress.

The IDEA Board also gave us the green light to redesign the journal, which included creating a journal-specific logo, revamping the journal portion of the website, and imagining new possibilities for reading the journal in a totally digital format capable of featuring live streaming, animation, videos and other forms of interactive content. You may also note that while the journal's name has not changed entirely, it has morphed to reflect its changing focus, expanded audience and ethos. What you see before you is the product of that effort, an effort we could not have achieved without the creativity and expertise of Jo Bailey, our graphic designer, and Christina Houen, our copy editor.

There are three issues in the pipeline: *Interior Technicity: Unplugged and/or Switched On* (September 2020), *Co-constructing Body: Environments* (December 2020) and *(Extra) Ordinary Interiors: Practising Critical Reflection* (September 2021). For those enamoured by statistics, this issue, *Interior Technicity*, includes this introduction and fourteen articles, four of which are visual essays (Braatvedt, Griffin, Matthews, and Roes and Garlick), and one of which is a hybrid article spanning between research article and book review (Tipene). This issue includes research by a total of twenty-seven authors living and working in UK (1), USA (1), Canada (1), Belgium (2), Australia (11) or New Zealand (11). All articles have been through a double-blind peer-review process; some articles have been reviewed twice after substantial revisions.

We hope you applaud these changes and enjoy the new look and publishing opportunities.

'Interior Technicity' called for reflection on how interiors have always been augmenting entities and how they continue to be so—in other words, extending, facilitating and consolidating bodies within socio-cultural environments. Rather than seeing an interior as an 'inside' in opposition to a world beyond, it asked what modes of 'folding inward' have equipped and enabled the spatial environment? Technicity—the world of tools and technical objects that extend and mediate memory, as Bernard Steigler (1998) describes it—has never been what inside-ness, in its sheltering of life, keeps at bay; mediation is from the start

technical, indexed to inscribing practices rich in temporal and embodied implications. By this reading, interiors have always been augmented and augmenting (in the sense of the Latin ‘augmentare’: to increase, enlarge, or enrich).

Figure 01:

What external infrastructure reveals about our insides. Photo: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SIF-Overhead-Wires-1-Cropped.jpg#/media/File:SIF-Overhead-Wires-1-Cropped.jpg> (accessed 20 July 2020).

Like every other journal issue I have edited, the call attracted a variety of topics and responses one could not anticipate. There were twenty-five expressions of interest and a subsequent sixteen complete manuscripts that, after the review process, reduced to fourteen final articles, several of which were collaboratively authored. As the forthcoming articles will attest, articles range from concerns of sustainable responsibility in a world of finite resources, to use of contemporary technology to observe alternative spatial circumstances, advocacy of post-humanism and principles of new materialism relative to interior production and unearthing evidence from cultural archives to revision urban

space and ethnic heritage. New conversations on longstanding concerns of interest to interior researchers linger on the nature of inside and outside bodily boundaries, the multiplicity of creative process and experience, and the interrogation of small yet important interior features in health care environs. Rather than summarise these stellar articles, I encourage you to read further, browse generously, and ruminate deeply.

My love of shaping a journal issue happens very much in the same spirit of catalysing a temporal event. Admittedly, I actually enjoy the editing process and thrive when author's words are refined to be sharp, poetic, insightful and informed by creative work as well as scholarly research. To do this with authors, reviewers, an editorial team, and a publisher is a very rewarding collaborative activity that exceeds the hours of searching for stray punctuation marks, missing references and correct verb tense. Thank you to the IDEA Board for trusting this team to bring the journal through this transformative phase. Huge kudos to Susan Hedges (AUT), Luke Tipene (UTS), Anthony Fryatt (RMIT), Antony Pelosi (VUW) and our external advisor Lois Weinthal (Ryerson) for the hours of reviewing, editing, networking and corresponding. Congratulations to all the authors of this issue, for your patience, openness to critique and willingness to be part of *idea journal's* next fresh life.

Julieanna Preston

Executive Editor

idea journal

August 2020

I am forever grateful for what life in Aotearoa/ New Zealand brings. With roots stretching across the oceans to North America, Sweden, Wales and Croatia, I make my home between Kāpiti Island and the Tararua Ranges, and in Te Whanganui-A-Tara/ Wellington. I acknowledge the privilege that comes with being educated, employed, female and Pākehā, and the prejudices and injustices that colonialism has and continues to weigh on this land and its indigenous people. I am committed to on-going learning and practising of Kaupapa Māori.