

MITCHELL: BIOART MATTERS

“LIVING ART”

1. Bioart, biotech art, life art, genetic art, transgenic art
2. Bioengineered life as the medium

RETHINKING “MEDIA”

1. Invokes 2 different senses of media
2. Produces an embodied sense of the link between these senses of media

BIOART AS “PROBLEMATIC”

MODE 1: PROPHYLACTIC BIOART

Bioartworks that function as cautionary (biotech excess)

MODE 2: VITALIST BIOART

Bioartworks that function as transformative

Key: “employs media to both communicate and transform”

EXPERIENCE AND “AFFECT”

AFFECT & VITALIST BIOART

1. What do you understand by the word “affect”?
2. “oscillation between a sense of agency and a sense of passivity” (13)
3. Bioart has an “affective charge” (93)

“VITAL COMMUNICATION”

RETHINKING “MEDIA”

1. Think both *biological* & *communicational* together
2. Lamarck: “Solicitation” of change

SIMONDON: INNOVATION

1. Communication between unconnected potentials within environments (102)
2. Metastability : more than unity, more than identity
3. Individuation : process of emergent difference

NEW THEORY OF MEDIA

3 PRINCIPLES

1. Always include reference to problematics within metastable systems (material + affective/conceptual)
2. Establish communication between otherwise separate scales or elements
3. Folds introduced by media are obscure until they are refolded (understanding media required media)