

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Hallucinatory Practice: Machine Learning and the Boundaries of Creative Production

Panelists:

- Alex Schechter, Assistant Professor, Department of Art
- Drew Sisk, Assistant Professor, Department of Art

Alongside each era of technological innovation, artists have used new tools to explore form and materiality in ways unimaginable before. In this panel, we will discuss the implications of artificial intelligence on contemporary art and design practice. Often the most groundbreaking work comes from probing the boundaries of processes and materials, embracing the messiness and failures along the way. In this panel, we are focused on the concept of “hallucination,” the process in which AI tools generate images or texts that are misleading or inaccurate. Often considered errors or flaws in coding, this panel will investigate AI hallucination as a (or even the primary) generative source for meaningful artistic intervention. We will investigate the potential for intentional, critical engagement with AI hallucination for making thought-provoking creative work that responds to the current moment and contends with an uncertain future.

This panel will discuss the history of algorithm and computer model-based creative practices and engage with the concept of AI models as collaborators from the 1970s through contemporary practices, including critical texts on blurred authorship, cybernetics, the limits of technology and the panelists own artistic and pedagogical practices.