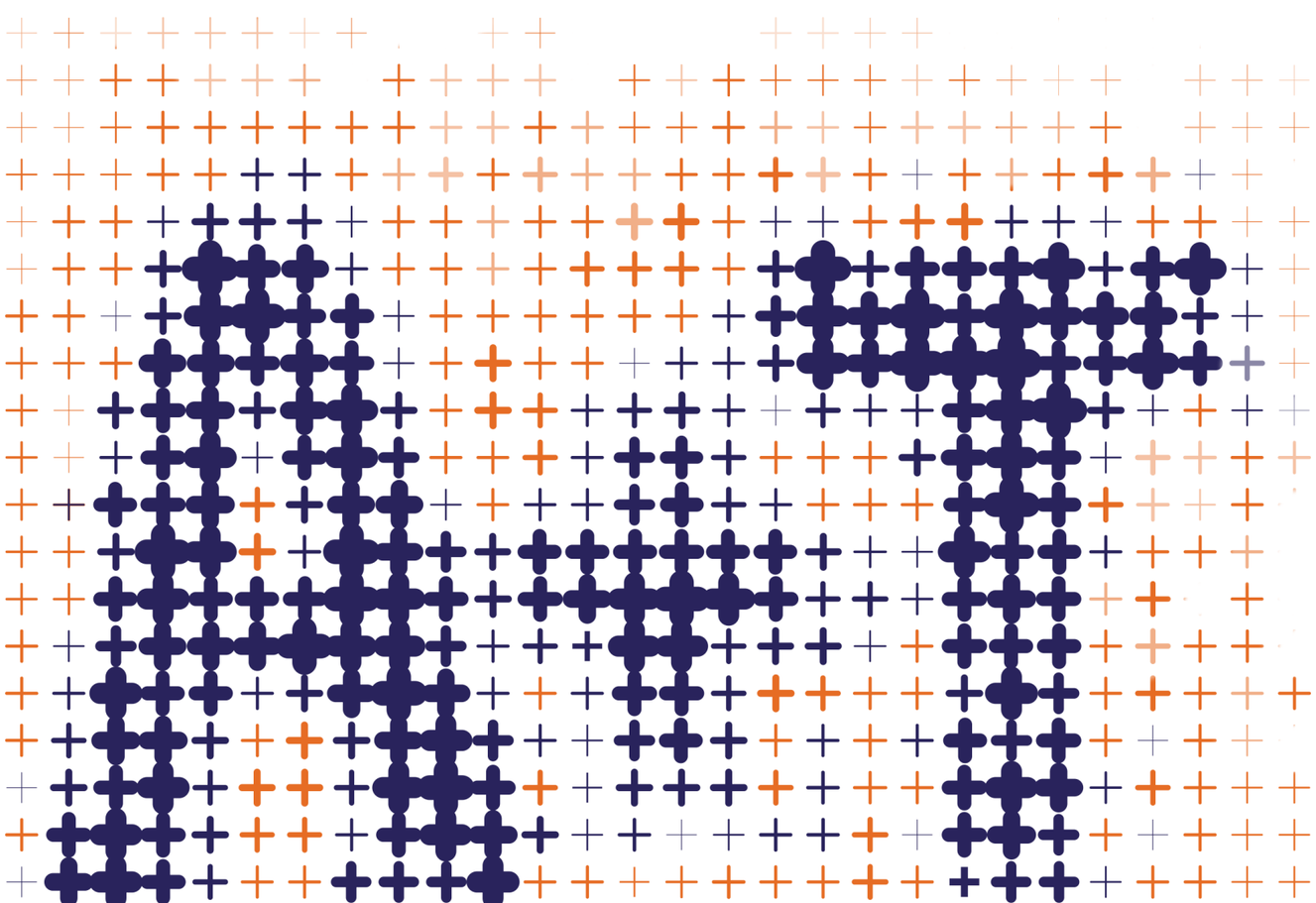
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Mundy &Anson

ANTHROPOLOGY +TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE 3 OCTOBER 2019



DELEGATE PACK

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THANK YOU TO OUR CONFERENCE PARTNERS

The Anthropology + Technology Conference 2019 is proud to be sponsored and supported by these forward-thinking companies, organisations, start-ups, and institutions. They all believe in what we're trying to do. And we couldn't do it without their support. Thank you!

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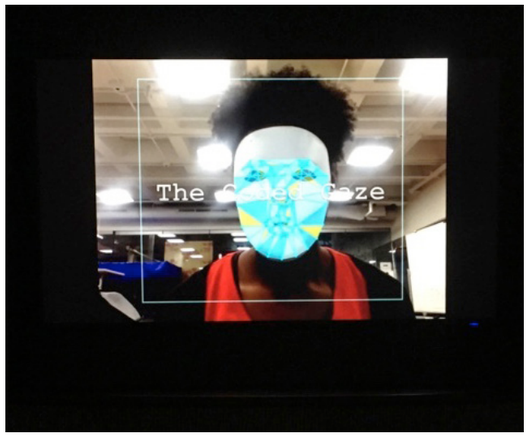
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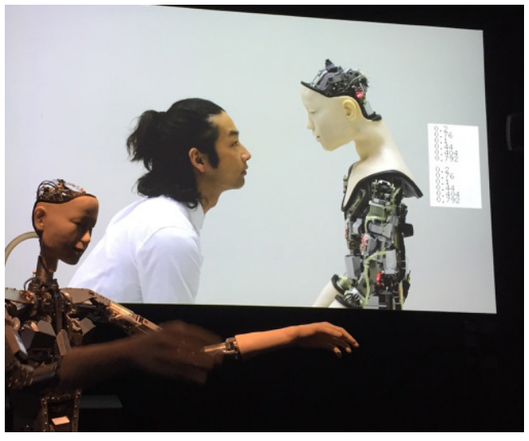
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THE HUMAN SHOW Innovation through Social Science









WELCOME

Welcome to the inaugural Anthropology + Technology Conference 2019.

I'm delighted you're joining us for what is going to be an intellectually-stimulating, thought-provoking—and possibly even perspective-shifting—day to inspire new ways of thinking about AI. Socially-responsible AI.

As the conference founder, the impetus for me was the social impact of algorithmic decision-making.

Over the last few years, both academics and the media have documented some of the negative effects of AI in areas such as policing, finance, credit reporting, and administration of public programmes.

Today, these issues are still prevalent. As AI becomes more widely adopted, people are realising the importance of assessing the impact of emerging technologies on society as a whole.

While AI can provide unparalleled opportunities, it can, without the correct processes, also have a detrimental impact on people's futures.

And although there is much discussion about ethics, what seems to be missing is a call for social scientists.

So the aim of this conference is to invite the tech industry to start thinking about the societal impact of this so-called "fourth industrial revolution" alongside scientists who have deep knowledge of and about society: anthropologists and sociologists.

With 25 conversations on socially-responsible AI including 6 keynote talks by leading academic and industry experts from anthropology, technology, and law, this conference will inspire new ways of thinking about technology design and development. And with the opportunity to have in-depth conversations with our leading experts during our keynote Q&A sessions, we're setting you up for a day packed with dialogue and debates.

Photo credits: Es Devlin's PoemPortraits; Alter robot; Coded Gaze by Dawn Walter, all from the AI: More Than Human exhibition at the Barbican, 2019. There Is No Planet B by Markus Spiske on unsplash.

THE QUESTION, WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN, IS A DISCUSSION FOR US ALL.

As a computer scientist told me at TechFestival 2019 in Copenhagen, "We haven't had to think about this before, it was always someone else's problem".

But now socially-responsible technology design and development is a challenge for us all, and it's important to have these conversations. Together.



Dawn Walter
Social anthropologist and Managing Director, Mundy & Anson
Founder and Organiser of the Anthropology + Technology Conference 2019

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

CONFERENCE VENUE

The conference is taking place at the Watershed, a central Bristol arts and media centre.

The Watershed, 1 Canons Road, Harbourside, Bristol, BS1 5TX. 0117 927 510.
https://www.watershed.co.uk

REGISTRATION

Registration opens at 08:00 and the conference starts at 09:00. On arrival please go to the registration desk on the first floor to collect your conference badge.

REFRESHMENTS & LUNCH

- **Premium** and **Standard** ticket holders—please enjoy the free refreshments available before the conference begins and during each break, and lunch.
- **No Frills** ticket holders—drinks and lunch can be bought from the café/bar. Check out the menu.

WI-FI

Wi-Fi is available throughout the venue. The Wi-Fi network is watershed_open. No password is required.

FACILITATED NETWORKING

If you are taking part in the facilitated networking event, this starts at 08:15 and finishes at 08:45. Please ensure you arrive before it begins.

INFORMAL NETWORKING

There are plenty of opportunities to meet your fellow delegates throughout the day. You can also use the Find Nearby feature in LinkedIn to make connections. To help you easily find someone, ask them to meet you by the tree in the bar/café area.

WHICH PECHAKUCHAS?

Eighteen amazing PechaKucha presenters. Eighteen different and fascinating conversations across three rooms. Check out page 11— or pick up a printed PechaKucha Programme when you register— and decide on your preferred stream before these lightning talks kick off at 11:45.

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS, RATED!

During the panel session in the afternoon, the panellists will be answering your questions—the questions you have posed throughout the day using Sli.do. The 'top' questions as voted by delegates will be debated by the panel.

Pose your questions using Sli.do (we will give a brief demonstration at the start of the conference) —will your question be voted one of the most interesting?

Download the Sli.do app on your smartphone before the conference or on the day. The Sli.do event code is #anthtech19. Look for the Sli.do passcode on your delegate badge.



CLOAKROOM

There will be a self-service (unattended) cloakroom that you're welcome to use. The organisers accept no liability for any loss arising from use of the cloakroom facilities.

TOILETS

As you enter the first floor foyer area the toilets are around to the left, next to Cinema 1. Accessible toilets are in the same location. Additional toilets are to the left of the Cafe/Bar, behind Waterside 1.

TWEETING

Before the conference and throughout the day itself we will be tweeting from @anthtechconf using #anthtech19. Please do join in the conversation.

PHOTOGRAPHY

This event is being filmed and photographed for display, distribution and broadcast, including on the internet. By attending this event you are giving your consent to be filmed and waiving any and all claims regarding the use of your image. If you would prefer not to be included in photographs, please request a blue lanyard from our registration team.

SMOKING AND VAPING

Smoking and vaping is not permitted anywhere within the Watershed, including on the balcony. Please leave the building if you want to smoke or vape.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All attendees, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and volunteers at our conference are required to agree to—and comply with—our Code of Conduct. Organisers will enforce this code throughout the event and at conference-related social events. We expect cooperation from all participants to help ensure a safe environment for everybody.

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

If you have any other questions, please do ask our friendly on-site conference team who will be wearing orange T-shirts, or check out the FAQs.

PROGRAMME

MORNING

9.00	**Welcome** Dawn Walter, Nick Sturge
9.15	**AI for Good?** Julien Cornebise, University College London
9.45	**Bodies, Brains and Intelligence** Simon Roberts, Stripe Partners
10.15	**The Bioanthropology of Intelligent Technology** Joanna J Bryson, University of Bath
10.45	Refreshment break
11.05	C1: **AI for Good? Q&A** Julien Cornebise in conversation with Ken Banks C3: **Bodies, Brains and Intelligence Q&A** Simon Roberts in conversation with Gemma Milne W3: **The Bioanthropology of Intelligent Technology Q&A** Joanna J Bryson in conversation with Jo Tacchi
11.45	**Socially-responsible AI: Powered by PechaKucha** 18 talks across 3 rooms. See page 11.
12.30	Lunch

AFTERNOON

13.30	**The Data Makers: Who are they, and how to understand them?** Gloria González Fuster, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
14.00	**Speculations in Anthropology & Tech For an Uncertain Future** Roelof Pieters, Sunshine Lab
14.30	**Transcending disciplinary boundaries in solving the dilemmas of the present** Anna Kirah, Kirah Co.
15.00	Refreshment break
15.20	C1: **The Data Makers: Who are they, and how to understand them? Q&A** Gloria González Fuster in conversation with Kiran Morjaria C3: **Speculations in Anthropology & Tech For an Uncertain Future** Roelof Pieters in conversation with Corina Enache W3: **Transcending disciplinary boundaries in solving the dilemmas of the present Q&A** Anna Kirah in conversation with a special guest
16.00	**Panel discussion** Chaired by Rakhi Rajani
16.45	**Closing remarks**
17.00	**Conference close**
17.30	Post-conference evening drinks



WHAT IS PECHAKUCHA 20X20?

PechaKucha 20x20 is a simple presentation format where you show 20 images, each for 20 seconds. The images advance automatically and you talk along to the images.

WHO INVENTED THE FORMAT?

The presentation format was devised by Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham of Klein Dytham architecture. The first PechaKucha Night was held in Tokyo in their gallery/lounge/bar/club/creative kitchen, SuperDeluxe, in February, 2003. Klein Dytham architecture still organize and support the global PechaKucha Night network and organize PechaKucha Night Tokyo.

WHY INVENT THIS FORMAT?

Because architects talk too much! Give a microphone and some images to an architect—or most creative people for that matter—and they'll go on forever! Give PowerPoint to anyone else and they have the same problem.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD PECHAKUCHA?

Check out 5 Things Great EPIC PechaKuchas Have in Common by Carrie Yury.

"PechaKucha is a wonderful format for a conference presentation. Weighing in at only 6 minutes and 40 seconds, it is, in my opinion, the most compact, impactful, and fun presentation format...[it is] a very specific form—a visual presentation that is given at a staccato pace of one slide every 20 seconds. Merciless to the unprepared, it can be transformational in the right hands."

Yury suggests five things that make a great PechaKucha:

- Great visuals
- Personal perspective
- Provocation
- Compelling performance
- Magic

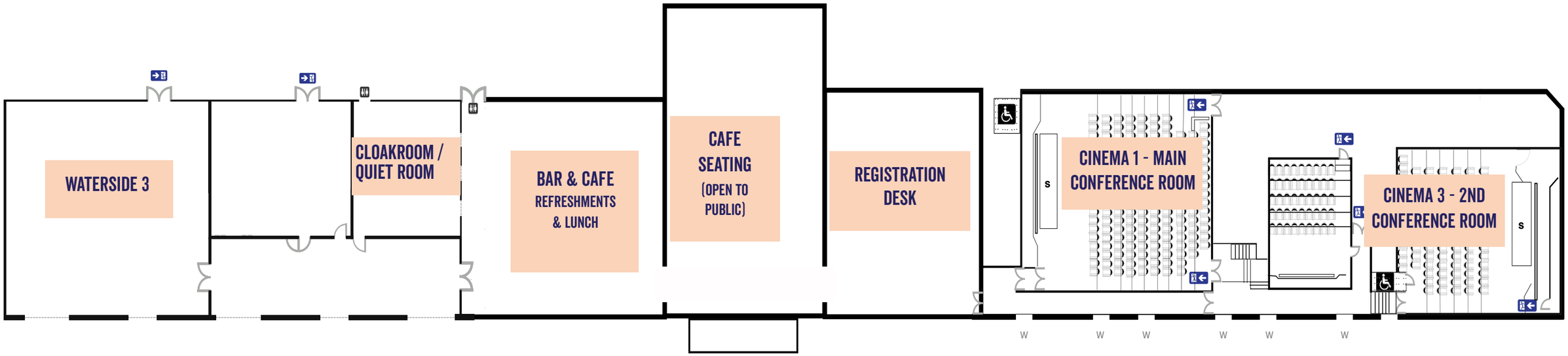
PECHAKUCHA TALKS, 11:45-12:30

PECHAKUCHA TALKS # 1	ROOM: CINEMA 1
What's in the black box?	Akil Benjamin
To regulate AI, demystify AI	Tariq Rashid
Scary black boxes: Why explanation lies at the heart of socially-responsible AI	Tom Bewley
The ideology of infallibility	Joseph Wilk
Failing to work with me: The implications of creating rigid algorithms	Corina Enache & Anna Aris
Opportunities in the industrial strategy	Adam Luqmani

PECHAKUCHA TALKS # 2	ROOM: CINEMA 3
Understanding the ethical implications of data's collection, sharing & use	Miranda Marcus
AI in medicine: Informed consent and unintended consequences	Laura Sobola
Bias, AI, and recruitment	Nemo D'Qrill
What does "The Man" say when AI discriminates? How does "The Man" find out?	Jani Turunen
Responsible innovation in the smart city: Commitments for digital inclusion	Catherine Makin
Operational & ethical challenges in the police use of Automated Facial Recognition	Inspector Scott Lloyd

PECHAKUCHA TALKS # 3	ROOM: WATERSIDE 3
Design fiction: Using design & sociology to shape AI futures	Judith Mühlenhoff
A series of disobedient provocations for reclaiming future AI technologies	Birgitte Aga & Coral Manton
How should we design conversational AI in order to provide emotional support?	Ellie Foreman
Social responsibility and reciprocity in synthetic friendships	Aliya Mirza
Ever-listening assistants: Privacy and convenience in the use of AI smart speakers	Laura Musgrave
Participatory video & design thinking for inclusive AI design	Chris Lunch

MAP OF THE VENUE



TINY GIANT: MOVING IDEAS WITH MINDS AND MACHINES



NOTHING TO FEAR: Tiny Giant are Kerry, Derek and Norts



GLASS ACT: making AI cocktails with Bacardi



FASCINATING AIDA: the world's first AI Science Curator

Hello, we are Tiny Giant.

Have you ever noticed that the world is filled with dreary, dull, lifeless, unoriginal stuff?

Take advertising and marketing. Almost all of it sucks. Which is weird, because if you're spending precious moolah to get noticed and no-one notices you, what's the actual point?

That's where we come in. We fuse creativity and technology to deliver experiences that stand out. That surprise and delight. That serve up a sizeable slab of smiles on a silver salver. You want some of that?

Think of us as joy makers. Brimming with ideas. You can hire us as consultants. Or copywriters. Or coders. Or creative thinkers. Or event speakers. Or lion tamers.That's entirely up to you. We do lots of different stuff, so listing it out is a bit tricky and 19% boring. (And we don't want that, do we?)

Happiness-making experiences. That's our bag. In whatever channel, platform or medium. From witty TV scripts to wild AI cocktails. But remember, the idea is where the brilliance lurks.

What we will say is please be of a bold disposition. Nothing wonderful will ever happen to you if you don't take a risk. In other words, take a risk. Getting in touch with Tiny Giant isn't particularly risky, but after that it's jangles and japes all the way.

One last thing, do have a fantastic **Anthropology + Technology Conference**. It's going to be cooler than Yakutsk and nine times more interesting. We'll be loitering in the building and up to something. Of that you can be sure.

Get in touch by flinging an email to norts@tinygiant.io

Or tweet us @wearetinygiant.io

And do check out the Tiny Giant podcast Tiny Giant Jams

OK. You want a list. Here it is. Sort of.

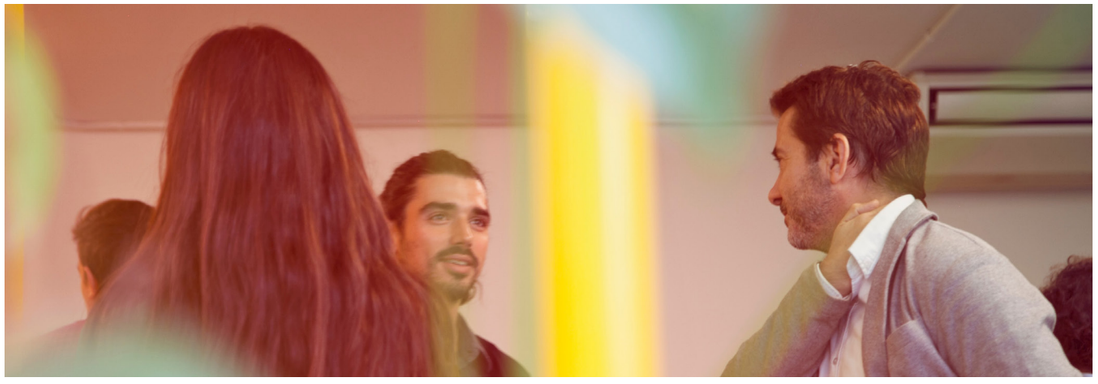
Tiny Giant | Copywriting | Concepts | Creative AI | Voice Assistant Skills | Chatbots | Websites | AR | Podcasts | Consulting



CAN YOU DIG IT?: Bristol's Colston Hall in Minecraft

8 NETWORKING TIPS

TO HELP YOU MAKE A GREAT FIRST IMPRESSION



Having the right professional contacts can help you expand your network and open the door to new opportunities. The trick to success is properly introducing yourself.

Jonathan Rees shares his networking tips to help you make the most of the day.

1. HAVE A CLEAR PURPOSE

Stephen Covey taught us to begin with the end in mind, and it applies to networking as much as it does to the rest of life. So before signing up to a networking event, consider why you are going. What knowledge or skills (or products) will you be talking about? And when you think about your product, remember, "People don't buy what you do, they buy why you do it" (Simon Sinek). Review the list of attendees, if possible, and decide who you particularly want to meet, and why. Being really clear about this helps your subconscious mind to notice opportunities you might otherwise miss.

2. HAVE A PLAN

Purpose enables planning. The key is simplicity. Whatever you chose as your primary outcome, work out two or three questions to get you started. Note them somewhere you can easily refer to. Make notes on who you meet and plan to follow up.

If you find the thought of networking difficult, try imagining yourself 15 minutes after the end of the event having had an incredibly successful time. When you've decided your plan, make sure it aligns with the other tips.

3. THINK BREADTH NOT DEPTH

Most events are relatively short, so there isn't time for an in-depth conversation about anything. This is more of a "chemistry meeting" so keep conversations brief. If you find high levels of interest or synergy, exchange details and make an appointment. Have several conversations, uncover commonality, plan the next steps, and rotate. It will feel odd to start with but networking is odd.

Building depth into the relationship comes after the event, not during it.

4. THINK LONG TERM

Networking is based on trust, and trust only builds with multiple interactions. It's better to commit to one networking group and show up at every single event they hold than going to a different one every week.

Someone once said, "If you go to a different networking event every week, it just looks desperate!". By attending one group monthly without fail, I built more longer-term friendships that led to referrals than when I was going to three or four different groups.

Networking costs. Make sure your investment pays off by focusing on the long term.

> "IT WILL FEEL ODD TO START WITH BUT NETWORKING IS ODD. BUILDING DEPTH INTO THE RELATIONSHIP COMES AFTER THE EVENT, NOT DURING IT"

5. ASK, DON'T TELL

We know this to be true in any successful relationship—pay more attention to the other person than your own stuff. Don't turn these conversations into an interrogation—give them a chance to ask too. Networking is an exchange of information, not a speech (until we get to the one-minute round or whatever, which you will have prepared for, right?).

All successful relationships are built on mutual trust and understanding, not a one-way flow.

6. LISTEN, DON'T SELL

I know you go networking to grow your business. But unless you are selling a physical object which you can wave around, no one is ever going to make a buying decision in the room. Listening isn't always easy, never mind the multiple distractions around you.

Find out as much as you can about the other person and only say your bit when they invite you. (And be ready for those folk who forget to do that though!) Selling comes later.

7. BE A CONNECTOR

Networking should be fun: meeting people we don't know, exchanging views and ideas. But some people loathe it. I can talk to most people but turning up to a room full of strangers can be very intimidating. If you are confident in these situations, help others build connections. In a practical sense, this means keeping your eyes open, and ensuring you create space when having a 1:1 conversation so that others can easily join. Look out for people on their own and make introductions.

8. BE YOU.

This is the foundation of all the tips. We quickly see through people putting on an act, and it diminishes our trust in them. It's far easier to be yourself.

If you are a bloke and feel comfortable in an open neck shirt, then leave the tie at home. Women might feel more comfortable in smart jeans or a dress rather than a formal suit. Ultimately, trust and ability counts, not a smart suit and clever language. That's not to say that this isn't professional. If you are serious about your business, you can be professional while being you too.

Be you. Everyone else is taken. Real relationships begin with real people.



Jonathan Rees is an author, speaker, coach and facilitative trainer specialising in helping people serve and thrive together better.

Jon facilitates and delivers workshops and coaching to build personal effectivity, resilience, leadership and team synergy with a wide range of organisations in the public and private sectors.

Before establshing Momoho, he managed a worldwide IT development team and delivered consultancy. He has a degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and is a Master Practitioner of NLP.

INTERVIEWS



Over the past few months, we've had the privilege of interviewing our keynotes, panellists, and delegates. What follows are some short snippets. (And a couple of quotes from writers George Orwell and Ursula Le Guin.) We hope you enjoy reading them.

WHY COLLABORATE WITH ANTHROPOLOGISTS AND SOCIOLOGISTS?

"Technology is used to build services for people. Social scientists have a scientific framework for understanding people, thus, they enable technologists, such as myself, to build better services. Developing services without human insight is a waste of resources. Simple as that." — **Jani Turunen**, AI Lead, Solita. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-jani-turunen

"Kentaro Toyama, he used to be the 'Mr Information and Communication Technologies for Development' at Microsoft and he has written this brilliant book called Geek Heresy. He is very clear that any technology, in our case we're talking about AI, today, but any technology is not a solution, it is merely an augmentation of human intention and human behaviour." — **Julien Cornebise**, keynote. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-julien-cornebise

"All of the projects [I worked on at Intel Labs Europe] were formed around strong questions or challenges that required considerable qualitative research to reveal, map and respond to the subtleties of the complex ecosystems and sociotechnical practices in which we were designing technologies. By the time I joined Intel there had been a decade of ethnographers and psychologists in the company demonstrating how valuable social science research can be. This helped greatly as much of the hard work of setting and managing expectations had already been done. I was fortunate to work with technical colleagues who genuinely wanted as much information and insight possible to help define, test and refine engineering requirements." – **David Prendergast**, Panel member. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-david-prendergast

"To some extent, the intersection of the social sciences and tech is a blank page in the world of AI, ML etc (despite the heritage). For a long time Human Computer Interaction was the flag bearer of the human element in tech but we need to evolve to a deeper cultural perspective that pulls in ethicists, philosophers, technologists, psychologists, anthropologists, biologists (I can keep going!) into a conversation that extends beyond the technological perspective…that's where change will happen and I think we are ready for it." – **Rakhi Rajani**, Panel chair. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-rakhi-rajani

"This conference is an opportunity for technologists and anyone in the product lifecycle, to consider the advantages of using social experts beyond user experience and to be encouraged to seek out these experts when creating technology or service solutions with or without AI." — **Sarah Azadian**, Elucidata. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-sarah-azadian

"Anthropologists offer a distinct vantage point for understanding consumers and consumption practices and, importantly, a way to make culture visible. It is about making culture visible, reframing problems and, ideally, understanding of our collective actions."— **Rita Denny**, EPIC. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-rita-denny

ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

"AI is just a tool. But a tool that can be used to help solve large societal problems, and in doing so become a better tool able to solve even more difficult problems. The point being: AI as a tool that is ultimately guided by a person versus AI that starts to guide people. A question of agency basically." — **Roelof Pieters**, keynote. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-roelof-pieters

"How do we ensure that the relatively scarce talent in AI can be put to help solve, contribute, and work towards solving the main challenges we face as a society?" — **Julien Cornebise**.

"I read recently that 40% of AI start-ups actually have no discernible AI in their approach, but it helps them get funding given the popularity of the technology with VC's, so this does add a lot of noise to the debate... behind the higher-level hype, game-changing progress is quietly being made in many lower-profile applications. By automating vision and speech we are able to create an incredibly wide range of applications that impact our day-to-day lives." — **Mark Woods**, Panel member. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/ai-robots-and-mars-an-interview-with-mark-woods

"With many new technologies the focus tends to be on what the technology can do…with AI we also need to consider what it should be used for…what are the broader impacts we need to address? And how can we anticipate the indirect interaction of one AI decision on another across society? — **Gwen Edwards**, Marketing Director. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-gwen-edwards

HUMANS AND MACHINES

"If you have a robot that's shaped like a person then whether or not it works, people feel obligated towards it. They think it deserves special things. and this was just really weird to me and I started writing papers about why is it that you would make this mistake, that some machines need more care than other machines" — **Joanna J Bryson**, keynote. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-joanna-j-bryson

"I think our body is our superpower, it's our source of competitive advantage in the next phase of technological development because it's clear there are lots of things that AI is going to do that either we can't do, or we don't want to do, or we can't do as quickly, or as cheaply. It may turn out that machine learning is much, much better and more accurate at spotting malignant tumours. Let's celebrate that and ask, what can't machine learning do?...and let's shun the stuff that can be done by computers somewhere else and then hopefully we can channel resources to places where we can do what we do best. The debate about cooperation and competition: let's talk about who is going to do what." — **Simon Roberts**, keynote. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/embodiment-ai-interview-with-simon-roberts

"Something I find fascinating is how our belief in robotic capability could potentially make a difference to how we perceive technology expressing emotion. Although there is a lot of research into how users feel when interacting with conversational AI, there doesn't seem to be much research looking into why we feel the way we do." — **Ellie Foreman**, SWCTN Automation Fellow. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-ellie-foreman

PRIVACY & DATA PROTECTION

"Devices such as Alexa bring in indeed an extra layer of complexity into this, by placing data extraction on all family members, by multinational private companies, at the core of many homes." — **Gloria González Fuster**, keynote. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-gloria-gonzalez-fuster

"My son asks me: 'Mum, how can you criticize Google, and then go and use Google all the time?'. Well, it is precisely because I use Google, and he does, and you probably also do, and in any case most of us do, or will, that it is critical that Google fully complies with the law. It is because companies such as Facebook, Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, etc. are so popular and important – for our economy, for politics, for science – that it is not only reasonable, but essential, to expect from them complete respect of fundamental rights. What would be naïve is for anybody to imagine that, by using this or that online service, we would be lightly agreeing to give up any of our society's fundamental values." — **Gloria González Fuster**.

"Fundamental rights, individual rights...who are these people? From an anthropological perspective this is an important. How can we imagine them, how can we study them and then eventually, how can we protect them better or how can we give them rights in a meaningful way?" — **Gloria González Fuster**. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-gloria-gonzalez-fuster-2

SURVEILLANCE

"It was possible that his features had not been perfectly under control. It was terribly dangerous to let your thoughts wander when you were in any public place or within range of a telescreen. The smallest thing could give you away. A nervous tic, an unconscious look of anxiety, a habit of muttering to yourself—anything that carried with it the suggestion of abnormaility, or having something to hide. In any case, to wear an improper expression on your face (to look incredulous when a victory was announced, for example) was itself a punishable offence. There was even a word for it in Newspeak: *facecrime*, it was called." Nineteen Eighty-Four by **George Orwell** (1949).

ETHICS

"When people think about ethics and especially when they think about AI ethics, they often think about how should AI behave or how should we build AI to behave and now they're talking more about how should we responsibly implement AI and how do we even decide what we want AI to do and what role it should play in our society...I'm starting to think that the problem isn't that people don't understand AI but that people don't know about ethics, they don't know why we are obligated to each other and so they can't tell which other things besides people we are obligated towards...ethics is the means by which society holds itself together" — **Joanna J Bryson**, keynote. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-joanna-j-bryson

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

"When you are dealing with data protection law, it's necessary. You cannot just think about law." — **Gloria González Fuster**. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/interview-with-gloria-gonzalez-fuster-2

"Personally, what I look for in a team…is people from very different backgrounds, it's not a mono culture, it's diversity that brings all the really interesting ideas up." — **Julien Cornebise**.

"I think the social sciences, design and engineering play a very big role in experimenting in an area that is as yet unknown. It is up to us to define what this could look like but that can only be done from a perspective where disciplines are true peers and not in service of each other." — **Rakhi Rajani**.

"How can we best encourage and support cross-sectoral, or multidisciplinary collaboration? I'm really excited about attending a conference which has been designed with the ethos of supporting multi-disciplinary collaboration at its core." — **Thea Snow,** Nesta. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-thea-snow

"Some of the most impactful projects I have worked on have been successful because of the way ideas and insights from different disciplines and perspectives have fused to create something novel and interesting. It can be limiting and uninspiring to continue along well-trodden pathways and narrowly defined trajectories. As Genevieve Bell pointed out when setting up the 3A Institute, "the world needs a new applied science to enable the safe, ethical and effective design, integration, management and regulation of cyber-physical systems." — **David Prendergast**.

"I think most of the breakthroughs, not only conceptually, theoretically, how we're understanding the world but also practically, are likely to come from interdisciplinary approaches. I'm really excited about that." — **Simon Roberts**.

"I think invention is about the intersection of disciplines and thought processes — making connections between disparate ideas generates possibilities and that has always fascinated me." — **Rakhi Rajani.**

"Great things can happen when disciplines that don't usually work together come together to collaborate and/or learn from each other...cross-disciplinary collaboration can unearth unexpected synergies which create opportunities for radical innovation." — **Thea Snow**.

"Every technologist who cares about the impact of technology on society can benefit from meeting researchers who study society and people... Together, we can lay the ground for the new field of inter-disciplinary machine behaviour studies and improve rigor and differentiation in the discourse." — **Judith Mühlenhoff**, UX Researcher. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-judith-muhlenhoff

"Technologists in general, and the AI powerhouses of Silicon Valley in particular, have a reputation for insular thinking, and for projecting their values onto the wider population. It is important that this changes, and this can only happen if technical people are willing to engage in a frank discussion with other experts about the wider social implications of their output." **Tom Bewley**, PhD student. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-tom-bewley

"The widespread implications of innovations underway are simply too significant for any single discipline, company, or government." — **David Prendergast**.

"Technologists cannot create the best technology unless they're thinking about how humans think and behave. Stepping outside the walls of the tech world is absolutely essential to building the best possible technology. The intersection between technology and anthropology is, I believe, one of the most important conversations we need to be having as a society. It can't happen without technologists." — **Thea Snow**.

"The conference will bring together a set of sharp critical minds to explore the opportunities and challenges of utilising data driven methods to solve a range of problems we are facing in our current society. I hope to have stimulating conversations and bring awareness of both exciting opportunities and difficult challenges we are currently facing. It is at gatherings like the Anthropology + Technology conference that the global agendas are first voiced and then set." — **Nemo D'Qrill**, Sigma Polaris. https://www.anthtechconf.co.uk/news/meet-our-delegates-nemo-dqrill

DEFINE TECHNOLOGY?

"Technology is the active human interface with the material world. But the word is consistently misused to mean only the enormously complex and specialised technologies of the past few decades, supported by massive exploitation both of natural and human resources. This is not an acceptable use of the word. "Technology" and "hi tech" are not synonymous, and a technology that isn't "hi," isn't necessarily "low" in any meaningful sense...One way to illustrate that most technologies are, in fact, pretty "hi," is to ask yourself of any manmade object, Do I know how to make one? Anybody who ever lighted a fire without matches has probably gained some proper respect for "low" or "primitive" or "simple" technologies; anybody who ever lighted a fire with matches should have the wits to respect that notable hi-tech invention." — **Ursula K. Le Guin**, A Rant About "Technology". http://ursulakleguinarchive.com/Note-Technology.html

ARTICLES WORTH READING

AI and the Social Sciences Used to Talk More. Now They've Drifted Apart.

Research shows that the gap between these disciplines is growing, which could make it harder to address social and ethical problems.

"Increasingly, computer scientists are facing social questions on their own, without relying deeply on insights from scholars who study them. At the same time, scholars of the social sciences, physical sciences, and humanities seem to be losing touch with rapid advances in AI as well...[this] speaks to a renewed need for researchers to collaborate across disciplines." — https://insight.kellogg.northwestern.edu/article/artificial-intelligence-ethics-social-questions



Everyone's talking about ethics in AI. Here's what they're missing

"Not all ethics guidelines are developed equally—or ethically. Often, these efforts fail to recognize the cultural and social differences that underlie our everyday decision making... the "ethics" that are informing digital technology are essentially biased, and that many of the proposals for ethics in AI—developed as they are by existing computer scientists, engineers, politicians, and other powerful entities—are flawed, and neglect much of the world's many cultures and ways of being...

If we want ethics in AI, let's start with this "first principle": Humans are diverse and complex and live within groups and cultures. The groups and cultures creating ethical AI ought to reflect that. flawed, and neglect much of the world's many cultures and ways of being." — Dr Sally Applin. https://www.fastcompany.com/90356295/the-rush-toward-ethical-ai-is-leaving-many-of-us-behind

AI's social sciences deficit.

"To create less harmful technologies and ignite positive social change, AI engineers need to enlist ideas and expertise from a broad range of social science disciplines, including those embracing qualitative methods". Published in Nature Machine Intelligence, August 2019. View online.

Anatomy of an AI System.

The Amazon Echo as an anatomical map of human labor, data and planetary resources by Kate Crawford and Vladan Joler. https://anatomyof.ai

ORGANISATIONS & INSTITUTES

3A Institute (Australia)

Founded and led by Distinguished Professor Genevieve Bell at the Australian National University's College of Engineering and Computer Science where they are developing a new applied science to ensure the responsible use of AI. 3Ai was created to enable the safe, ethical and effective design, integration, management and regulation of cyber-physical systems.

https://3ainstitute.cecs.anu.edu.au

AI Now (USA)

The AI Now Institute at New York University is an interdisciplinary research centre dedicated to understanding the social implications of artificial intelligence.

https://ainowinstitute.org

AlgorithmWatch (Germany)

AlgorithmWatch is a non-profit research and advocacy organisation to evaluate and shed light on algorithmic decision making processes that have a social relevance, meaning they are used either to predict or prescribe human action or to make decisions automatically.

https://algorithmwatch.org/en/

Big Brother Watch (UK)

Big Brother Watch exposes and challenges threats to our privacy, our freedoms and our civil liberties at a time of enormous technological change in the UK.

https://bigbrotherwatch.org.uk

Data and Society (USA)

Data & Society advances public understanding of the social implications of data-centric technologies and automation. The issues that Data & Society seeks to address are complex. The same innovative technologies and sociotechnical practices that are reconfiguring society – enabling novel modes of interaction, new opportunities for knowledge, and disruptive business paradigms – can be abused to invade people's privacy, provide new tools of discrimination, and harm individuals and communities.
https://datasociety.net

Data Justice Lab (UK)

The Data Justice Lab at Cardiff University seeks to advance a research agenda that examines the intricate relationship between datafication and social justice, highlighting the politics and impacts of data-driven processes and big data. Their research examines the implications of institutional and organizational uses of data and provides critical responses to potential data harms and misuses.

https://datajusticelab.org

Doteveryone (UK)

Doteveryone is the responsible technology think tank. They research how technology is changing society, create products and prototypes that show what responsible technology looks like, and catalyse communities to create change.

https://doteveryone.org.uk

RECOMMENDED READS



What is a conference without books? Local indie bookseller, Storysmith, will be serving up a selection of books relevant to the conference theme.

We've chosen, by and large, non-academic books to stimulate your intellectual tastebuds, as well as some fiction books that speak to the world we're living in (1984 by Orwell anyone?).

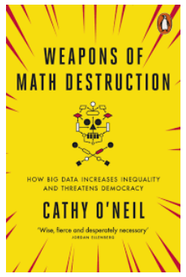
What follows are my recommended reads (if you need inspiration) with topics ranging from the end of trust (Eggers), technochauvinsim (Broussard), the exclusion of half the population by design (Criado Perez), how emerging technologies reinforce white supremacy and deepen social inequality (Benjamin), discriminate against the poor (Eubanks), how mathematical models aren't as objective as you might think (O'Neil), and why we need to pay attention to China's surveillance state (Strittmatter).

For those of you curious how anthropologists view the world, try Think Like An Anthropologist by Matthew Engelke, which Gabriella Coleman (who wrote about Anonymous) described on Twitter as three years of grad school packed into 350 pages. Fascinated by robots? You might enjoy Robertson's ethnography of human-robot relations in Japan. Or maybe tracking and data is more your thing (Neff and Nafus). Meanwhile five anthropologists respond to the current debates regarding the salience of big data in society (Boellstorff and Maurer), and Dourish and Bell examine ubiquitous computing (ubicomp).

I hope you enjoy this very personal selection and also the books available to buy.

Share *your* recommended reads using the hashtag #anthtech19.

— Dawn

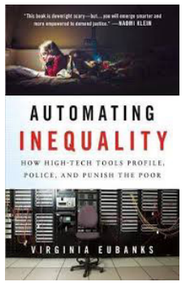


Weapons of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality and Threatens Democracy by Cathy O'Neil

We live in the age of the algorithm. Increasingly, the decisions that affect our lives—where we go to school, whether we get a car loan, how much we pay for health insurance—are being made not by humans, but by mathematical models. In theory, this should lead to greater fairness: Everyone is judged according to the same rules, and bias is eliminated.

But in fact the models being used today are opaque, unregulated, and uncontestable, even when they're wrong. And they reinforce discrimination. Models are propping up the lucky and punishing the downtrodden, creating a "toxic cocktail for democracy." Welcome to the dark side of Big Data.

Former Wall Street quant O'Neil exposes the black box models that shape our future, both as individuals and as a society, and calls on modelers to take more responsibility for their algorithms and on policy makers to regulate their use.



Automating Inequality: How High-Tech Tools Profile, Police, and Punish the Poor by Virginia Eubanks

Since the dawn of the digital age, decision-making in finance, employment, politics, health and human services has undergone revolutionary change. Today, automated systems—rather than humans—control which neighborhoods get policed, which families attain needed resources, and who is investigated for fraud. While we all live under this new regime of data, the most invasive and punitive systems are aimed at the poor.

Eubanks systematically investigates the impacts of data mining, policy algorithms, and predictive risk models on poor and working-class people in America.

Digital tracking and automated decision-making hide poverty from the middle-class public and give the nation the ethical distance it needs to make inhumane choices: which families get food and which starve, who has housing and who remains homeless, and which families are broken up by the state.

The book is full of heart-wrenching and eye-opening stories that reveal data-based discrimination—and how technology affects civil and human rights and economic equity.



Race After Technology by Ruha Benjamin

From everyday apps to complex algorithms, Ruha Benjamin cuts through tech-industry hype to understand how emerging technologies can reinforce White supremacy and deepen social inequity.

Benjamin argues that automation, far from being a sinister story of racist programmers scheming on the dark web, has the potential to hide, speed up, and deepen discrimination while appearing neutral and even benevolent when compared to the racism of a previous era. Presenting the concept of the "New Jim Code," she shows how a range of discriminatory designs encode inequity by explicitly amplifying racial hierarchies; by ignoring but thereby replicating social divisions; or by aiming to fix racial bias but ultimately doing quite the opposite. Moreover, she makes a compelling case for race itself as a kind of technology, designed to stratify and sanctify social injustice in the architecture of everyday life. This illuminating guide provides conceptual tools for decoding tech promises with sociologically informed skepticism. In doing so, it challenges us to question not only the technologies we are sold but also the ones we ourselves manufacture.



Think Like An Anthropologist by Matthew Engelke

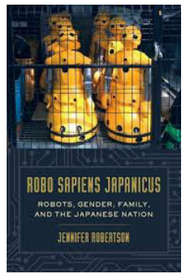
How does anthropology help us understand who we are?

What can it tell us about culture, from Melanesia to the City of London?

Why does it matter?

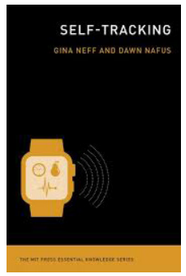
For well over one hundred years, social and cultural anthropologists have traversed the world from urban Zimbabwe to suburban England, Beijing to Barcelona, uncovering surprising facts, patterns, predilections and, sometimes, the inexplicable, in terms of how humans organize their lives and articulate their values.

By weaving together theories and examples from around the world, Matthew Engelke brilliantly shows why anthropology matters: not only because it allows us to understand other points of view, but also because in the process, it reveals something about ourselves too.



Robo Sapiens Japanicus: Robots, Gender, Family and the Japanese Nation by Jennifer Robertson

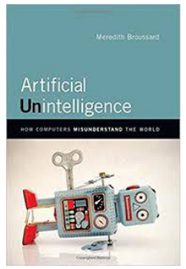
Japan is arguably the first postindustrial society to embrace the prospect of human-robot coexistence. Over the past decade, Japanese humanoid robots designed for use in homes, hospitals, offices, and schools have become celebrated in mass and social media throughout the world. Robertson casts a critical eye on press releases and public relations videos that misrepresent robots as being as versatile and agile as their science fiction counterparts. An ethnography and sociocultural history of governmental and academic discourse of human-robot relations in Japan, this book explores how actual robots—humanoids, androids, and animaloids—are “imagineered” in ways that reinforce the conventional sex/gender system and political-economic status quo. In addition, Robertson interrogates the notion of human exceptionalism as she considers whether “civil rights” should be granted to robots. Similarly, she juxtaposes how robots and robotic exoskeletons reinforce a conception of the “normal” body with a deconstruction of the much-invoked Theory of the Uncanny Valley.



Self-Tracking by Gina Neff and Dawn Nafus

People use technology to self-track: hours slept, steps taken, calories consumed, medications administered. Ninety million wearable sensors were shipped in 2014 to help us gather data about our lives. This book examines how people record, analyze, and reflect on this data, looking at the tools they use and the communities they become part of. Gina Neff and Dawn Nafus describe what happens when people turn their everyday experience—in particular, health and wellness-related experience—into data, and offer an introduction to the essential ideas and key challenges of using these technologies. They consider self-tracking as a social and cultural phenomenon, describing not only the use of data as a kind of mirror of the self but also how this enables people to connect to, and learn from, others.

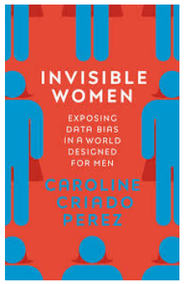
Neff and Nafus consider what’s at stake: who wants our data and why; the practices of serious self-tracking enthusiasts; the design of commercial self-tracking technology; and how self-tracking can fill gaps in the healthcare system. Today, no one can lead an entirely untracked life. Neff and Nafus show us how to use data in a way that empowers and educates.



Artificial Unintelligence: How Computers Misunderstand the World by Meredith Broussard

Our collective enthusiasm for applying computer technology to every aspect of life has resulted in a tremendous amount of poorly designed systems. We are so eager to do everything digitally—hiring, driving, paying bills, even choosing romantic partners—that we have stopped demanding that our technology actually work. Broussard, a software developer, reminds us that there are fundamental limits to what we can (and should) do with technology. She offers a guide to understanding the inner workings and outer limits of technology—and issues a warning that we should never assume that computers always get things right.

Making a case against technochauvinism—the belief that technology is always the solution—Broussard argues that it’s just not true that social problems would inevitably retreat before a digitally enabled Utopia. To prove her point, she undertakes a series of adventures in computer programming. If we understand the limits of what we can do with technology, we can make better choices about what we should do with it to make the world better for everyone.



Invisible Women. Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed by Men by Caroline Criado Perez

Imagine a world where your phone is too big for your hand, where your doctor prescribes a drug that is wrong for your body, where in a car accident you are 47% more likely to be seriously injured, where every week the countless hours of work you do are not recognised or valued.

Invisible Women shows us how, in a world largely built for and by men, we are systematically ignoring half the population. It exposes the gender data gap – a gap in our knowledge that is at the root of perpetual, systemic discrimination against women, and that has created a pervasive but invisible bias with a profound effect on women’s lives.

From government policy and medical research, to technology, workplaces, urban planning and the media, Invisible Women reveals the biased data that excludes women.

A range of case studies, stories and new research from across the world that illustrate the hidden ways in which women are forgotten, and the impact this has on their health and well-being.



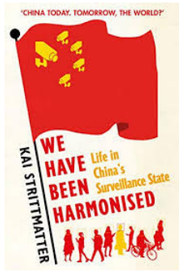
The End of Trust edited by Dave Eggers

In this era of constant low-level distrust—of our tech companies and our peers, of our justice system and our democracy—we can’t be sure who’s watching us, what they know, and how they’ll use it.

Our personal data is at risk from doxxing, government tracking, Equifax hacks, and corporate data mining. We wade through unprecedented levels of disinformation and deception. Fake news and internet trolling and Russian-purchased propoganda are woven into our media diet.

And rather than seek privacy where we can, we eagerly offer our remaining details to social-media platforms, as though we crave the surveillance and scrutiny of our peers. Unsure of how our culture of surveillance is affecting the moral development of a generation coming of age online, we continue to opt in.

Featuring more than thirty writers and artists investigating surveillance in the digital age, this collection asks whether we’ve reached the end of trust, and whether we even care.



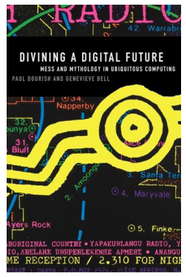
We Have Been Harmonised. Life in China's Surveillance State by Kai Strittmatter

This book should be read by everyone, not just those interested in China.

In China's shiny new 'Smart Cities', citizens can scarcely cross the road or buy an orange without the Party knowing, and posting a satirical online comment about President Xi's Winnie-the-Pooh-like features can land you in jail.

A generation after the tanks rolled into Tiananmen Square, China's autocratic leaders are using powerful new technologies to create the largest and most effective surveillance state the world has ever seen.

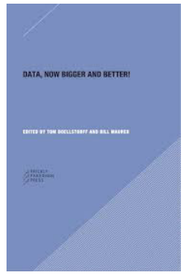
This is a journey into a land where Big Brother has acquired a whole new set of toys with which to control and cajole – 'harmonise' – the masses. It is also a warning against Western complacency. Beijing is already finding eager buyers for its 'Operating System for Dictators' – in Africa and Asia, Russia and the Middle East. And with China's corporate giants – all ultimately under Party control – being offered a place at the heart of Europe's vital infrastructure, it is time we paid attention.



Divining a Digital Future. Mess and Mythology in Ubiquitous Computing by Paul Dourish and Genevieve Bell

Ubiquitous computing (or ubicomp) is the label for a "third wave" of computing technologies. Following the eras of the mainframe computer and the desktop PC, ubicomp is characterized by small and powerful computing devices that are worn, carried, or embedded in the world around us. The ubicomp research agenda originated at Xerox PARC in the late 1980s; these days, some form of that vision is a reality for the millions of users of Internet-enabled phones, GPS devices, wireless networks, and "smart" domestic appliances. Computer scientist Dourish and cultural anthropologist Bell explore the vision that has driven the ubiquitous computing research program and the contemporary practices that have emerged—both the motivating mythology and the everyday messiness of lived experience.

Reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of the authors' collaboration, the book takes seriously the need to understand ubicomp not only technically but also culturally, socially, politically, and economically.



Data, Now Bigger and Better! edited by Tom Boellstorff and Bill Maurer

With contributions by Genevieve Bell, Melissa Gregg, and Nick Seaver

Data is too big to be left to the data analysts. Data: Now Bigger and Better! brings together researchers whose work is deeply informed by the conceptual frameworks of anthropology—frameworks that are comparative as well as field-based. From kinship to gifts, everything old becomes rich with new insight when the anthropological archive washes over "big data."

Bringing together anthropology's classic debates and contemporary interventions, the book counters the future-oriented speculation so characteristic of discussions regarding big data.

Drawing on the long-standing experience in industry contexts, the contributors also provide analytical provocations that can help reframe some of the most important shifts in technology and society in the first half of the twenty-first century.

STORY SMITH





Storysmith is a new independent bookshop for Bristol, on North Street in Bedminster, run by Emily and Dan.

Since opening in late 2018, Storysmith now serves the local community and wider Bristol as one of its only independents. They stock a tightly-curated range of fiction, non-fiction and children's books, with non-fiction including sections on art, nature, science and thought, society, interesting lives and history.

Customers are encouraged to linger with a coffee, swap recommendations and peruse the book selection in comfort.

Besides the curated selection in the shop, they also offer a next-day ordering service on almost any title, online shopping via storysmithbooks.com and worldwide delivery. They also run a popular book subscription service, which makes a perfect gift for anyone who loves unusual books and delicious coffee.

Also on offer is a very active programme of literary events, hosted at the shop and at select external venues. Previous guests include bestselling authors and up-and-coming stars alike: Patrick Gale, Rebecca Tamás, Nikesh Shukla, Livia Franchini, Ben Aaronovitch, Sharlene Teo, Owen Davey, Sharmaine Lovegrove, Tim Clare, Gareth L. Powell and many more have all visited the shop in its first year.

You can visit the shop (where you might also meet Roy, the shop dog), at storysmithbooks.com or on Twitter @storysmithbooks.

YOUR NOTES