

The public lecture of Dr. Adam Berg:

What happens to science and art in the age of transcoding?

Room: Y 311

Time: 11.45-13.15 h

Day: March 22nd, 2012

In this presentation I will deal with some recent analyses of science and art in the light of technological changes. I will specifically examine positions held with discourses regarding constitutive science (Wolfram) and art (Ranciere). Traditional approaches to dealing with scientific knowledge and cultural output such as art were vested in the notion of representation.

Representational models implied equally a “picture-theory” and a sets of laws that underline our sense of knowledge, be it scientific or cultural.

In the past few decades, with the emergence and advance of electronic media and communication, such paradigm has shifted towards a more dynamic approach that emphasizes intervention and not simply representation. Ranciere’s re-alignment of art with a representational task of the political is one expression of such tendency.

Yet, with the present acceleration of information systems, the very notion of representing and intervening with the real is challenged by transcoding. Is transcoding indeed a “new kind of science” (as Wolfram claims) that inadvertently shifts our models and modes of knowing and acting in science and art?