

Task 3:

Describe an artificial, autonomous being or an autonomous machine from your everyday life and what it does. Describe your relationship to this being/artifact. Describe an artistic work from the lecture with your own words. What would you be interested in if you were to build an autonomous artifact?

Well, I would consider the compost for the moment as such an artificial, autonomous being or an autonomous machine. As Donna Haraway states in her book "Staying with the Trouble" "Human' doesn't originate from 'homo', but from 'humus' and we are nothing more than compost." Compost is this aggregate, The building up of humus, formed through the decomposition of organic overflows? Its composition always changes, by the weather, what we give on top, by what animals are interested in the life mold of its "dahinwesen". There is actually a "compost community", a production of warmth and sheer vastness. Now what is it doing turning our organic waste, which into something which we can use for flourishing the living as it were, transform what is considered organic leftovers into **valuable compost**. But is this all compost does? In my everyday relationship to this being/artifact I do consider it like some living waste pile. With a bit of disgust, secrecy, maybe shame of what could be inside it, giving rise to by it. It's kind of a alien nonliving / living that belongs to the garden?

Protocells is a rhythmic, pulsating, throbbing, in a way sacred and rite-like meditation on forms of life (a "bio-fiction"?) as it seems. The liquidity and fluidness, the ease and lightness of a recuperating genesis of forms on liquid paths. Strange seeming fusion of overflow and flow, of a activity and passiveness at once guided by soundscapes, torn and encompassed in shivering and diffuse atmospheres. bodily fluids reawaken.

"Protocells are very simple chemical systems that are capable of behaving in ways that we would associate with life. The mechanism of action is complex and not clearly characterised. However, it appears that the protocell provides an environment in which one set of chemical relationships is separated by a semipermeable barrier across another set of chemistries, which creates an energy gradient between the two chemical systems. In all species of protocell technology the interface, the point of contact between the two systems, becomes the place of dynamic interactions. The outcome of this relationship can result in complex structures that take otherwise inert materials and distribute them in space and time."

Armstrong HOW PROTOCELLS CAN MAKE 'STUFF' MUCH MORE INTERESTING, 73

If I were to build an autonomous artifact I would be interested amongst other aspects in the interfaces it is split or diffused / dispersed into and made up of to be in a some certain manner 'autonomous'. Well, the notion of 'interface' originally derived from a attempt to grasp the chemistry and biology of organism and organic matter. Well, the concept might be depicted as some form of "sterile" interception and communication channel whatsoever. But the kind of the "disgust", "encroaching" and "creep" aspect of "liquid" interfaces and its "organization" and administration". How is it that, liquid paths, interbreeding, interstitial perforation that encourage "autonomy", automaton, spontaneity? How to handle the soup and jumble of ones own becoming automaton?