

**SCHEDA WORKSHOP**

Anno Accademico 2020/2021

**Titolo Workshop / Title and subtitle**

DESIGN FUTURES: THE FUTURE PHILOSOPHICAL PILLS

**A cura di / By:**

Docente che propone il workshop: Emanuele Cappelli e Alessandra Giacomelli

Docente che terrà il workshop: Betti Marenko - Central Saint Martins University of the Art  
London (UK)

**Indirizzato a / Intended audience:**

addressed to all students, in particular to Master of Art students

**Partecipanti / Participants:**

min 12 / max 20

**Requisiti richiesti / Requirements Required**

- English Language

- laptop, A3 paper, felt tip pens, post it

**Durata e Crediti / Duration and Credits:**

30 hours – 2 FC

**Periodo di svolgimento / Possible dates:**

monday 14 to saturday 19 june 2021

**Giorni, orari ed aule di svolgimento / Timetables: ONLINE**

Monday 11/17 (1 hour break)

Tuesday 11/17 (1 hour break)

Wednesday 11/17 (1 hour break)

Thursday 11/17 (1 hour break)

Friday 11/17 (1 hour break)

**Breve descrizione / Short description. Motivation and aims.**

What does the future look like? How do you imagine it? How do you change it?

If imagination is the capacity to introduce the future into the present then we need tools

to cultivate it. The Future Philosophical Pills are a toolkit for designers to activate the imagination and amplify ways of thinking about futures. The workshop guides you to create new future-spaces that scaffold your design projects, design interventions and design practice in an exploratory, inventive and playful way.

In detail: The Future Philosophical Pills are philosophy-in-action especially created for designers. You will work with a curated set of concepts that challenge what you know about the future, and provoke questions, speculation and discussion at the intersection of theory and practice. The Future Philosophical Pills are packaged in two distinct Decks of Cards: the Pills (40 key terms from the philosophy canon) and the Prompts (40 research-driven instructions that intersect and activate the Pills).

Each random combination of Pills and Prompts will shape a space of inquiry, insight and inspiration (your 'reading'). Your task is to use the cards as a multi-faceted lens to examine and expand your design inquiry. Each reading asks for your active participation, reflection and interpretation.

Monday: FPP introduction, talk, content, overview

Tuesday: FPP workshop/students divided into small groups

Wednesday: Group/individual work/research/observation/outside activities

Thursday: peer-2-peer feedback, tutor surgery

Friday: group presentations, showcase, debate

### **Breve biografia / Biography**

Betti Marenko is a design theorist, academic and educator with a background in philosophy and social sciences. Her transdisciplinary research across philosophy, design, and the critique of technology explores how future-facing speculative and pragmatic interventions can mobilize and amplify design practice. Her work features frequently in international conferences, collections and journals e.g. Design and Culture, Design Studies, and Digital Creativity.

As the Principal Investigator at UAL for FUEL4Design – Future Education and Literacy for Designers – she develops curriculum innovation tools to teach futures to the designers of tomorrow. Betti is the co-editor with Marco Rozendaal (TU Delft) and Will Odom (SFU) of the volume Designing Smart Objects in Everyday Life. Intelligences. Agencies. Ecologies, which maps a new research framework for interaction design (Bloomsbury 2021).

She is currently researching the new contingent logic of planetary computation and its impact

on society, publics and subjectivities, and modes of knowledge- production and modes of existence. She is the co-editor of the volume *Deleuze and Design* (Deleuze Connections Series, Edinburgh University Press 2015, with Jamie Brassett), the first book to use Deleuze and Guattari to provide a new theoretical framework to address the theory and practice of design. She is Associate Editor of the journal *Design and Culture*. Betti's earlier work focused on the practices and politics of body modification analysed through Deleuze, Guattari and Spinoza's thought. She is currently Reader in Design and Techno-Digital Futures at Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London where she is also the Contextual Studies Leader for Product and Industrial since 2007, having previously held teaching posts at the University of Essex, and the University of Urbino, Italy. She is also Specially Appointed Professor at Tokyo Institute of Technology where she leads research on transdisciplinarity and the articulation of hybrid methodologies that can furnish educators, learners, and practitioners with agile tools of exchange, discussion and debate across arts, design, science, technologies and the humanities.