

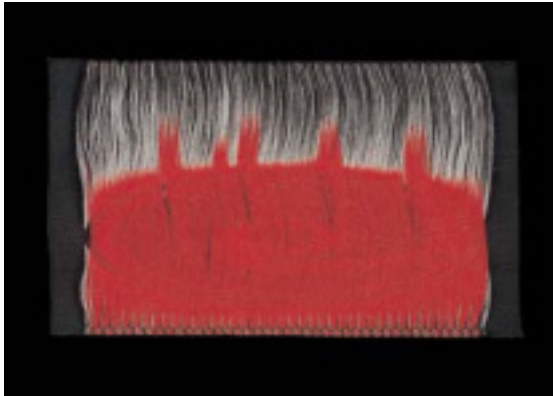
BUNYAN Marcus (Aus)

Habitus – paper

“The habitus.... should not be thought of as a collection of rules but as a series of dispositions and inclinations that are both subject to circumstances and durable enough to pass down through generations. The habitus is conveyed through the orientation and movement of the body as it transverses cultural spaces and experiences temporal rhythms.

(Hayles, Katherine. How We Became Posthuman: Virtual Bodies in Cybernetics, Literature, and Informatics. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999, p.203)

This presentation will investigate how living with textiles, fashion, and a fashion designer (Paul Anthony) has influenced the development of an intertextual art practice.



Since my first solo exhibition in 1992 my art practice has examined the interstices of body, nature, and technology, the habitus, if you like, of our spatio-temporal place in the world. Upon reflection this examination has been cross-pollinated by the ideas, designs, textiles, and thoughts of my partner producing an interdisciplinary synthesis that allows me to

combine the mediums of photography, fashion, textiles, and installation art.

Work influenced by cross-pollination includes the exhibition ‘All Natural Fibres’ 1996 (<http://www.netSPACE.net.au/~bunyan/efour.html>), the installation ‘At What Depth Do Fluids Clot?’ 1997 (<http://www.netSPACE.net.au/~bunyan/efour.html>), the body of work ‘The Colour of immortality’ 1998 (<http://www.netSPACE.net.au/~bunyan/efive.html>), the exhibition ‘D<O>R’ 2001 (<http://www.netSPACE.net.au/~bunyan/eten.html>), and the body of work ‘Habitus’ 2003 (<http://www.netSPACE.net.au/~bunyanth/esixteen.html>).

For my partner I search op-shops for fabric remnants and old dress patterns, for myself 1940s suits and ties (I recently spoke at the international fashion conference ‘Making An Appearance: Fashion, Dress, and Consumption’ at The University of Queensland on the eclectic and spatio-temporal elements of op-shop fashion, focusing on the hypertextual nature of the consumer, where viewer and viewed, author and reader become one). I have made and update my partners website, taking photographs of his work for the site (<http://www.paulanthonydesigns.com>). Recently my partner and I designed his first retail outlet

in Chapel St., Prahran using the intertextual nature of my art practice, our eclectic nature of collecting things, the layering of his clothing and my art, using these skills to design the shop. This shop and the design will be shown in the presentation.

Fashion, textiles, design, art and technology have become my habitus, my orientation, and through this presentation of images and words I hope to convey to the audience the way an art practice can elude traditional categorisations, becoming textu(r)al, both text and texture at one and the same time.

Dr. Marcus Bunyan, The University of Melbourne

marcus bunyan is an artist who works with digital photography, sculpture, & installation art forms. he is currently research fellow at the university of melbourne in the department of information systems and is a cultural observer and writer. his doctoral thesis at rmit university, melbourne, investigated whether the muscular mesomorphic body image affects the self-esteem of men and traced the development of this body image within photographic practice and gym culture. he recently spoke at 'the space between', and international fashion conference at the university of queensland, on the topic of eclectic and spatio-temporal elements in op-shop fashion.
