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FOR A NEW **COMPUTATIONAL** AESTHETICS:
ALGORITHMIC **ENVIRONMENTS** AS ACTUAL OBJECTS

25/01/12

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM, HÖRSAAL GABF 04/611, 18:00 UHR

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FOR A NEW COMPUTATIONAL AESTHETICS:
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Algorithms are at the core of the computational logic. Formalism and axiomatics have also determined how the shortest algorithmic set or program deploys the most elegant form. This equivalence between axiomatics and beauty however hides a profound ontological ground based on order, rationality and cognition.

However, this paper suggests that the pervasion of ubiquitous media and in particular of software agencies (from page ranking software to software for urban design) point to the formation of a new computational aesthetics defined by prehending algorithms. The paper will argue that this new mode of prehension defies the ontological ground of order and cognition revealing that randomness (or non-compressible data) is at the core of computation. The paper will draw on Alfred N. Whitehead's notion of actual objects and Gregory Chaitin's theory of the uncomputable to suggest that algorithms need to be understood in terms of ecology of prehensions.

25/01/1

THE ALGORITHMIC ECOLOGY OF POWER OR
THE AUTOMATION OF SPECULATIVE DECISION
WORKSHOP 26/01/12, 10-14 Uhr, GABF 04/611

This workshop will investigate how cybernetic machine and computational media can help us to explain how power has changed and how it has become ecologica.

Drawing on Foucault's critique of neoliberalism as »environmentality open to contingency and transversal phenomena«, Agambens state of exception or emergency and Massumi's ecology of fear the workshop will discuss wether the form of neoliberalism's rationality corresponds to a new form of computation of probabilities extending the speculative power of decision to our everyday programming culture. Computational media for example continuously exercises this power of decision and anticipation of accidents through search engines working in the background of direct human perception.

26/01/1

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Anmeldungen und Materialien zum Workshop auf der bkm-Homepage.