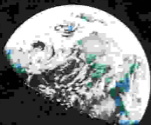


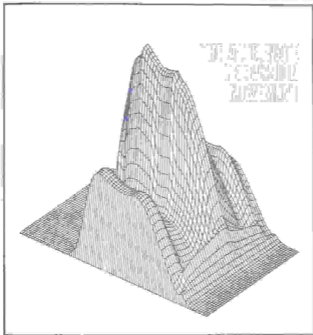


Walter Gray's Tortoise



*"The flow of energy
through a system
acts to organize
that system."*

RADICAL SOFTWARE



NUMBER 1

1970

“ “[T]he ideas which dominate our civilization at the present time date in their most virulent form from the Industrial Revolution.

- a) It's us against the environment.
- b) It's us against other men.
- c) It's the individual (or the individual company, or the individual nation) that matters.
- d) We can have unilateral control over the environment and must strive for that control.
- e) We live within an infinitely expanding "frontier."
- f) Economic determinism is common sense.
- g) Technology will do it for us .

We submit that these ideas are simply proved false by the great but ultimately destructive achievement of our technology in the last 150 years. Likewise they appear to be false under modern ecological theory. The creature that wins against its environment destroys itself... “

Gregory Bateson, *Awake*, Radical Software Issue 5 Volume 1, 33 (1971)

Daniel Bell's Commission for the Year
2000 (1964-1968) = The Post-
ideological Society = Future (ology)
starts here.



“In the Western world [...] there is today a rough consensus among intellectuals on political issues: the acceptance of a Welfare State; the desirability of decentralized power; a system of mixed economy and of political pluralism.”

Daniel Bell, in *The End of Ideology* (1967):

Seattle World's Fair - Century 21 Calling - 1962

(10 mins:58 secs)

Charles and Ray Eames

IBM at the fair 1964

Drop city

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Gregory Bateson, *Awake*, Radical Software Issue 5 Volume 1, 33 (1971)

Richard Braughtigan' All Watched Over
by Machines of Loving Grace (1st
Stanza)

“I like to think (and the sooner the
better!) of a cybernetic meadow where
mammals and computers live together
in mutually programming harmony like
pure water touching clear sky. “



Portapak camera, 1968

democratic technocracy
ecological-democracy

The Macy Conferences on Cybernetics

Gruppenfoto der TeilnehmerInnen 1953



Dritte Reihe: Peggy Kubie, Henry W. Brosin, Gregory Bateson, Frank Fremont-Smith, John R. Bowman, George E. Hutchinson, Hans-Lukas Teuber, Julian H. Bigelow, Claude E. Shannon, Walter Pitts, Heinz von Foerster


Zweite Reihe: Leonard J. Savage, Janet Freed Lynch, Gerhardt von Bonin, Lawrence S. Kubie, Lawrence K. Frank, Henry Quastler, Donald G. Marquis, Heinrich Klöver, Filmer S. C. Northrop

Erste Reihe: Theodore C. Schneirla, Yehoshua Bar-Hillel, Margaret Mead, Warren S. McCulloch, Jan Drogoleever Fortuyn, Yuen Ren Chao, W. Gray Walter, Vaha E. Amassian



Duchamp and Bateson, San Francisco, 1949

Duchamp text



TOP-LESS
TALKSHOW
FROM
TOPANGA.

- [Isd experiments on artists]
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydor_2TaoMg



Wipe Cycle, Frank Gillette and Ira Schneider, 1969

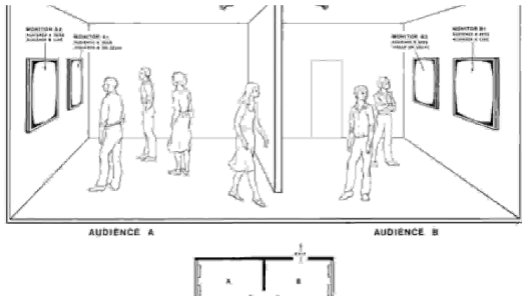
"It was an attempt to demonstrate that you're as much a piece of information as tomorrow morning's headlines - as a viewer you take a satellite relationship to the information. And the satellite which is you is incorporated into the thing which is being sent back to the satellite. In other words, rearranging one's experience of information reception."

Frank Gillette 1969

"The most important function of Wipe Cycle was to integrate the audience into the information. It was a live feedback system which enabled the viewer standing within its environment to see himself not only now in time and space, but also eight seconds ago and sixteen seconds ago. In addition he saw standard broadcast images alternating with his own delayed/live image. And also two collage-type programmed tapes, ranging from a shot of the earth, to outer space, to cows grazing, and a 'skin flick' bathtub scene." Ira Schneider 1969

“We could put ourselves in it, see ourselves seeing ourselves, and even enter the joust with the ‘News cycle’ emptying out, as was demonstrated in [Gillette’s] Wipe Cycle. Such was the radical ecology of Radical Software”.
(Ron Skodnick)

- “[...] with Bateson as principle guide to the complexities of nature and culture. [Frank] Gillette did it, Randy Sherman did it, and apparently [Dan] Graham did it too. Anyone who happened to get hold of a portable video system at the time immediately overloaded on circuits, playback, feedback and fabulous loop de loop.” Ron Skodnick



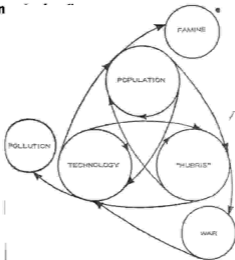
Dan Graham Time Delay Room 1973

Paul Ryan: "Video itself mutated from a counter cultural gesture to an art genre. When video was principally a countercultural gesture, it held the promise of social change unmediated by the art world. Now, whatever promise of social change video holds is mediated by the art world. This is a significant difference. People unfamiliar with the mutation find it difficult to appreciate the unlimited sense of possibility that early video held." (Ryan 1988, 39)

“I like to think(right now, please!)of a cybernetic forestfilled with pines and electronics where deer stroll peacefully past computersas if they were flowers with spinning blossoms.”

"Consciousness is blinded to the systematic nature of the individual man" (Bateson STEM 441).

- Bateson, "The Roots of Ecological Crisis" (1972) "The attached diagram illustrates the interconnections. It will be noted that in this diagram each corner is clockwise, denoting that each is by itself a self-promoting (or, as the scientists say, "auto catalytic") phenomenon: the bigger the population, the faster it grows; the more technology we have, the faster the rate of new invention; and the more we believe in our "power" over an enemy environment, the more "power" we seem to have and the more spiteful the environment seen



Last stanza:

**“I like to think(it has to be!)of a
cybernetic ecologywhere we are
free of our labors and joined back
to nature, returned to our
mammal brothers and sisters,and
all watched overby machines of
loving grace.”**

Bateson: " cybernetics is [...] not simply a change in attitude, but even a change in the understanding of what an attitude is."