Readme

This is PDF file for XPUB1 2018 trimester 1 archive, for self initiated research.

The PDF consists of the following: Dream_log, Serial_vision, two essays sent to Witte de With education program, and Research_progress.

Dream_log: From this November I start to record my dreams, as a material for future projects. Dreams of 40 days are recorded, translated and compiled.

Serial_vision: Having interest in computer vision and image archive in mind, I gather image material to work in the future. The images gathered a from a specific food video media I followed for sometime. I begin to realize all videos follow similar rhythm, format, and movement. The storytelling becomes automatic narrative. Manually I took screenshots of similar set up, put into categories, and recorded frequencies of each kind of image. In the end I am interested in using computer vision and archival methods to develop these images.

I also see that, from a single media channel, the source of the images is singular. I hope to expand it as a self-radiating network. Hence I am thinking how I can build such a network.

Two essays: From the mailing list I receive an open call from Witte de With parallel curriculum. It sounds like an interesting program. Within the program students from network universities will discuss and curate relevant public programs, workshops and exhibitions. Eventually I realized that I am not able to attend because it will take place during Tuesdays next year from January to May. Nevertheless the essays summarized my interest in working with vision and perception.

Research_progress: Brief research progress as exposed from interested book titles.

Dream Log

Recording dreams right after waking up in the morning starting 2018. 11. 09

A noodle pavillion which is
an underground organiza-
tion that has to do with the
gans. Someone I met from
the library is also there.
Because its underground,
there are people check-
ing it. Dreamed of lots of
people checking it, and its
hosted at a place very simi-
lar to Nanhai High School.

11.9 Evening

一个面馆是地下组织跟口
有关系。面条蛮好吃，今之在
图书馆见到的同学也有
在，因为是地下组织，有
人来查看，梦见好多人
来查看。可在一个饭顶
海中学有点像的地方。

11.9 晚

Frying up the stocks...?
Buying in stock in the morning and selling out in the evening.
Admission possible with 3.27 GPA somehow..

2018.11.10 Evening

炒股 ...?
早上买 晚上卖.
GPA 3.27 可入学之美的

2018. 11. 10晚

Dreamed of purple colored dragon eye fruits, quite nice looking. Looks like roses, came along with take out.

梦见紫色的
龙眼蛮好看
像玫瑰花，
外卖送的。

Dreamed of having uncanny genuine moments with Liang Chendi, had never dreamed about her before and probably will never after.

梦到)跟梁晨迪
袒露心声，以前
都没梦到过她。

Cannot remember to be exact.
This dream by its nature is not very memorizable.
Was interrupted when almost awake, and was looking at the cellphone screen after waking up.
Until now, can't remember anything!

不记得了
本来这个梦就不太
能记得住
快睡醒时被打
断. 醒来又看手机
这个时候已经什
么都记不清啦!

Ha? Cannot remember..
There was a dog, named "Watermelon dog", watermelon dog's boyfriend is bulldog.
Teenagers wearing Nanhai Experimental Middle School's uniform are participating in the Olympics and the games are being broadcasted on TV.

哈？记不得。

有狗，叫"冬瓜狗"冬瓜狗
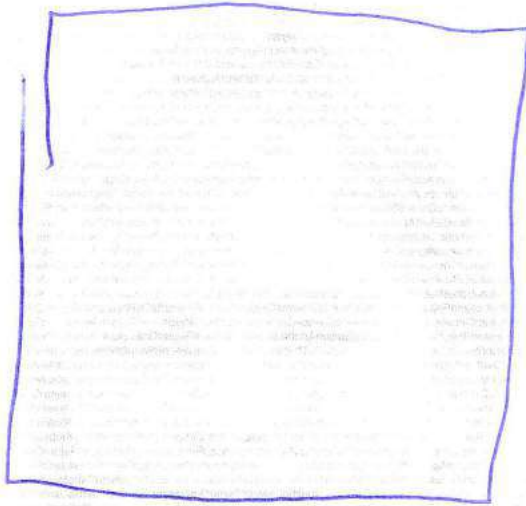的男朋友是"斗牛狗"。

穿南海实验中学校服
的青少年在参加奥运
赛事并电视路播。

Gui Lin Rice Noodles..Oh.. Watched TV shows on Eileen Chang yesterday, there was shots on her kitchen during the TV program. Was even the curly kind of rice noodle. Have had packaged ones yesterday!

桂林米粉 哦..

昨晚看张爱玲 电视
电视剧里面有厨房
镜头. 还是虫蜷似粉.
前几天吃了包装
装的!

Did not dream

没有你的梦

Dreamed of lots of people flying kites collectively in the playground, the playground is fenced off.

Dreamed of the Queen Bee's syrup is almost finished and remaining the last bite.

Dreamed of eating something at primary school's music room.

梦见有很多隐形
人在集体放风筝
在操场之，操场
被围起来了.
梦见蜂王浆要喝完了
剩操后一口.
梦见在小猪音乐室
孩子的地方吃饭

Is a bit complicated, dreamed of going to a wedding of Xia and Davide's, there is lots of people there so left early. In the middle had to wear wooden slippers to jump from one point to another. A guest is wearing an outfit that looks like a teacup. (Illustration). Dream of Liu Tao (celebrity) is living somewhere, exterior to her house there were hanging gardens, advertising was made out of it.

比较复杂，梦见去陈夏大卫一个朋友的婚礼，人太多最后离场了。中间要穿木拖鞋从一端跳住另一端跳化。有一个客人穿了像穿才不一样的衣服。

梦见刘涛（明星）住在某某处，把房子外围昙雯你或花园，还做了广告。

Dreamed of going to dinner with classmate from Shanghai. (Why I am dreaming about her even prior?) In a strange restaurant, that I have to sit in front of some place that looks like toilet seat! Was eating somethingl like fried shrimp.

梦见跟上海同学去吃饭，（怎么老梦到|她?|）去一个奇怪的餐厅，居然要坐在类似厕所一样布置前面，吃的是炸虾一差的东西、

梦见在丽景小区，
好像以前还很这繁华
的样子，我还虫行
考虑建那信了不
觉得是同事春了
贾dou话清登视频
想到她们
后来呢、在小区

Dreamed that in Lijing Compound, it was much more trendy than it used to be. I was collecting letter for Li Jian? I think it's because I saw some video about Dou Jingtong (celebrity's daughter and she reminded me of her) And then after that, in the compound (to continue)

(continued from above) met someone, forgot whom, was Skyping with Li Jian reporting about marriage and ecetera...I walked in somewhere that looks like a building from Lijing compound, to the interior of the building, looks quite nice the interior, there was some foreign invested trade company inside..(to be continued)

还遇见一个人，忘了
是哪了，还跟李剑做
视频，说是结婚
如何如何.. 我走也
了，都是的一个样，里面
好像挺工的好的
样子，以前里元区
有外资工司什么

(continued from left) But after going up the second floor cannot continue going up any further. There was my name written at the door plate, "XXX doesn't live here anymore.". But I never lived in that building before.

们、们但是上去了二楼
就上不去了，在门
牌号上有我的名子
写着"xxx已经不住
这里"但是我不住
没有在那个楼住
过。

Did not dream
Felt very nervous yesterday
during the night.

没有做梦

感到很紧张

昨天晚上

Small chicks are being nurtured in the sand, stepped onto them, some chicks died.
Dreamed of going to classmate's house eating noodles. There was Lao, Li Jiamin, those crowd of people, from middle school.

Terrible News.

小鸡在沙子里㧩，
踩到了，有的小鸡死了。

梦见去同学家吃面有
萌韵涛和李嘉那些
初中的人。

梦见雾露坊

Was somehow very exited before sleeping, did not dream.

睡前比较
兴奋，没有
做梦

Strange dream, my mother and I boarded a train, was separated into different cabins, for sightseeing, for carriages. Some women who look like villagers are holding grapes and sitting on top of the grapes. Experience! There is a soldier (to be continued)

奇怪的梦,和我好
上了一列火车,是分
成好几串不同里车
厢,有观光,拉货,有
些看起来像村民
的妇女拿了葡萄坐
在上面,经历!有
一位军人和不同

having affairs with different kinds of female subordinates, so everyone is gossiping about it in private. The woman offered me some grapes, the scene had eventually become flight window during descent. Looking out of the window to see what's going outside. (to be continued)

女下属发生关系，所以大家在私底下讨论了。她给我一串葡萄，场景最终成了飞机下降的舷窗，往外看是外面的

The village is organized in geometrical order, I asked her where is the grape from, she pointed to where she picked them. At the end I was dreaming I should make some clothes for myself.

村子很整齐划一。
问她葡萄是哪里
摘的她指着会找
着...最后朽寻思自
己做点衣服.

Was dreaming sitting on top of Faye Wong's daughter?! (celebrity). (Looks like have seen too many videotapes from Faye Wong recently..) Dreamed that my mother opened a Shanxi Noodle restaurant and earned three hundred grands. Quickly the money is put into investment and the profit exceeded the investment. Thought about TV program yesterday about people from Henan province living in ShanTou (continue)

居然在梦里面跟王菲的女儿亲密无间?! L看来是〇看了太多王菲表演视频看近.. 梦见我妈开山西面馆只赚了三十万. 很快把投资的转回本超到了那天在电视上看的河南人在汕头.

Why the taxi driver didn't
open a restaurant?

为什么出租车司机
没去开一个面馆呢

Because Feng spent her evening here, couldn't really remember things after waking up.

因为冯来偌
病, 起来就去
来记得的厅
来忘了.

Jam, Jam, half produced,
half produced.
Lam. Nice!

果酱. 果酱, 半成品. 半成品

羊肉, 舒眼.

The flight takes a transfer in Frankfurt, somehow my father was there also, I said didn't you speak German? It turn out that he didn't know how to speak a word, I was a bit angry. Dreamed of another flight, I was lying (to continue)

飞机在法兰克不是
转机，不知道为什
么我爸也在，我说
你不是会说德语
么，结果他几根都
不会说，我有点生气。
还梦见一些另外的
在飞机上，我骗的看

on the seats and sleeping,
thinking I better not kick
into people sitting next to
me.

在睡想着不要踢
着了梦也几而人.

Dreamed of being with parents in Xi Qiao, the scenary outside the roads just like how it used to be. The ceramics advertising on the road. And there was another person on the motorcycle eavedropping how to go to XX compound (to continue)

梦见和爸妈在西樵的路也的景色都是像以前一样的路大的广告牌，上面的瓷砖广告。还有家另一个骑摩托的人在傍也偷听去XX花

Dreamed of walking a cat on leash on the street, the street looks like combination of Lijing Compound and Guanshan Boulevard.

园凌怎么还梦呢，
牵了一只猫在街上走，
那个街像是丽景和
官山大道街的综
合体...

因该怎么走 还梦见，
变了一只猫在街之色，
叮个街停是丽寻和
官山大道街行的综
合体。

And, dreamed of Hu Ti-
anxue got into Huazhong U
of Sci and Tech.

All kinds of strange, stra-
berries? Deng Xiaoping's
daughter's last name is
Zhao?

各种奇怪的，邓
草莓？！邓小平的
女儿原名姓赵？

Dreamed of playing jokes with Zhong Zhibin on Lin Jian Hui (middle school classmates)
Dreamed of grandfather telling me to to go school earlier, saying..that the bones are cold and should be warmed up with heat pads.

梦到同钟 瑀斌整
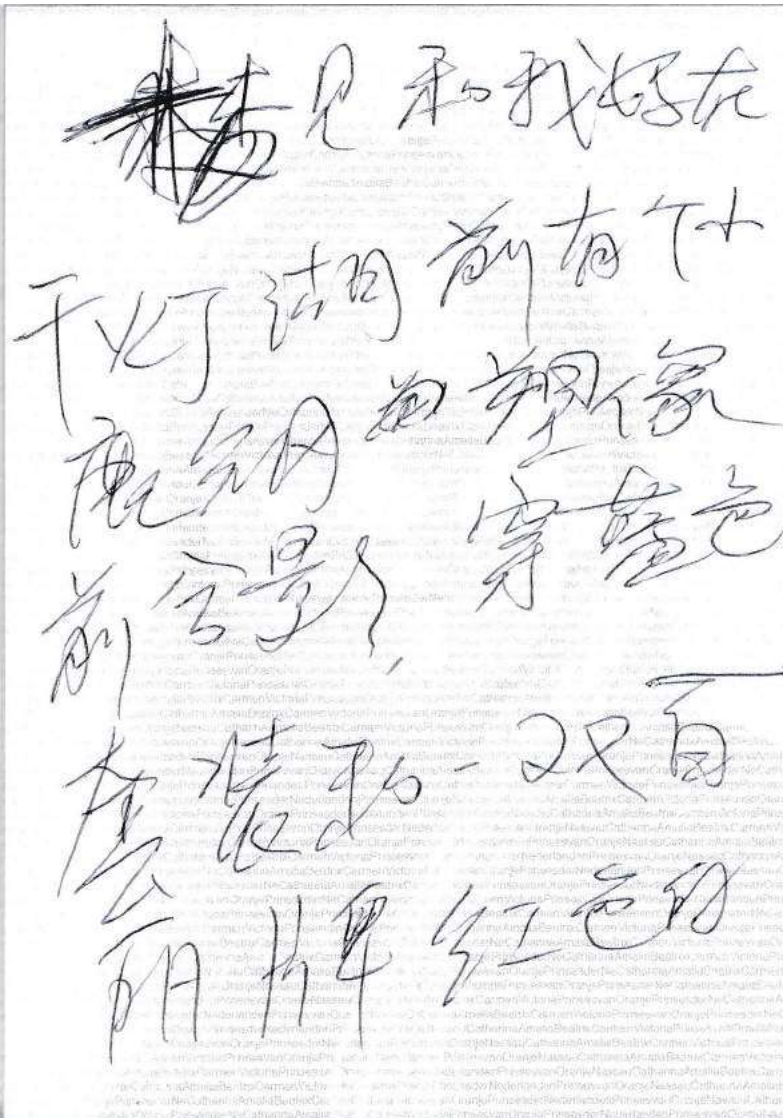書 gu 林仔建呼.

梦到爷爷叫我早点
去上学 说什么...说
哪个哪个骨头冰,
需加热

Did not dream.

没有梦

Aunt (Mother's brother's wife) when she was young, and another aunt from ChangZhi is in the court-yard.

小舅妈好年轻的
样子，还有一个
长治的婶婶
在一个院子里。

Dreamed that my mother is next to Thousand Lights Lake, taking picutre next to a steel deer sculpture. Mother was wearing an dress suit outfit in blue color (note: one time I asked about that outfit she said she has packed it felt too old to wear it). With red leather shoes from Belle brand. (continue)

which had cost 300 rmb, and afterwards I went with someone to look for that steel deer sculpture again but it's been removed. The moment the photograph was taken was during fifth grade.
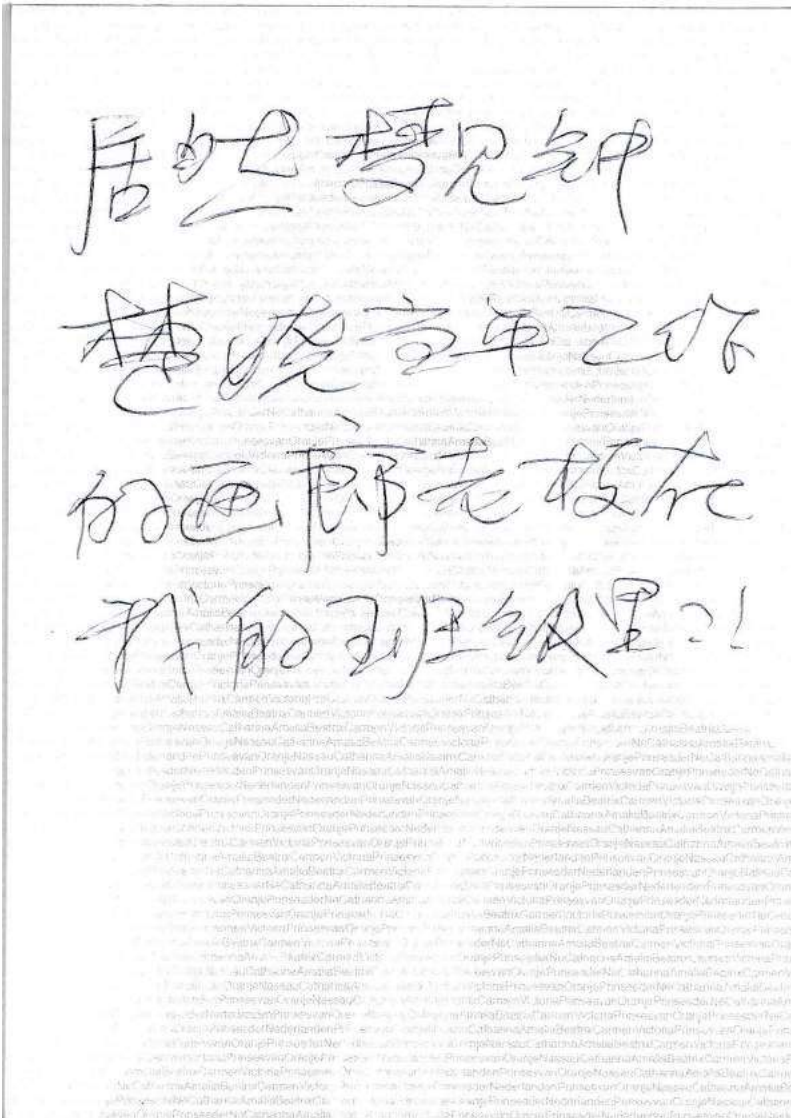
Dreamed that with mother, and brother we went to Changzhi, picked up a cat on the way. I insisted that the cat will sleep by my pillow side, but the cat resisted. Went to rent electric bikes.

梦见跟好妈，小弟去长治，捡了一只猫，反复想要猫睡我枕但是猫不肯去租电动车

Had not recorded dreams
for two days.
Felt very tired!

How come dreamed of Zhu Churao's gallery boss at the time is sitting in my classroom?!

居然 梦见钟 楚晓高中乙班 的画廊老板在 我的班级里?！

2, 2, 8, 2, 1, 5, 2, 5, 2, 4, 2, 2, 3, 1, 1,

2^7
1^3
3^1
4^1
5^1
8^1

7, 3, 1, 1, 1, 1

1, 3, 1, 6, 1, 1, 2, 6, 4,
5, 2, 1, 1, 2, 4,

1^6
2^3
6^2
4^2
3^1
5^1

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enclosed event

1, 2, 2, 6, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 6, 1, 5, 3, 2, 3, 2, 2, 5, 1, 1, 1, 3, 2, 5, 1, 1, 2

6^2
3^3
5^3
2^9
1^12

2 3 3 9 12

3, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 5, 1,
3, 2, 2, 1, 6, 1, 1, 1, 1,
2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 4, 2, 5, 1,
1 ,

6^1
5^2
3^4
2^7
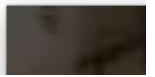1^13

1, 3, 3, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 3,
6, 4, 3, 2, 5, 3, 1, 3

6^1
5^1
4^1
2^2
1^5
3^6

1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 4, 2, 3, 1, 6, 3, 2, 2, 3, 2, 5, 1

4^1
5^1
6^1
3^4
2^5
1^5

3, 2, 2, 2, 2, 6, 1, 6, 4, 2, 2, 1, 1, 4,

3^1
6^2
4^2
1^3
2^6

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Letter of Motivation

Current Studies: Experimental Publishing, Master of Media Design, Piet Zwart Institute. The program fosters critical research on technology as shaped and defined by society; the research content engages the public in forms of editorial production in open mediums such as self-publishing and shadow libraries. "The medium is the message", we hope to rethink the definition of publishing in present living context.

Research Interest: How bodily qualities such as perception and attention are subjected by technology; are there ways to preserve our individuality and become free of subjectivation?

Readings: *Technique of the Observer (Jonathan Crary, 1990); Suspension of Perception (1999); Late Capitalism and Ends of Sleep (2014).*

In *Technique of the Observer*, Jonathan Crary examines the nature of observer and representation prior 1850, a period in which the nature of visuality is impacted by new modalities of visual representation, such as motor powered machines and optical devices. This period of time is considered to be a break from classical mode of seeing as shaped in the renaissance.

How will this topic be relevant today? Today, computer aided design, flight simulators, image recognition are few tools from informatics that are redefining visuality. The course of its definition is shaped by a multitude of factors and entities – military adaption of virtual reality in combat trainings; involvement of Amazon Turk labor in labeling image data for computer vision algorithm development, funded by platform capitalism; the diagnoses of medical patients being generated by machine vision reading medical imageries. This present condition calls us to define contemporary regime of vision.

Brian Massumi describes early stage of sensorial exposure as a preordered chaos. Throughout training process, an individual's sensorial capacity is pruned to ordered correspondences. Synthesia as understood by Massumi, is not a deviation from the normalcy, but rather result of a sensorial development pruned less fully. In *Suspension of Perception*, Crary critically contextualize this bodily process within context of western modernity from late nineteenth century. Using perception as center of research, he restores the word's Latin resonance – taking captive. Being attended, taken captive, is a requirement to be productive in modernity. Think of our contemporary experience working in front of a computer, driving, experiencing cinema – to be able to engage in these activities requires attention. Within attention, our bodies become open to subjectivation by external entities such as education and work. As Massumi approaches conditions outside of the normative spectrum, Crary cites ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) as an example of attentive pathology shaped

by society.

Lastly, in Late Capitalism and Ends of Sleep, Crary continues to discuss sleep as a bodily capability to restore oneself and collective resistance to the 24/7 running capitalistic machine. However as vision and attention, sleep is becoming subjectivated, think of Amazon warehouse workers' working condition on the night of the recently passed Black Friday.

Throughout the Parallel Curriculum, I hope to address the above issues along peers as an attempt find solutions for possible freedom and humanity under the present day.

Project Proposal

Theme: Machine Vision, A Contextualized Visuality

In *Duty Free Art,* Hito Steyerl addresses that the contemporary warfare is taken behind the screens. The war machine is operated in terms of informatics. Tanks coordinated by database, soldiers trained in virtual computer games (as documented in Harun Farocki's *Serious Games*). Steyerl pictures a 3D render for real estate development of the war aftermath, resembling a tidied gamescape, traces of destruction replaced by happy playgrounds.

On the other side of the globe, China is building the largest and most sophisticated camera surveillance system. Several fugitives have been identified using facial recognition camera.

Deep learning is undergoing its third cycle of hype in history since its invention in the 1950s. How can be become wary to its use within platform capitalism and demystify the black box?

To address the conditions above, my project proposal will be consist of events that contextualize machine vision technology on its ontological nature and its social relevance.

Event 1: Unpacking Computer Vision

This event will be taken in an interactive format that aims to familiarize the public with high-level concepts of machine intelligence, as opposed to esoteric technicalities. As addressed in *Deep Learning with Python (François Chollet 2018),* machine learning modules are becoming easily manipulatable due to increased availability in plug-in libraries, such as Tensorflow, developed and promoted by Google.

By unpacking the technicality of computer vision, we will come to clearer understanding how the algorithm processes data and output answers. The machine-learning network is data science, although known to us as neural network, due its engineering principle that resembles biological neural network and behavioral reactions seen in human learning processes (repetition and self-correction).

In the following event, we will come to understanding how manipulation of data is relevant to society, in particular labor and platform capitalism.

Event 2: Computer Vision and Labor

This event will be taken in format of lecture and presentation.

ImageNet is established in 2007 as image database for computer vision research in Stanford University AI lab. In order to reach precision, the algorithm must receive high quantity of training data. In its outset, the lab planned on employing local undergraduate students for minimum wage to classify training images. As research funding comes to depletion, the lab collaborates with Amazon Mechanical Turk platform, employing over 50,000 people in more than 167 geographic areas to classify an amount of ten billion images. Aside from ImageNet, centralized platforms gather user contribution in filling image identification Captcha as training material.

How do we define the labor contributed by the nameless workers gathered by centralized labor platform? How do we define our work in Captcha contribution? Can such labor be defined as digital archiving? In *How Not to Waste Time on Internet,* Kenneth Goldsmith interprets browser history as a form of archive. As we agree to cookies, input data generates content for us to be consumed; are we laborers of our algorithmically generated content?

Research_progress

Apart from Jonathan Crary's writing on vision and perception mentioned in the Witte de With essays (It's been my main source of literature reading on vision, so I felt sick of this reliance already), I tried to find other relevant literature.

Beautiful Data: A History of Vision and Reason by Orit Halpern
It's nice to discover this book because Crary mainly writes on 19th and early 20th century history in vision. Although, I am still having some difficulty reading it because it cites theory from cybernetics (Norbert Wiener, etc). Progressed some 50 pages during a Saturday and hauled for a stop. I will pick it up again once I catch up with cybernetics.

The existence of Digital Objects by Yuk Hui
Author is Bernard Stiegler's student and writes on philosophy on technology. Interesting but completely baffled. It's a good read but I don't know how will I extend executable research from it.

It's also interesting contextually because the author has written another title, *The Question Concerning Technology in China*. This title led me to a community in Hangzhou, China called iNetwork Society that organizes events contextually on technology within China. Yesterday read from their news feed that Philips is doing smart city design consultation that will reinforce gated communities in China. It's interesting because in my dream records, I find contents relating to urbanism (dreaming of the compound I was living in etcetera). I hope to weave these resources together to the network I am thinking of (self-radiating network, my individuality is within at the same time the projections are worldly)

Other than these titles nothing much more. Other sporadic readings from magazines and articles. Made an order from Verso website when it was on sale but is already sure I cannot finish them. In the end after graduation I'll have time and energy reading them perhaps.