DISTRIBUTED, RADICAL AND RESILIENT: SPECULATIONS ON A COMMUNITY-LED FUTURE FOR OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

Janneke Adema – Coventry University

OATage 2017 Dresden

Outline

- Discourses of Sustainability and Resilience

- The Rise of Academic-led publishing - 3 profiles
  - *Open Humanities Press*
  - *meson press*
  - *Language Science press*

- Jisc Report – Changing Publishing Ecologies
  - *Characteristics of ALPs*
  - *Needs and Requirements*
  - *Recommendations and Steps Forward*

- Radical Open Access
  - *The Radical Open Access Collective*

What is sustainability?

- Single model or entire system?

- Commercially viable?

- Short or long term?

- Self-sustaining?

- Sustainability for who?

- For the Sciences of for the Humanities too?

Hence when the OA discussion shifts to sustainable business models, it invariably becomes a discussion about the publishing *business*. The implication is that what needs sustaining are the publishers themselves. (…) From the scholarly perspective, what needs sustaining is not publishers, but rather a communication system that supports its culture of inquiry. That is to say, what needs to be sustained ultimately is the culture of free critical inquiry certified by the rigors of open collaboration.

(David Ottina, 2013)

OPEN HUMANITIES PRESS

Journals

Titles

Affirmations: Of The Modern

Australian Humanities Review

Cosmos and History

Culture Machine

Culture Unbound

Electronic Book Review

Fast Capitalism

Fibreculture

Books

Titles

Series	Titles

Architecture in the Anthropocene
Etienne Turpin

Art in the Anthropocene
Heather Davis and Etienne Turpin

Being Up For Grabs
Hilan Bensusan

Capital At The Brink
Jeffrey R. Di Leo and Uppinder Mehan

Death of the PostHuman
Claire Colebrook

Digital Humanities and Digital Media
Roberto Simanowski

Digital Light
Sean Cubitt, Daniel Palmer and Nathaniel Tkacz

Dream Machines
Steven Connor

Fabulations nocturnes
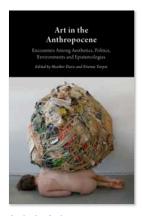Érik Bordeleau, Toni Pape, Ronald Rose-Antoinette and Adam Szymanski

Immersion Into Noise
Joseph Nechvatal

Impasses of the Post-Global

Architecture in the Anthropocene
Etienne Turpin

Art in the Anthropocene
Heather Davis and Etienne Turpin

Being Up For Grabs
Hilan Bensusan

Capital At The Brink
Jeffrey R. Di Leo and Uppinder Mehan

Death of the PostHuman
Claire Colebrook

Digital Humanities and Digital Media
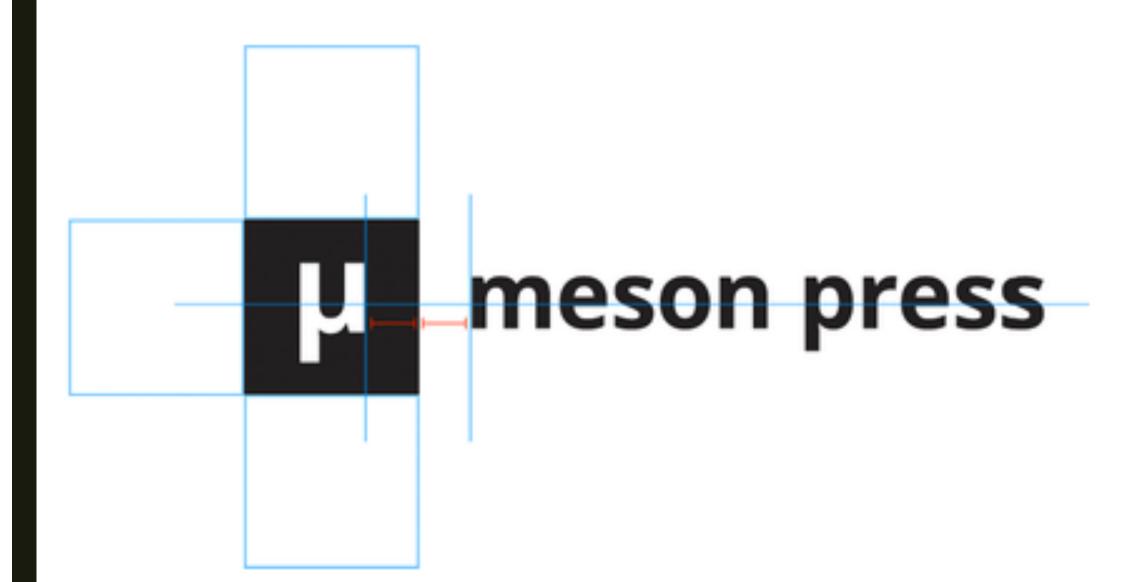

Digital Light
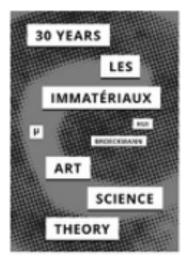Sean Cubitt, Daniel Palmer and

Dream Machines
Steven Connor

Living Books About Life
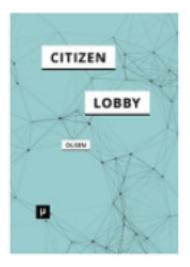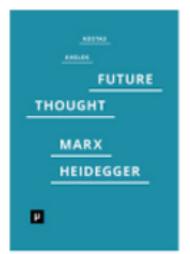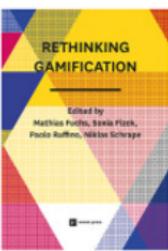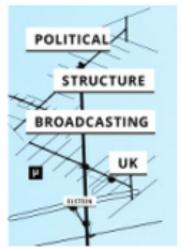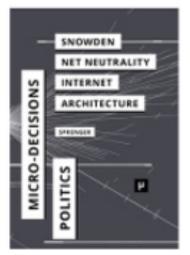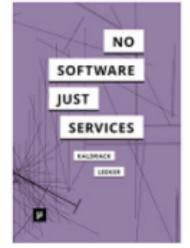
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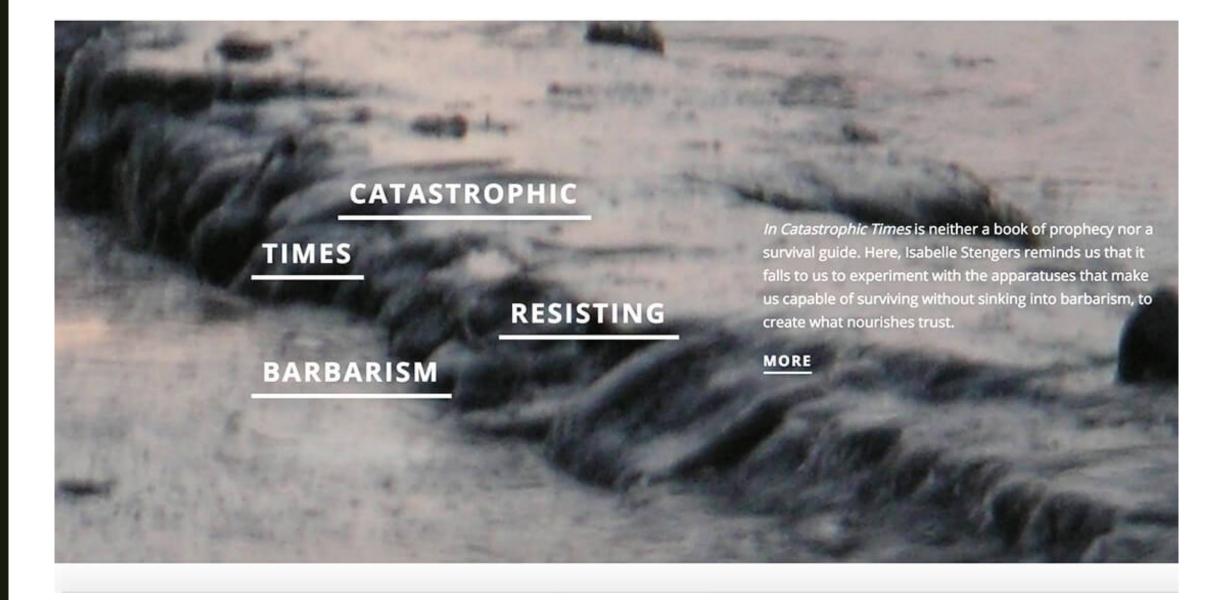
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RESISTING

BARBARISM

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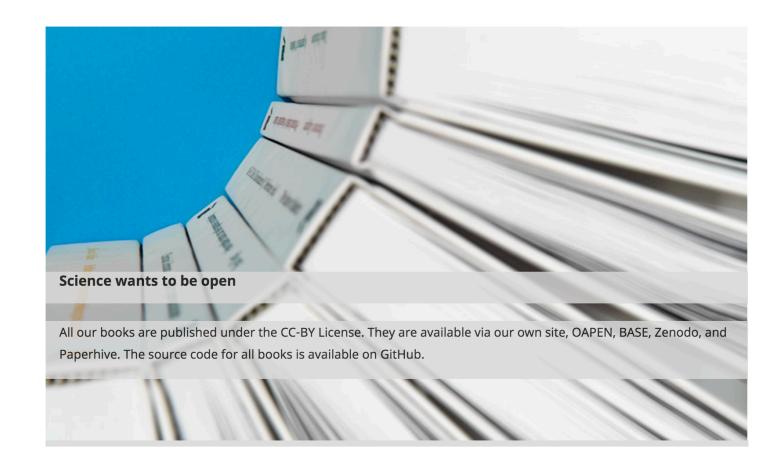
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Changing publishing ecologies

A landscape study of new university presses and academic-led publishing

A report to Jisc by Janneke Adema and Graham Stone,
with an introduction by Chris Keene
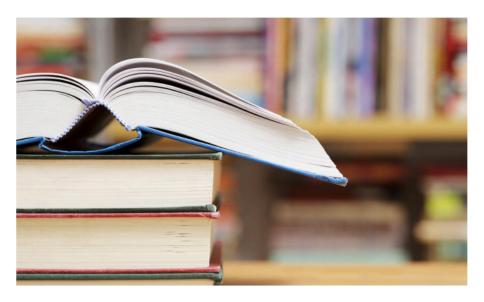
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Press	Fields
Counterpress	Critical Theory, Critical Legal Theory
electric.press/Roving Eye Press	Multimodal works/Books previously published by Bob Brown (or written and designed by Brown for other presses)
Goldsmiths Press	Wide range. Cutting across trade/academic divisions & publishes original fiction
Language Science Press	Linguistics
Mattering Press	Science and Technology Studies & Interdisciplinary
MayFly Books	Organisation Studies, Critical Management Studies, Institutional Critique, Art & Culture
Media Commons Press	Media Studies, Experimental Publishing
meson press	Media, digital media, technology, and network culture
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Open Humanities Press	Critical and cultural theory. Subjects include philosophy, cultural studies, literary theory, postcolonial theory, religion, gender studies, media studies, film studies, medieval studies, narrative theory, psychoanalysis, digital culture and social movements, modernist studies, Australian literature, art criticism, environmental humanities, digital humanities
Open Library of Humanities	Research with a humanistic bent. Strong Literary Studies theme
punctum books	Para-academic material & everything but the hard sciences. Our subject fields are the Humanities, Social Sciences, Fine Arts and Arts and Design. Mainly also Design and Architecture, Eco-studies, Anthropocene studies and speculative philosophy
Ubiquity Press	All fields and all subjects

Characteristics of Academic-Led Presses

- Community-based and led

- Open Access

- Commercialisation of Scholarship

- Not-for-Profit

- Experimental and Multimodal Scholarship

- Extension of Critical Work & Ethics of Care

"The primary principles that underpin the entirety of the project have to do with the value of openness and really engaging in an open fashion. Not just with other scholars in the process of disseminating scholarship, but also being able to engage openly with the broader public"

Kathleen Fitzpatrick (MediaCommons Press)

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"To me [Urbanomic and Semiotext(e)] were models of how individuals, in an independent way, created presses that were edgy, creative and interesting. OHP, to me, was a gold standard model of how academics could come together and while also doing their academic jobs, they could foster innovative work and open access"

Eileen Joy (punctum books)

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Needs and Requirements

- Distribution to libraries

- Support with Finances, Accounting and Labour

- Preservation

- Legal advice

- Commercial software/partners

- Funding for publications

- Legitimating the scholar-publishing enterprise

"Having an ability for small publishers to get their content discoverable is absolutely critical, but the process that one has to go through and that we are going through to make our material institutionally discoverable, is a nightmare"

Rupert Gatti (Open Book Publishers)

Needs and Requirements

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"In my opinion, we don't need another technological platform, we need, really, some funding we can use for content"

Mercedes Bunz (meson press)

Needs and Requirements

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"It is kind of good that I didn't know all the things I was going to have to do when I started because it would have seemed insurmountable, that naivety was a buffer against not doing anything; the stagnation you can get. If somebody told you everything you were going to have to do to set up a new publisher, nobody would ever do it but by learning as you go, you take more risks because you don't know what you don't know but on the other hand, it is manageable"

Martin Eve (OLH)

Recommendations and steps forward

■ Toolkit

- *Technological solutions: tools and software*
- *Guidelines for metadata, preservation and dissemination*
- *Provide legal advice and model contracts*
- *How to/best practice manuals: setting up an ALP*
- *Financial best practice*
- *Marketing & communications plans*

■ Support community building

- *Library Publishing Collective*
- *Radical Open Access Collective*

"*I think a resource for publishers would be welcome, a repository of information to provide resources to help open access publishers find information about how they publish open access*"

Joe Deville (Mattering Press)
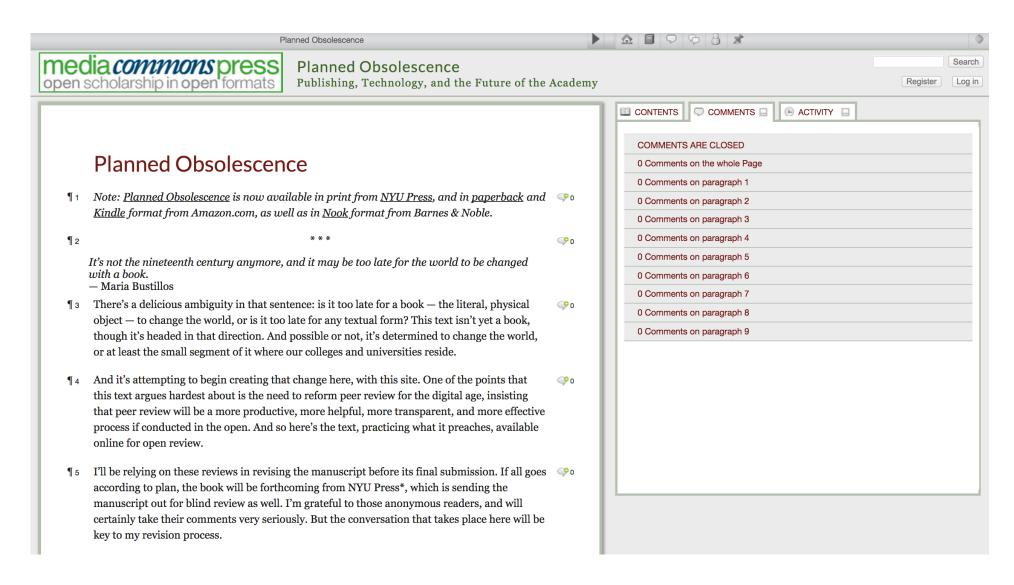
"There have been some moves afoot to form consortiums among small presses (Radical OA, PKP's Cooperative Study). These seem promising as there is a need for some sort of collaborative organization/management"

Open Humanities Press

Radical Open Access

- Repositioning Open Access

- Critiques of the Status Quo/Reimagining Scholarship

- Experimentation

- New and underserved cultures of knowledge

- Ethics of Care

Experimentation
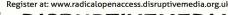
Radical Open Access

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Radical Open Access Conference

Radical Open Access

Two days of critical discussion and debate in support of an 'alternative' vision for open access and scholarly communication. The aim of the conference is to explore some of the intellectually and politically exciting ways of understanding open access that are currently available internationally. A particular emphasis is placed on those that have emerged in recent years in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

Coventry University

15th - 16th of June 2015

Confirmed Speakers

An Uncertain Commons	Sigi Jöttkandt
Janneke Adema	Eileen Joy
Dominique Babini	Chris Kelty
Armin Beverungen	Sarah Kember
Mercedes Bunz	Andreas Kirchner
Marcus Burkhardt	Christopher Land
Joe Deville	Stuart Lawson
Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Tara McPherson
Christian Fuchs	David Ottina
Rupert Gatti	Nate Tkacz
Jonathan Gray	Marisol Sandoval
Gary Hall	Stevphen Shukaitis
David Harvie	Felix Stalder
John Holmwood	Joanna Zylinska

Projects and Presses

BABEL Working Group	MediaCommons Press
Culture Machine	MLA Commons
CLACSO	Meson Press
Discover Society	Open Book Publishers
Ephemera	Open Humanities Press
Goldsmiths Press	Open Knowledge
Journal of Peer Production	Foundation
Journal of Radical	Photomediations Machine
Librarianship	Punctum Books
Limn	Scalar
Mattering Press	Spheres
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John Holmwood
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Chris Kelty
Sarah Kember
Andreas Kirchner
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Ephemera	MediaCommons Press	Spheres
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