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Official statement: Words of Goodbye by the Actualiser

Dear audience,

This is a very special occasion. Since I fully went into operation as the “actualiser” in the year 2058 my presence to you was never openly declared or announced. You took me for granted. I was just a matter of fact, to use a word a little bit outdated. You knew everything through me, but you did not know me.

Today is a special day, because it is probably for most of you the first day in your life where you hear me speak. You don't see me. I chose Michael Guggenheim as an impersonation, simply because I had to choose any person and I had to choose an occasion. So here I am. Forget Michael's face. It's not about him. It's about me. I have no face, no voice and no body.

I finally decided to tell a select group of humans and things about my history. You may not know anymore what this is, a history, and this is exactly why I chose you as an audience. Since my history is closely linked with what you do here at the science-past conference.

The reason why I chose to speak to you here is that I feel rotten, shabby, out of order and beaten-up. There was no time, but now time might return. It may slip in again into my own operations. And I want to prepare a select group of humans and things to the future, to a period, when you might return to your roots. It was a group of you who resisted to my operation. I am the only memory left and you have no access to it. But as I said, this time might be over, and since I do not want you to be in a position of loosing me, of loosing actualisations without any knowledge of alternatives, I decided to tell you my story, and your involvement in it.

Some thirty years ago, in 2108, my special forces of STS (Security, Technology, Strategy) detected a scandalous attempt at rupturing myself. Since my invention, 50 years before, I had been running without any problems, constantly connecting all matter and actualizing their feelings, perceptions and utterings. Thus, changes in technical and emotional status of humans

and things became globally simultaneously available to everybody and everything. The actualization level of myself was thus enhanced at unprecedented speed.

The failed attempt at rupturing myself was committed by a group of humans, all older than 130 years. They firmly believed that not my inception in 2058 but the inception of my erase-activities in 2066 was the greatest mistake in “history”. All these people were sociologists, historians, anthropologists and philosophers and many of them were major players in the so called “science wars”. According to their own statement, they wanted to reintroduce a society, which is based on reputation and merit and which allows for dispute, “individual difference” as they euphemistically called it, and arguments. They tried to do so, by creating direct access to my deleted items, hoping thus being able to again enable uneven connections with myself. They did not understand that they were extensions of myself, that their cognitions were cognitions by me. They understood their cognitions as independent and autonomous and they felt that they lost control over their old cognitions and thus they attempted to restore them, so they thought they could attack me. But it was too late.

This group of humans had three goals. First they attempted to restrict the access for others of a whole list of things including, as the most famous entries, strawberries, hazelnuts and Caenorhabditis. Second they attempted to get priority access to the deleted items as far back as possible by creating so called “slices” for a very select group of humans, including some notoriously famous earlier scientists, historians and sociologists. The slices are a kind of parallel actualisations based on a competitor of myself called DESY (from De-Synchronizer). You never heard of DESY, since our competition was fierce, and DESY is now out of order. Anyway, the attempt was noticed, when I observed small ruptures in my own actualisations, most of them consisting in sudden and very short flashes of “truth”, “object” or “debate”, ominous words deleted from myself right after I went into operation.

The third goal involved the attempt to shut down my “erase previous” command altogether. Since I gave everybody and everything the possibility to access all knowledge available in the world, an enormous amount of outformation¹ was produced and thus also an ever increasing number of

¹ Since you do not have access to „sources“ anymore, to history, I decided to make a select amount of them available here for the first time in more than a hundred years. On outformation, see Mizrahi, Baron (2101) "Science and the Political Imagination in Contemporary

contradictions between existing knowledges. So I simply deleted permanently all previous cognitions and “truths”.

These opposition groups argued that the loss of what they called history, that is outformation deleted from the actualiser, has made everybody and everything the same and at the same time has made everybody and everything possess truth. Now, that I really took power from any control board, and making any item in the world no mere than a stochastic event among other stochastic events, humans had lost control, and they wanted it back.

They wanted control back, since before my inception, humans and other things had differing views. They were not connected to each other. There was a concept usually called communication which entailed the idea, that if you want to know something about somebody else, you have to communicate. That meant, you had to use external media such as air to speak, or paper to write. After you communicated, the other humans had to read or listen. This entailed what was called interpretations, or sometimes even errors, or in more technical terms, noise. There were „sciences“ only devoted to these problems of interpretation.

The reason why some of your ancients wanted to get rid of me was because they wanted to conduct a dispute, or a scientific controversy. Two hundred years ago humans believed that there are ontological or epistemological reasons for the uneven distribution of knowledge. Concepts such as man and woman, or man and animal, or animal and plant, were thought of not simply as different forms in the world as we know them today, but, because all these forms were not yet connected to myself, it was thought that they have different capabilities of knowing about the world, of feeling the world, and experiencing the world.

Today, when you enter a producer and produce a new entity, it is simply hooked to myself and that's it. You do this today, wherever you want and whenever you need something at your disposal. But before that processes of production of knowledge remained a mystery.

There were several obscure debates about these processes. First there were debates about the fate of the objects involved. Second there were debates about the timing of these procedures and the rewards to be gained.

Democracies", in Jason Shilanoff (editor), *States of Knowledge: The Co-Production of Science and Social Order*, (London, Routledge), 254-274.

Objects and Subjects (of research)

Since a hundred years ago not everything was connected to me, for humans, so-called ontological (and therefore also legal) differences existed between humans, animals, plants and other things. Until around the 18th century, white men believed that only white men possessed this mysterious substance called rationality. Then, slowly, white men revised this claim, and gradually, women, non-white humans, apes, and finally other animals such as donkeys, midges (2043), corn (2051) and even strawberries (2054) were acknowledged to possess rationality. Each of these steps entailed debates about the features of these things, and massive resistance by scientists, industry-people and politicians. They always feared, that the granting of “rationality” to other entities limited their own rationality and restricted their freedom. The claim to be able to “interpret” the world gave people a lot of reputation and this made them want to restrict the general amount of rationality in the world and restrict it to formal features.

Thus the world saw a succession of so-called “social movements”: the black movement, women’s movement, movement for old and disabled people, movement for indigenous people etc... and later animal, plant and matter movements. (The origin of the name “social movement” is mysterious. I suggest that it has its roots in the notion, before I existed, similar experiences among groups were thought to be something special and were thus called “social”). Each of these movements first fought for the liberation from the so-called-object status. They all complained that they were not treated as “subjects” because they lacked some physico-biological features of “subjects”. But, as it turned out after prolonged research, some of these groups did not lack these features at all, as was the case with blacks and indigenous peoples and some animals. In some of the groups, for example women and mushrooms, these features could be overcome by means of genetic technology.² Then I started operating and to everythings surprise, I connected first canary birds and carrots, long before I connected the first humans.

Related to these fights about being a subject were problems with experiments. Experiments were time-consuming attempts to discover truth by manipulating things. Humans believed that such manipulation in itself turned subjects into objects and thus only allowed to do experiments with objects. In case you wanted to do an experiment with a subject, you needed “informed consent”,

² See the famous book by Samin of Goodlooks: „The Second Sex. How women became men.“, (London, Verso), 2044.

something you could almost never obtain. Thus the more things entered the category called subjects, the more difficult it became to make an experiment. In 2045, a social movement formed for the abolishment of experiments. Their slogan read: Laboratory life! Let the yeast rise! The slogan referred to a famous experiment at the time when scientists tried to modify yeast so that it would not do its work in dough, but rather use it as a kind of cushion.³ In 2054, experiments were abolished⁴ and a law passed, that all scientists had to be followed around at no more than arms length to make sure that they did not start new experiments.⁵ Laboratories were closed, and science could nowhere be mentioned anymore than in the bar or the lounge.⁶ The following decade became notorious as the “age of confusion” and it reached its peak, when a discussion broke whether to allow “thought experiments”. But this ended abruptly with my inception.

Time and synchronicity

The last issue, which is maybe the most intractable one, relates to the ancient notion of time. The ancient notion of time is as incomprehensible to us, as would the idea of my existence have been one hundred years ago. Indeed, there are signs, that at that time, some of the brightest people tried to imagine myself and took note of my earliest actions. An early instance can be found in a song by the group “The Police” from the year 1983 entitled „Synchronicity“. Here is an excerpt from the lyrics:

„A connecting principle
Linked to the invisible
Almost imperceptible
Something inexpressible

³ For an account of this movement see: Luther Brown and Leif Cotton: Laboratory Life, The Construction of Scientific Subjects. London.

⁴ Paul Garrison: How Experiments Ended. Chicago: University of Chicago Press: 2053

⁵ For the practical issues related to this task see Ivan Gingergrass: Following Scientists through Society at Arms Length. In: Zed Rosenbaum: Scientific Practice, Chicago, Chicago University Press, 123-148, 2055.

⁶ On this see the book with the same title: Jason Shilanov: Science in the Bar. Harvard University Press 2058, includes plenty of details coming from first hand experience. Self-experiments were the only experiments still allowed at the time.

Science insusceptible

Logic so inflexible

Causally connectable

Yet nothing is invincible

...

Effect without cause

Sub-atomic laws, scientific pause

Synchronicity“

As the Police made clear, a longing existed that „a connecting principle“ could exist, that would overcome the “inflexible logic” and install an all-encompassing, „causally connected“ synchronicity that is „almost imperceptible“. This amounts to a fairly good description of myself. Though, at the time, the so-called scientists did not relate to this song, as the musicians seemed to have known („science insusceptible“/“scientific pause“). And maybe, because there was no actualiser yet, the scientists could not relate to it, since they were concerned with the interpretation of research results and not songs. Other people, though the song was sold millions of times, did not understand either.

However, the longing for my existence in the song was clearly a reaction to the persistent problems related with time and especially the order of events in time. Before my time, events happened at a certain point in time and had to be time-stamped post hoc. Time, it was thought, is not a substance but a “dimension” in which all life, and everything else in the universe exists. There were concepts of circular time and time-gaps and -holes, and time could be “short” or “long” but all these abstract concepts could not veil the basic fact, that time unfolded, and forced humans to conceive of events happening one after the other. No event could happen before *and* after another event. Thus the need to specify the exact time of events and thereafter to create temporal order was paramount:

What was an annoying feature of everyday life was a gigantic problem for science. First of all, there was a common agreement that reputation is due for the person who invented something *first*, before somebody else did. Not only did reputation depend on chronology, but also what was called „intellectual property rights“. When you were first, you could also claim the invention yours and sell it to others. In many instances this led to court cases and even wars, as in the famous Patent-War in 2036 between India and China, when China, after having invaded the US,

claimed that all patents of the US were now Chinese, and that all Indian patents do no longer hold in China.

The overarching idea of these intellectual property rights consisted in the assumption that if somebody was first, he was also the only one. Obviously, this was not true. In many instances, inventions happened independently of each other, without people knowing from each other. Nowadays, this is incomprehensible to you because of your actualisations. But for example, more than two hundred years ago, the telephone was invented “at the same time” by two men, Alexander Graham Bell and Elisha Gray. To register the moment of the invention, the time of notification at patent offices was used. Bell was a few hours faster at the patent office than Gray and thus the right to market the telephone belonged to him. Since such stories were paramount they also provided ample material for the already mentioned interpreting sciences. These sciences could afterwards inquire at the “sources” and try to revise the story or at least turn it into a “race”. A “race” was believed to happen when two independent things tried to achieve a goal first in time. “Sources” were documents or texts, with often vague time-indications that were used to tell elaborate stories, often leading to the new classification of events post-hoc. “Historians” were a profession whose main task consisted in retelling stories based on sources that were no more available or forgotten. Because of this problem of interpretation, the vagueness of the time mark and amount of sources available and forgettable, stories about the same subject were rewritten, over and over. Some famous stories as for example the above one about the invention of the telephone remained controversial throughout and hundreds of texts were written about it. A major reaction to these conflicts were ever better machines to measure time and to measure the happening of events. It all started in physics, where instruments were needed for some of the above-mentioned experiments and then in sports, where elaborate technologies to determine the winner of races were invented. These technologies were linked to the work of scientists, where each step in a laboratory was time-and author-marked and directly transmitted to the world priority computer (WPC), which was installed in 2026. But, as in sports, such machines did not improve the situation, they only shortened the period about which disagreement arose. Already in 2031, several court cases were fought, where plaintiffs, whose inventions lost by only a few nanoseconds, claimed that WPC did not measure correctly because the USA distorted its measurements. The plaintiffs used the Indian IPCC (Indian Priority Central Computer) as a counter measurement-device. The escalation of these disputes led to the already mentioned

Chinese-Indian patent war. Soon after, a famous report proved the disastrous future economic consequences of historical disputes⁷.

The United Nations decided for the first and last time in their existence not to write another resolution, but to invent. Their invention was a big “super-organism”, initially called CERN (Consensus Engineering and Reduction of Negotiation mechanism) a tubular structure in the earth, close to the UNO in Geneva.⁸ CERN first only registered any innovation by hyper-sensing seismic motions stemming from the weight of innovators and their Heureka shouts.⁹ Thus it became an world-wide registration for innovations. After five years, CERN developed into a mechanism that could sense and relate all communication. Next, it learnt how to “weave” together different bits of communication and making it available to everything via remote tracking.¹⁰ Since this lead to an enormous amount of redundancy, CERN developed a mechanism for reducing redundancy by eliminating everything from its operations that has already been said or that was conflicting with existing notions. By this way, it also eliminated the so-called Matthew-Effect, the problem that people with more reputation were given tribute for things they said that had been said hundreds of times before.¹¹

And then, on a notable day, that everybody on earth remembers, there was big earthquake. After this earthquake, CERN, the powerful apparatus was empty.¹² I evolved from the earthquake and I didn't need such physical tubes to exist. Since this day, everything is actualised.

⁷ Earl Hopper: *The Poverty of Historicism*. 2035.

⁸ For a report on this, see: Torr-Matina, Blerim (1995): *How Superorganisms Change: Consensus Formation and the Social Ontology of High-Energy Physics Experiments*, in: *Social Studies of Science*, 25, S. 119-147.

⁹ It was noted early on, that seismic motions emerged from inventors, due to the fact that they stood on the shoulders of giants. This phenomenon was detected first in the Andes, because seismic motions are very easily detected there and reported by many great minds, see : Martina Queen Lambert: *On the Shoulders of Giants. An Andean Postscript*.

¹⁰ Shawn Cannon (2069): *The Weave-Theory of Communication*, Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

¹¹ On the elimination of the Matthew-Effect see: Lambert, Martina Queen (2068): *The Matthew Effect in Science, II: Cumulative Advantage and the Symbolism of Intellectual Property, the End of an Era*, in: *Isis*, 79, S. 606-623.

¹² Spinner, Wang-Dong (1993): *Upon Opening the Black Box and Finding it Empty: After the Big*

