



POST-

2017-2018
2018-2019

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We find ourselves mired in the hegemony of all things POST-. After recent “post-factual” election strategies saw evidence thrown by the wayside in favour of feelings, passions, and straight-up lies, now the OED has declared “post-truth” the word of the year. Long acquainted with the post-modern idea that all truth is relative, we have become enamoured with the word “post-” as a sign of itself.

Though it sometimes comes after the concepts it qualifies, POST is more often used as a disqualifying prefix. Things we have POSTED become obsolete by fiat. They cease to exist. Through the destructive power of a single prefix, the post-human era has already begun. Post-monotheism is a nostalgic dream; post-consumerism an illusion. The post-brain is already all around, we see it every day. Consumers are post-citizens. We wait patiently for the post-robotic era. It will take patience.

Our dreams of obsolescence are expressions of our need for a radical departure: enthusiasm for POST offers evidence of our lassitude, but it does not create anything new. It merely passes judgement on the past while pushing us toward a dead end. Post-industrial, post-book, post-alternative, post-punk, post-deinstitutionalization, post-psychiatrization, post-medication, post-overtreatment, post-internment, post-mortem, post-partum, post-gender, post-genre, post-digital, post-pseudo-democracy, post-traumatic, post-avant-garde, post-colonialism, post-Taylorism. The Post contains everything and its opposite, sequential logics have warped.

There is a POST for everyone. We are stuck in a dustbin, imprisoned by cynicism. We are punch-drunk and exhausted, but still thirsty for life. An infinity of posts will not be the end of our world.

And so we will occupy grey areas and unfilled spaces.

Folie/Culture is pleased to invite you, not into the “post-POST-” era, but rather into the a-POST- era. Together let us breakoff the shackles of POST- and instead find new names for the present. Let us put down roots in the material world.

How can we escape this narrowing of the mind? How can we reinvest the present, embrace risk and celebrate life’s incongruities? How can we rename art that tackles unexplored relationships? Disconcerting attitudes? Joyfully deranged production? Artists and other denizens of the crazysphere: Rush to your stations! From drifting states of consciousness to concrete objects, material bodies to bodies of sound to technologies. Let every proposition be its own manifesto! Let reality embody aesthetics! Let us untangle ourselves from conventional wisdoms that kill our souls.

We’re off to the a-POST-! All together now!

The Folie/Culture Programming Committee