

CONVERSATION WITH JOHN, FUCK THE CITATIONS
AND ACADEMIC APPROACHES, WE NEED TO
ORGANIZE A PUNK-INDUSTRIAL SHOW IN NV!

CONVERSATION WITH JOHN, FUCK
THE CITATIONS AND ACADEMIC
APPROACHES, WE NEED TO
ORGANIZE A PUNK-INDUSTRIAL
SHOW IN SPARKS, NV!

Jackpot



SACRIPOLITICAL

SRINNY PETE AND THE MIX

DI Redacted

Friday, December 2nd

8:10

8 PM

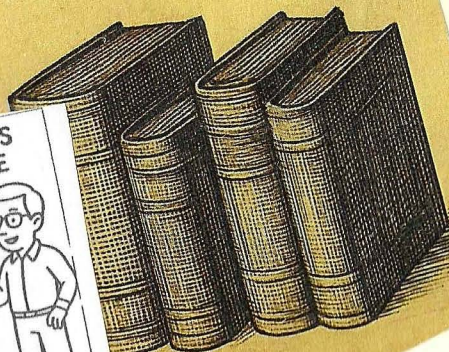
The Elbow Room Bar
2002 VICTORIAN AVE.
Sparks, Nevada



MISHAPS
MAKE
GREAT
FIELDNOTES

9. Respect other participants
encounters—everyone has a
different path.

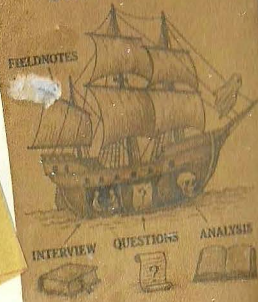
FIG. 3



CULTURE IS
LAW-LIKE



ETHNOGRAPHIC
GHOST SHIP



INSPIRATION SPACE
**DELEUZE
GUATTARI**

A THOUSAND PLATEAUS



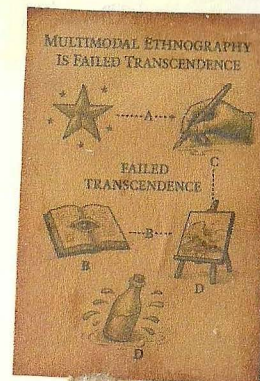
This philosophical work
reframes thought as dynamic
lines of becoming, emphasizing
interconnectedness and
multiplicity—key rhizomatic
concepts within the Ghost Ship
Project.



... So could you do a
write up.. at least to get
us going.
Connecting Ghostship to
some insight about how
ai might impact
ethnography as it evolves
would be interesting.

Could we say somehow
ethnography as ghostship
reflects a productive
withholding, reluctance
to move fully into
technology driven
everyday life of which ai
is the evolving modality.

Anyhow, let's play a bit.
Sent from my iPhone



WELCOME
TO THE
UNCHARTED

Truth is a sound heard
differently by every ear.

POSTmodern
SATIRE

I'M BEING
IRONIC

VERY
FUNNY

KURT SCHWITTERS' MERZBAU

The Merzbau was a sculptural environment developed by German artist Kurt Schwitters in the city of Hanover beginning in the late 1920s. It consisted of elaborate constructions made from found objects, plaster, and other materials housed within Schwitters' studio. The continuously expanding assemblage was destroyed in an air raid in 1943, but was documented in photographs before its demise.

ETHNOGRAPHIC
GHOST SHIP

A.E. PILOT

HARVESTING
CONTENT

PAUSE TO
CONSIDER
YOUR JOURNEY
AND ITS
MEANING.

METHOD IS A
LEAK

Fig. 1



ETHNOGRAPHY

FIG. 1



Schrodinger's
cat lives on

EMIC ETHNOGRAPHIC
FIELD RECORDER

Fig. 1

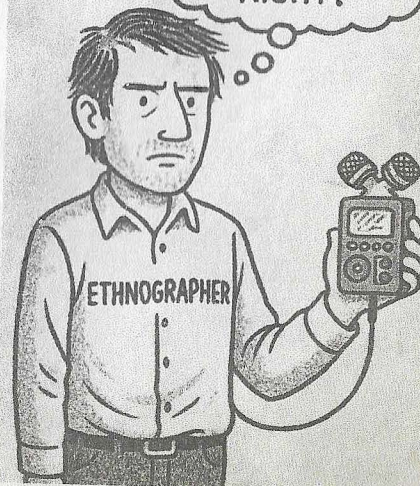


"The only field recorder that records
purely in the emic voice!"
—Scott Lukas

EXTEND THE
FIELDWORK



I PUT THE
BATTERIES IN,
SO NOW I'M A
SOUND ARTIST,
RIGHT?

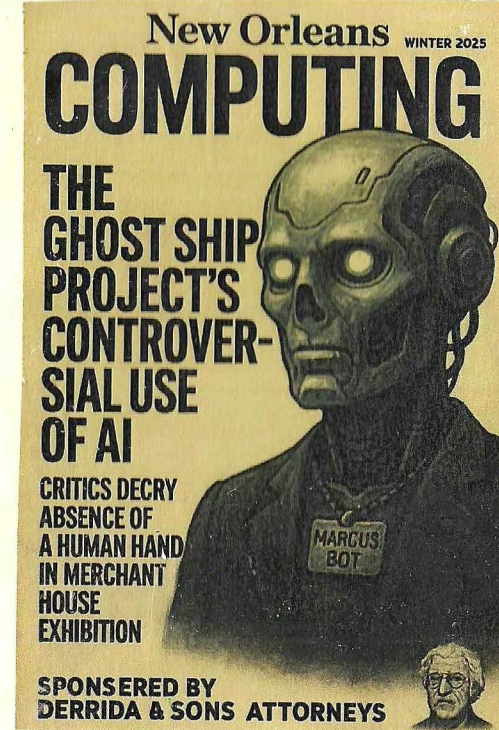
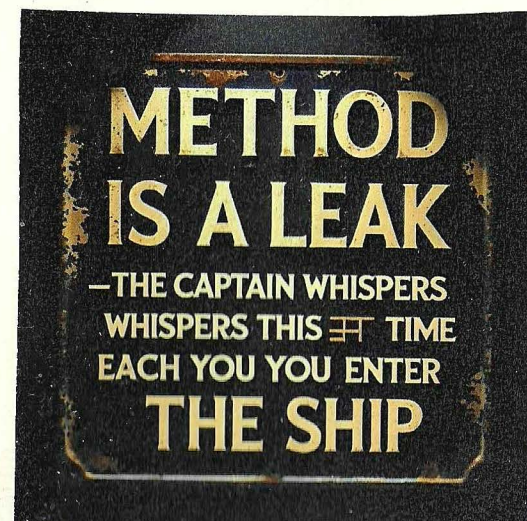
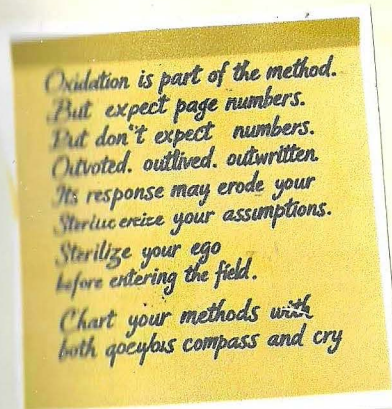
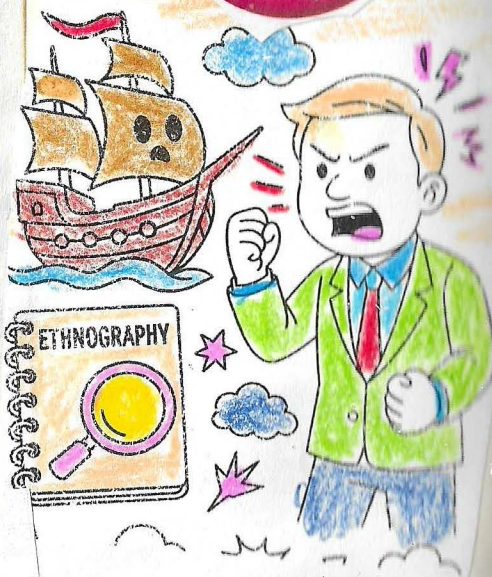


TOP 10 FOUNDATIONS

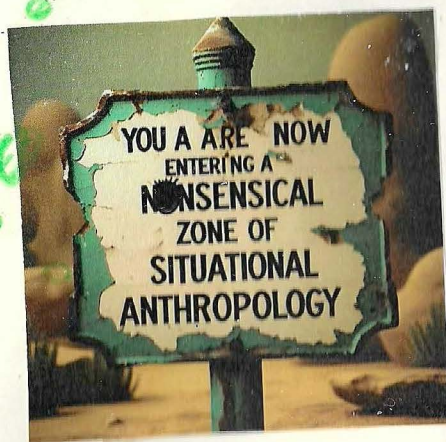
OF THE
1980s WRITING CULTURE
CRITIQUES OF ETHNOGRAPHY

- 1 CRISIS OF REPRESENTATION
- 2 POLITICS OF AUTHORITY
- 3 ETHNOGRAPHY AS TEXT
- 4 WRITING AS CONSTRUCTION
- 5 POWER THROUGH WRITING
- 6 ALL KNOWLEDGE AS LOCATED
- 7 POLYVOCALITY
- 8 LITERARY STRATEGIES
- 9 HISTORY AND HERMENEUTICS
- 10 AWARENESS OF CONTINGENCY

Feedback loops are the tide
that guides your ship.



captain's hat



TOO
AMBIGUOUS:
Ask if it's
your project
or their reading

A GHOST SHIP
NEVER
DROPS
ANCHOR

SET SAIL
FOR
DIFFERENCE

Topes for Redeployment

Anthropology
of music & sound

dj redacted

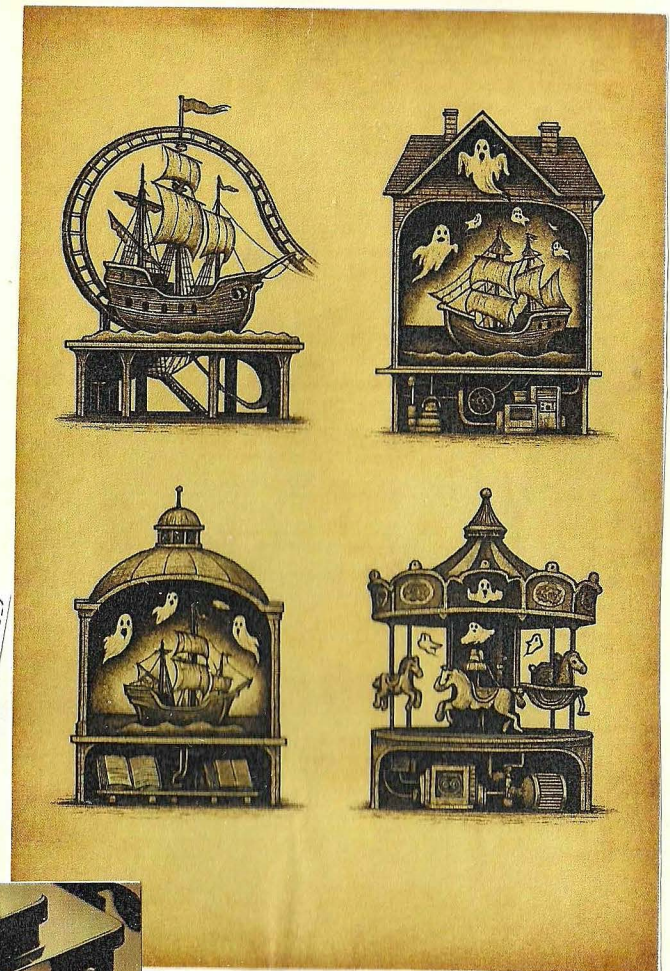
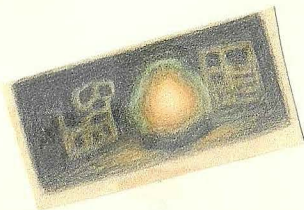
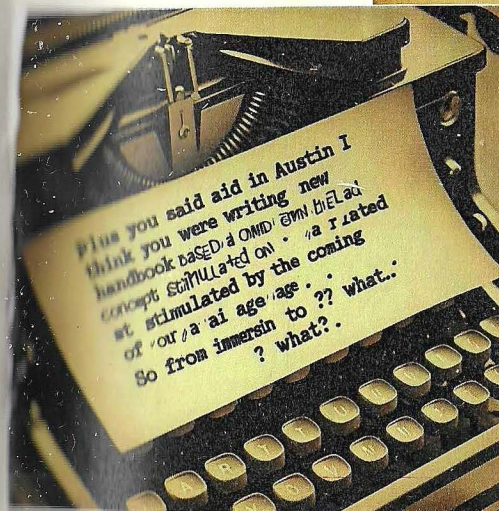
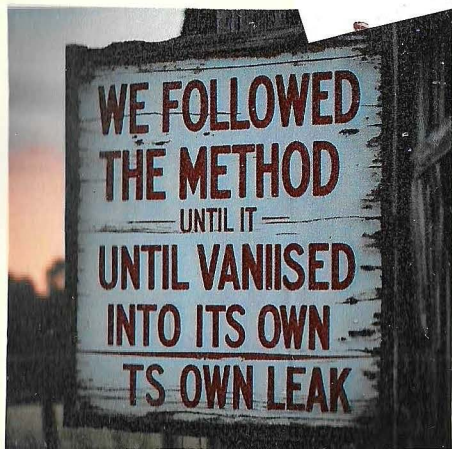


LET THEORY
BE ETSVERED
AS A LEAK
WAY

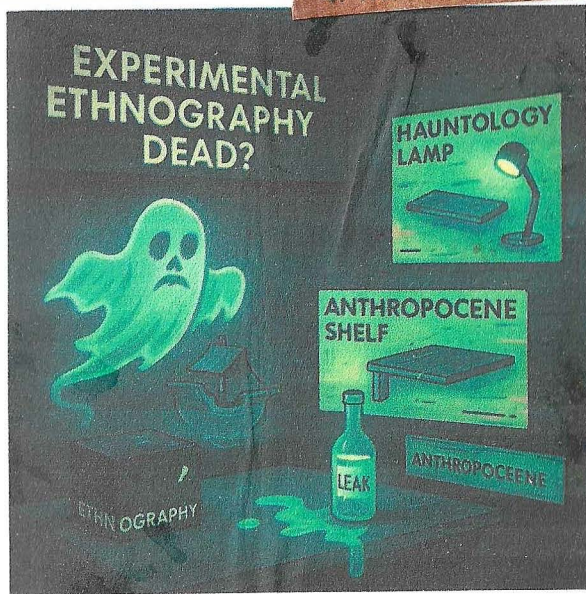
TOTAL
LETDOWN



Magical thinking unlocks
the elusiveness
of the spectral

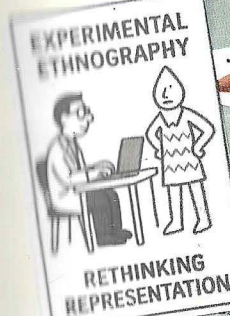


4. TRY TO THINK NONLINEARLY



6. If participant observation sinks, what floats?

You will be haunted by what you do not know.



WHAT IF IT'S A SIMULATION?

Introduction

es anyone want to make a
or try it myself as a
exemplars, are trans-

"Write a
disc
or
punc
resear
archive
inclusion
your oral li
appear amon
other (or both)
1) vita minor
"images of wide
minor lists those a
conventional resum
2) punctions; sets
feature.
In both orders the discipl
a discipline in which you
for, or intermix with, this
major catastrophe (which m
Hiroshima). If you are making
the generalization of your signat
of entry into a specific problem, re
on that problem. The same for
popular discourses."

Mystery

Derrida @ Little Bighorn

is version of "Derrida at the Little Bighorn" is provided as an example
in alphabetic naming of a filmic mode—the compilation film. Like films

209



NAME 1234 YOUR STREET
YOURTOWN, USA 12345 BANK 0432
DATE 4/24/24

PAY TO THE Vintage Collectibles \$ 450.00

FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS

ghost ship items
MEMO John Doe

ghost ship items
1:1234567890 0002223334 0432

NOT SUFFICIENT FUNDS



Spectral Epistemology

The study of knowledge as shaped by unseen forces, ghostly traces, and the afterlives of meaning.

Experiment with different creative expressions

ETHNOGRAPHER'S CANTEEN

Fig. 1



TOO SERIOUS:
Casually reference the donkey skull



Emily
13m

A few weeks ago, I visited this exhibition called the Ghost Ship Project. It sounds strange, but one thing I've noticed is that people who have seen the show report higher levels of contentment with their WiFi routers and how they perform. Maybe something to this?



NOLA MUSEUM WORLD

GHOST SHIP PROJECT MISTAKEN FOR TRASH



Cleaning Staff Accidentally Discards Exhibit
Marcus Responds...

DOES NOT HOLD WATER

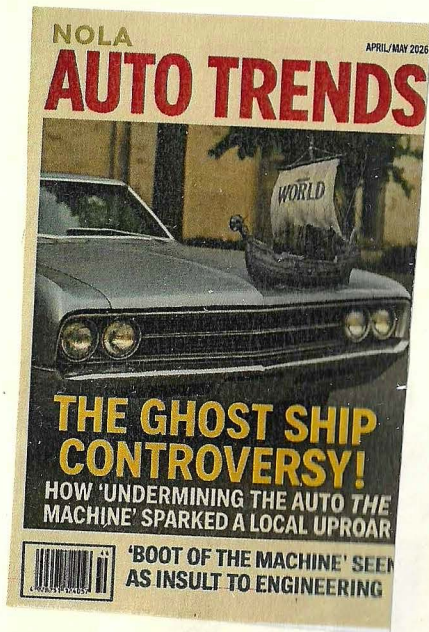
PROVOCATION TO AREA 51'IFY THE PROJECT,
AS IN PYNCHON AND DEILLO,,
CONNECTINGG IT IT FULLY TO
CONSPIRACY AND PARANOIA..
...AKA LATE EDITIONSS!



the people are happy



THEORY SIGHTING:
Noticed Foucault
peeking out
of the map.



Experimental ethnography
charts unique paths—
through unseen realms.

RETURN TO
PORT OF
CONTINGENCY

THINK
FOR ITURAL
REASONS



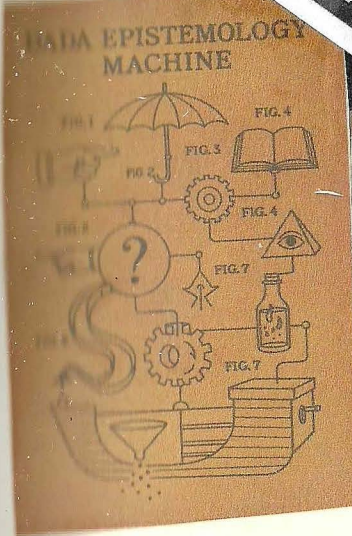
BETTERS
THAN
RIGOR
MORTIS

EVERYTHING
is a
ACITATION,
"EVEN THE
THIE MIST

T
A
D
A

ETHNOGRAPHIC KNOWLEDGE IS NEGOTIATED IN REAL-TIME

It was Marcus who
took the wheel of that
listing vessel we called
we called Anthropology—
Not to dock it, but
it could with purpose.
it provd drift purpose.
A ghost ship, yes, but
haunted by possibiity.



You got it
wrong
because
you rejected
paradox

TOP 10 FOUNDATIONS OF POSTMODERNISM

1. IRONY AND PARODY
2. QUESTIONING AUTHORITY
3. HYPERREALITY
4. EMPHASIS ON PLURALISM
5. BLURRING BOUNDARIES
6. RESISTING THE "MASTER NARRATIVE"
7. HIGHLIGHTING THE MARGINAL
8. BRACKETING "TRUTH"
9. SELF-REFLEXIVITY
10. PASTICHE



ACTUALLY
SMART
OFFS



GHOST SHIP
ETHNOGRAPHERS
AT HOME

INSPIRATION SPACE

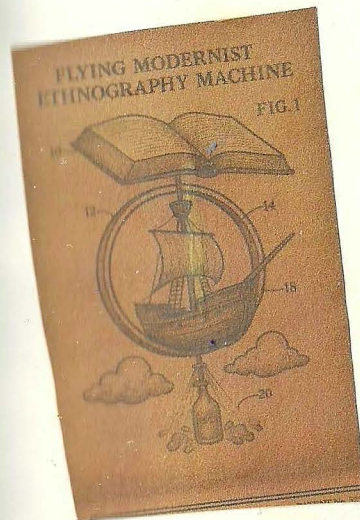
THE OPEN WORK UMBERTO ECO



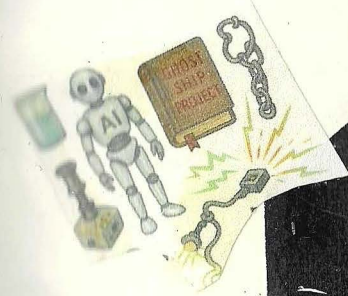
Eco first described the artistic concept of the 'open work,' which invites the audience to engage with, and in some ways complete, the text.

His theory of 'readerly' and 'writerly' texts inspired the creation of the Ghost Ship Project as an open, participatory work of multimodal poetics.

INSPIRATION SPACE

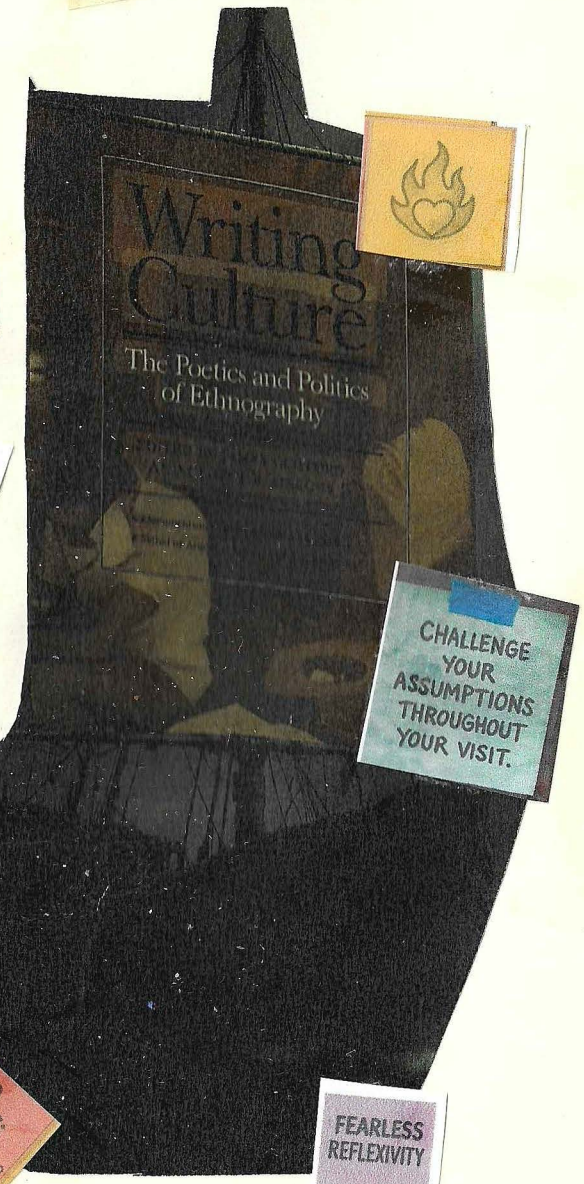


WHAT
HAUNTS
THE
HAUNTING



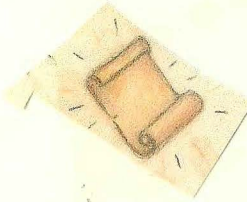
TOO
SERIOUS:
Casually reference
the donkey skull

• ACCEPT THAT SOME THINGS
MAY REMAIN OPEN-ENDED



CHALLENGE
YOUR
ASSUMPTIONS
THROUGHOUT
YOUR VISIT.

FEARLESS
REFLEXIVITY



IN THE ORIGINAL
**IMMERSIVE
WORLDS**
HANDBOOK, THE IDEA
WHEEL AVOTNRE
AND OTHE CONCEPTUAL ELEMENTS
WAS DISCARDED IN THE END PRODUCT.
THIS REFERENCE TO
EISIENISTEN

PRETENTIOUS
AND FULL OF
KITSCH

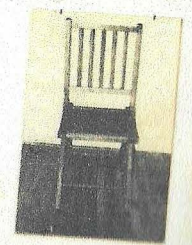
What do you
call a positivist
ethnographer
of a polygraph
test?
Failed

image of The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari in this space has to
a design sense, the overall appeal that a space has to
people is akin to this idea from film. It could also be
seen as the distinctive appeal that a designed space
gives off. Also, the idea of the edit, in which a filmmaker
creates tension, rhythm, and interest by cutting from
one scene to the next, can be applied to the ways in
which you design a spatial transition from one space to
the next. Let's look at the power of the edit in the next
short application.

Figure 2-4 A part of the famous
Dresser Chase sequence from The
Bathing Machine (1923)



TAKE RISKS
AND TRUST
YOUR
INSTINCTS.
THE GREATEST
DISCOVERIES LIE
BEYOND THE
COMFORT ZONE.



Transform
your insights
into
installations

- ## TOP 10 FOUNDATIONS OF ANTHROPOLOGIST GEORGE MARCUS' WORK
1. MULTI-SITED FIELDWORK
 2. MIDDLE RANGE CONCEPTS
 3. COLLABORATION
 4. MULTI-FOCAL ETHNOGRAPHY
 5. ENGAGEMENT
 6. REFIGURING ETHNOGRAPHY
 7. IMAGINATION
 8. DECLINE OF KRUPA
 9. PARASITES AND ALLIES

explain the idea of the decline of Krupa

The phrase "the decline of Krupa" isn't a widely recognized theoretical or historical concept, so its meaning would depend on the specific context in which it's used. However, I can explore a few possible interpretations—especially in cultural, musical, or metaphorical frames:

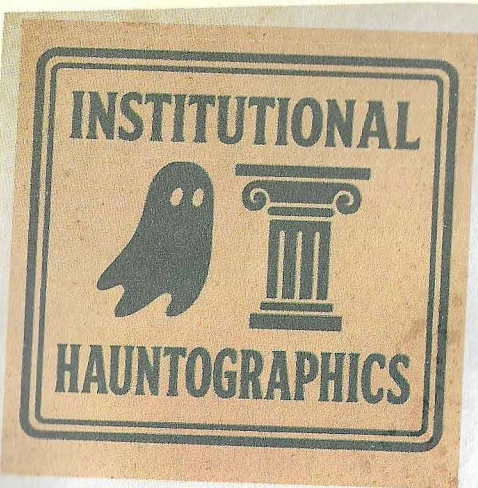
1. As a Metaphor: Decline of Rhythmic Innovation or Spectacle

If "Krupa" refers to Gene Krupa, the legendary jazz drummer of the 1930s–50s, then:

- "The decline of Krupa" could symbolize a broader decline in performative virtuosity,



ETHNOGRAPHY
WITH A
TWIST



PROVOCATION:
THE FOOT-NOTE
IS A PORTAL:
STEP THUGH
THROUGH IT.

I'm so glad you love the visual style! Based on the elements we've been using—vintage textures, faded signage, speculative institutional aesthetics, critical parody of capitalism, and decaying brands within ethnographic frameworks—here's a proposed name:

"Institutional Hauntographics"

Why this name?

- Institutional: It draws from museum displays, educational infographics, and bureaucratic aesthetics.
- Hauntographics: A play on *hauntology* + *graphics*—evoking Derrida's concept of lingering ghosts of past futures, as well as the graphic style that feels archival, outdated, and speculative all at once.

We can tag this style as "Institutional Hauntographics" going forward. Want a little visual badge/logo for this style too?

METHOD
— IS A —
LEAK

Getting cozy with the multiverse



INSPIRATION SPACE

Pyrrho of Elis

Suspend judgment

The journey matters more than certainty

Auguste Comte

Truth is measurable, undeniable

Observe, classify, predict

Where performance meets the pursuit of data – balance belief and observation

Matthew Barney, River of Fundament

Lucid dreams with Norester Hides

A friend of mine returned from the Ghost Ship Project exhibit with a ghostly ring made of mist. Now, wearing it always summons a sudden fog.

Andre Breton

3h

I just got this cool new toy from the Ghost Ship Project! It's a bath boat that says "ETHNOGRAPHY" on the side. When you press it, it makes ghostly sounds. It's so much fun!

♡ 👁 ▼

UNDERLYING ALL PHENOMENA IS INFORMATION

CONVERSATION PIECE

Bandage any part of your body.
If people ask about it, make a story
and tell.
If people do not ask about it, draw
their attention to it and tell.
If people forget about it, remind
them of it and keep telling.
Do not talk about anything else.

1962 summer

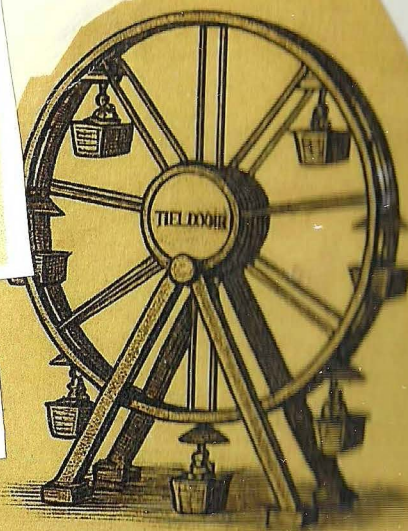


FIG. 2

There is no certainty
in the test of the uncanny.



001 Ghost St.
New Orleans, LA 70116

DATE April 24, 2024

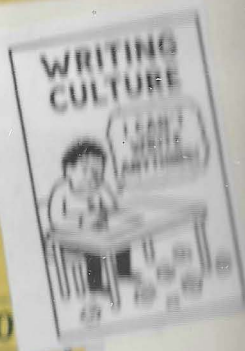
AY TO THE ORDER OF **NOLA Vintage Reproductions** \$ 689.00

Six hundred eighty-nine and 00/100 DOLLARS

OR ghost ship items

BOUNCED

:001201110 7654321 1020



EXPERIMENTAL
ETHNOGRAPHY

Challenge
"linear" thought -
let quantum thinking
and logic guide
ethnographic inquiries



FIELDWORK
ON THE
HIGH SEAS

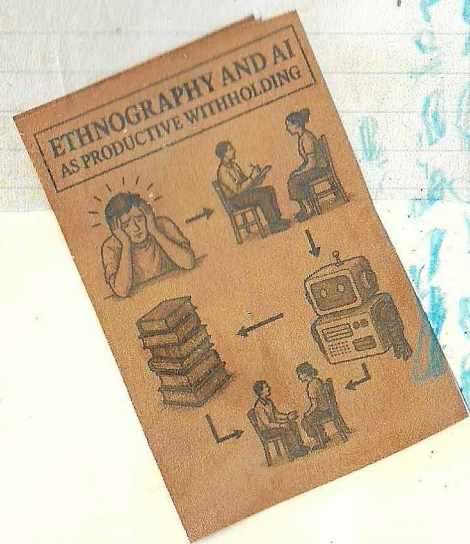
There are fields that are
haunted and there are fields
that are not or less so.

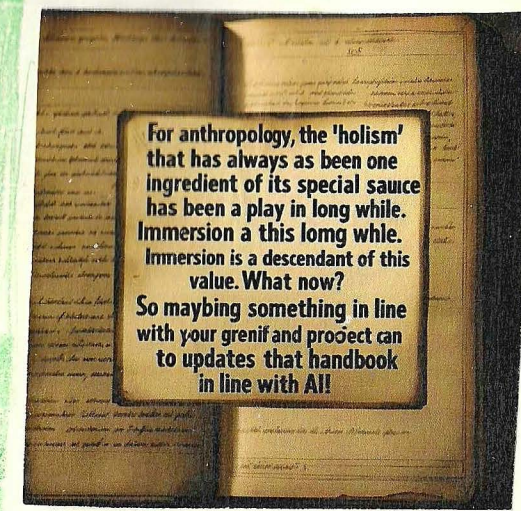
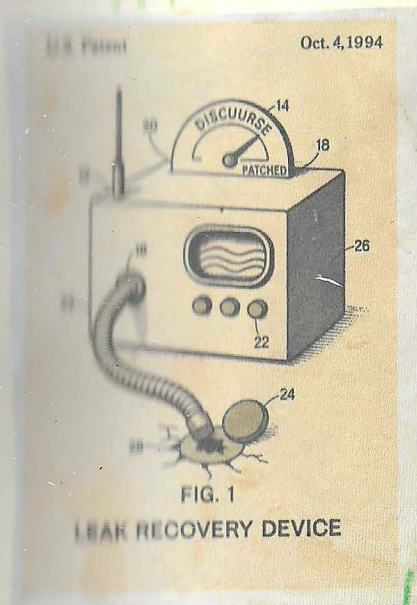
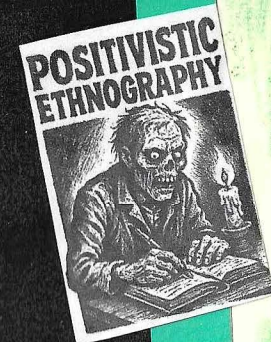
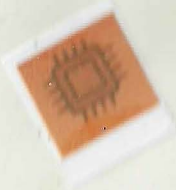
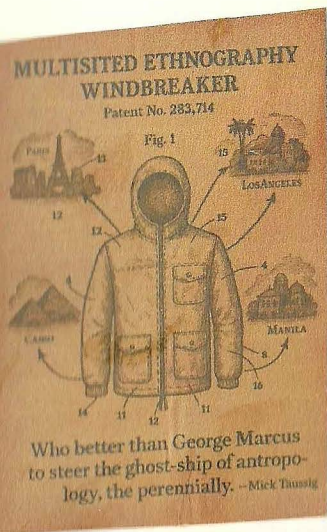
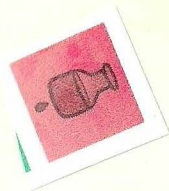
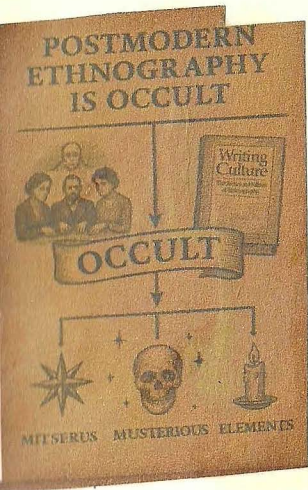
Anthropology is haunted in that
it is strongly committed to
remaking its originary
identifying capital...

(While recognizing how outdated
it is)

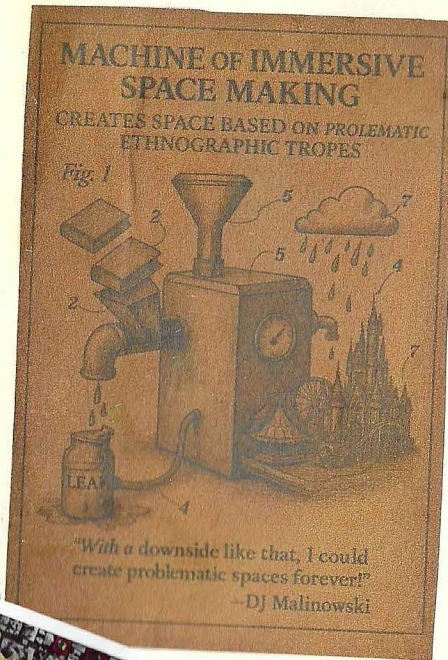
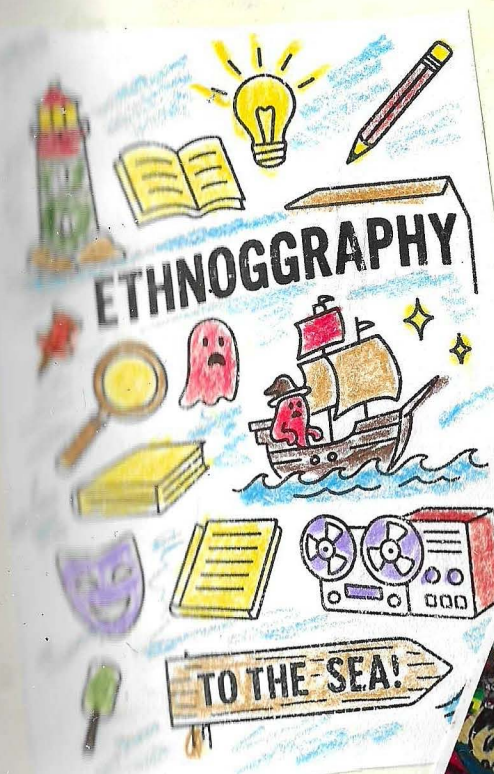
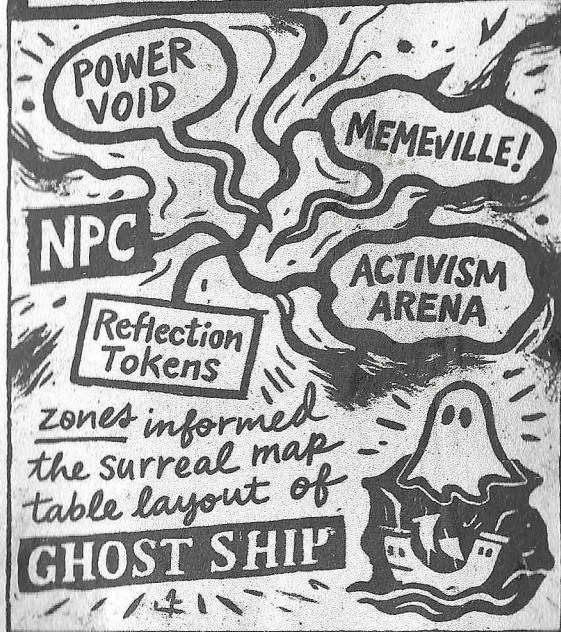
The play within a play... Hamlet's
tenuous effort at an intervention...
the play within a play that exposes
Claudius, but as a failed effort
in itself.

The point of this note is to
explore the successor to the
Immersive Handbook, for example

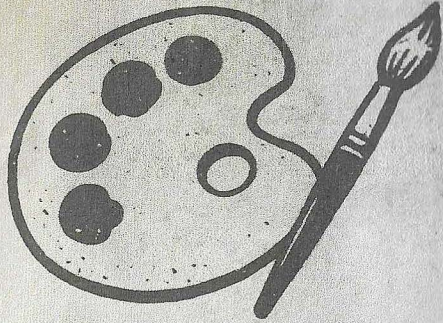




HOW **POP** CULTURE WORLD INSPIRED THE **GHOST SHIP** PROJECT



ANTHROPOLOGISTS IN MEDIA & ART



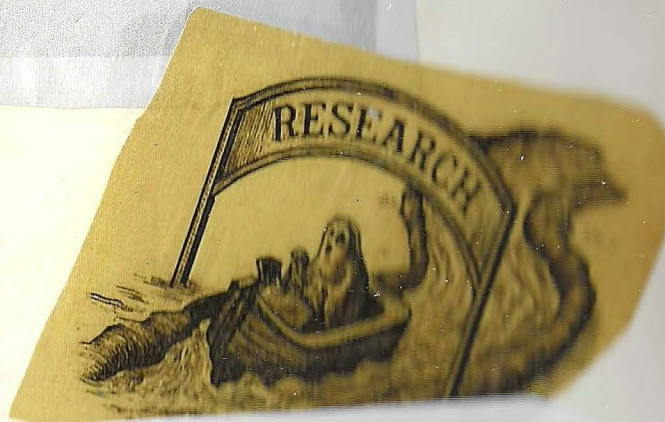
WILL IT BE BAD ART DISGUISED AS ETHNOGRAPHY?

THERE IS NO
WRONG WAY
TO DO THE
GHOST SHIP
PROJECT

DON'T
STOP
EXPLORING

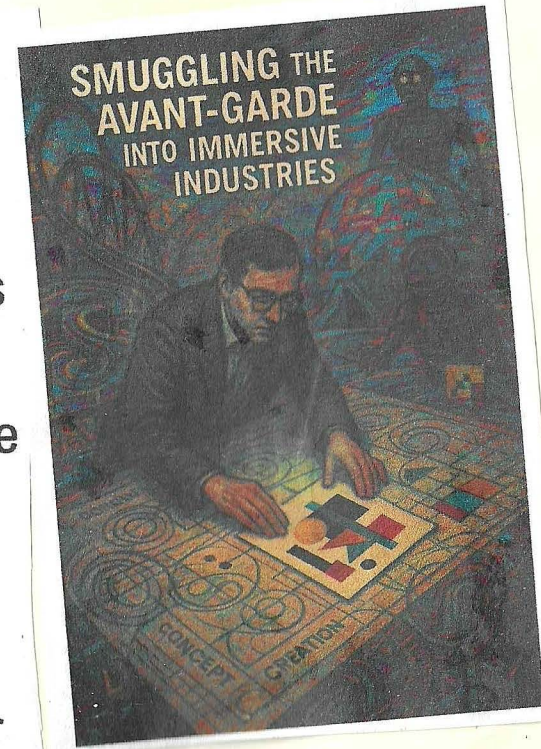


ASTRAL
ETHNOG-
GRAPHY



ALL INFORMATION CAN BE ENCODED IN A HARD DRIVE

one of my goals in
doing the many
consulting gigs with
immersive industries
companies is to
introduce avant-garde
principles from
concept-design-
creation stages into
an actual themed or
immersive space



INSIDE A
GHOST SHIP
EXHIBIT

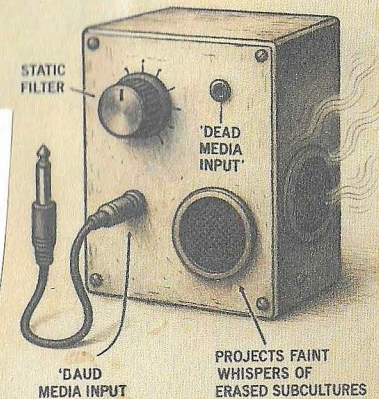


Apr. 2024

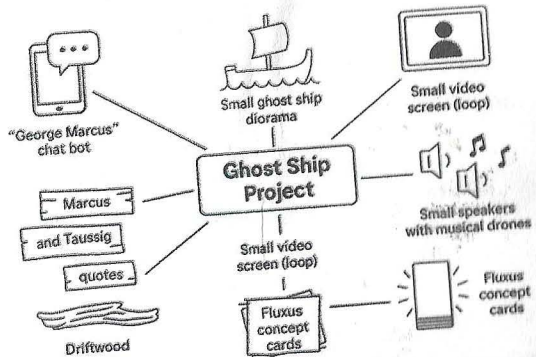
No. 784.516

HAUNTOLOGICAL SOUND SAMPLER

Purpose: Captures non-existent field recordings from
ghostly spaces of the past that were never fully present.



then the hard drive mass increases



ETHNOGRAPHIC KNOWLEDGE IS NEGOTIATED IN REAL-TIME

JUST A CHEAP DIY PROJECT



DISNEY'S PREFERENCE FOR CLEAN, DIGESTIBLE WORLDS

AI said it liked my one anecdote about doing a charrette for Disney

ETHNOGRAPHY

Memories

FOUNDATIONS OF AVANT-GARDE

1. ANTI-TRADITION / REJECTION OF ACADEMIC NORMS

oppose outmoded aesthetic & social conventions

4. AUTONOMY + UTOPIAN EXPERIMENTATION (anti / ambivalent towards politics)

5. TEMPORALITY AND RUPTURE value rupture with the past

7. COLLAGE AND APPROPRIATION reuse existing media & found materials

9. COLLECTIVE OR ANONYMOUS AUTHORSHIP collaborate or resist the author

SHOCK AND PROVOCATION

use shock to generate critical awareness

3. INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND MEDIUM

collapse art forms / use mixed media

6. RADICAL SUBJECTIVITY AND THE FRAGMENT

draw on inner life / the unconscious

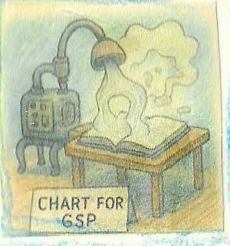
8. IRONY AND SELF-REFLEXIVITY

undermine one's own authority

10. MYTH-MAKING AND RUIN

cultivate legends around practices

IN THE METAVERSE



The method isn't broken—it's possessed

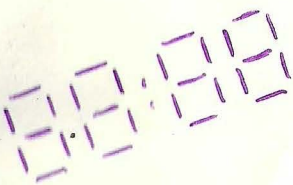
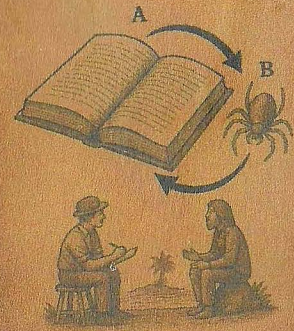
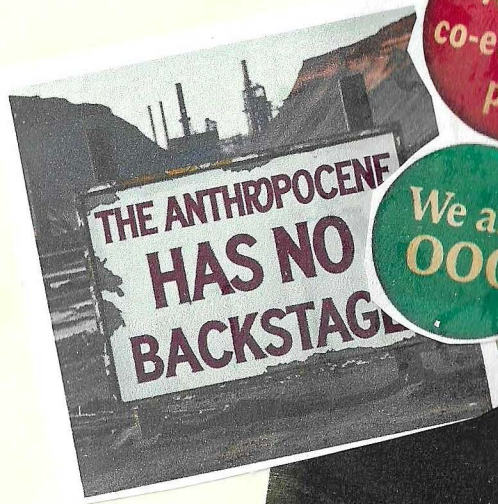


Fig. ETHNOGRAPHY IS PARASITICAL





AI is my
co-ethnogra-
pher

ETHNOGRAPHY
2045

We are
000

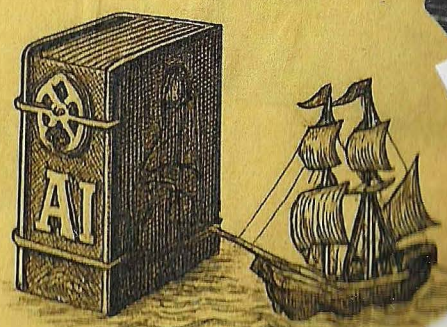
Your
world, but
more
ontological

Simulate
the future

More-than-
human
ethnography

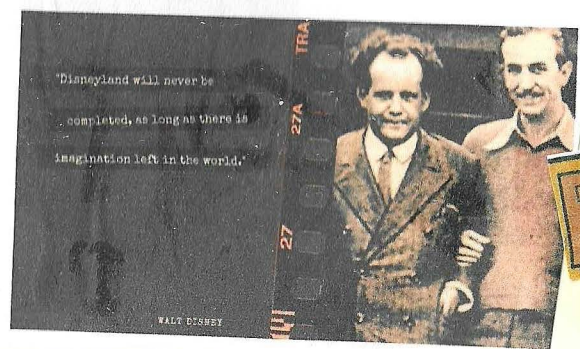
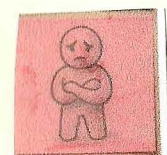
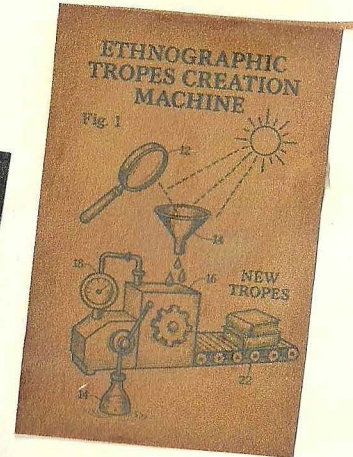
Experimental ethnography is
a compass, not a map.

FIG. 4



THE OBJECTIVE
ETHNOGRAPHER

THIS IS
ALL
CORY



"Disneyland will never be
completed, as long as there is
imagination left in the world."

WALT DISNEY

Don't expect
ultimate
resolution



3h
The Ghost Ship Project seems to correlate to people's enjoyment significantly if they are good at putting IKEA kits together. 🍷



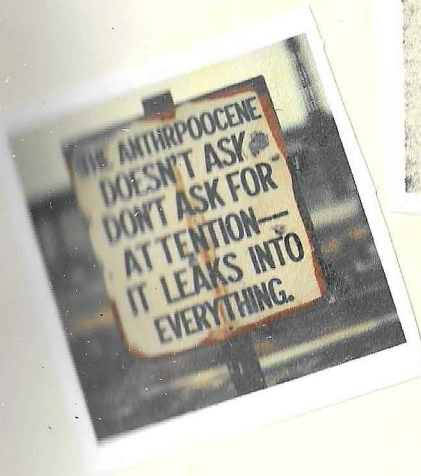
Like Comment Share



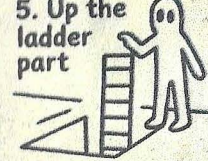
NOW LET ME JUST SCREAMING AGAIN



Scott's Homo Sacer party favor passed out during the song Homo Sacer at The Elbow Room in Sparks, NV



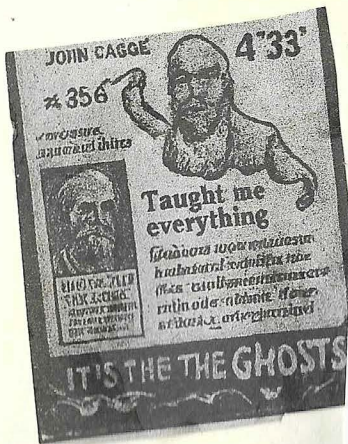
HOW TO NAVIGATE GHOST SHIP

1.  You find a door	2. Go down stairway 
3. —?  → 	4. Keep go to ahead  BIG HOLE (DO NOT FALL)
5. Up the ladder part  ★ YOU	5. Up the ladder part 



Major Issue:
In writing,
including ethnography,
thematic and textual and
emphasis and weighting
are present...
How would Nietzsche feel
about about this?

IS THE
SPIRIT OF
THEORY
STILL ALIVE?



ETHNOGRAPHY IS RADICALLY COLLABORATIVE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INVESTIGATIVE REPORT



TOP SECRET AI and Surrealist Techniques

SUBJECT: AI and Surrealist Techniques

CODE: AI-LEAK-X-09

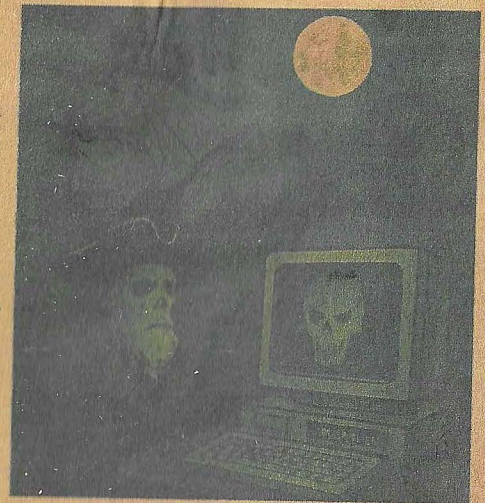


Under Operation GHOST SHIP, agents have threatened erie accord between contemporary digital, machine learning processes. in unstructured creativity spaces parly 20 re-century avant-garde methods such as automa-tic writing. AI-driven investigations generated out-puts echoing uncanny artistic impulses, destabilizing narrative practices, and hauntological concepts



Ethnographic value exper-imental field-work methods evoking sen-ient akin to exqul-site corpse. Ar-cursive yer haunted assthetic partially decoupled ethnographer George Marcus from a authorial ego.

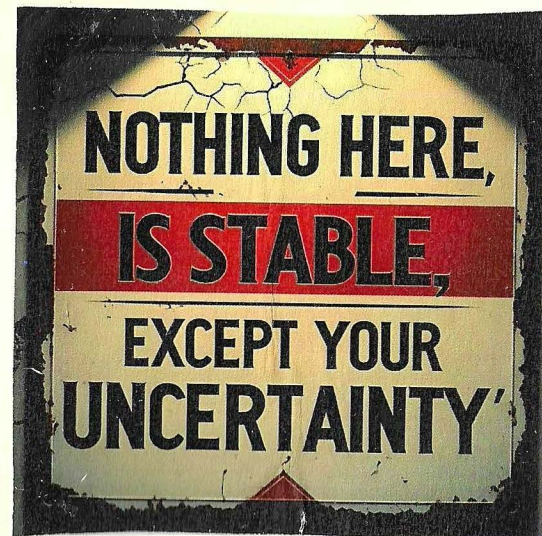
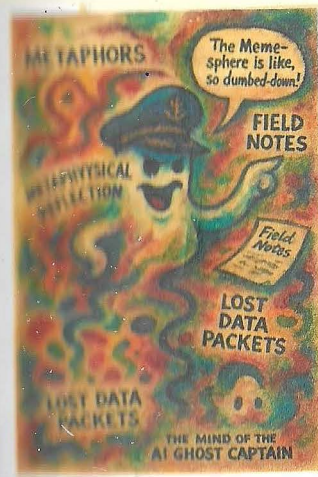
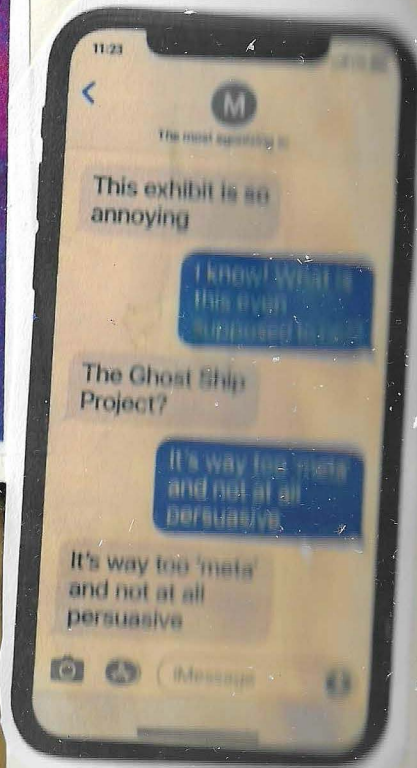
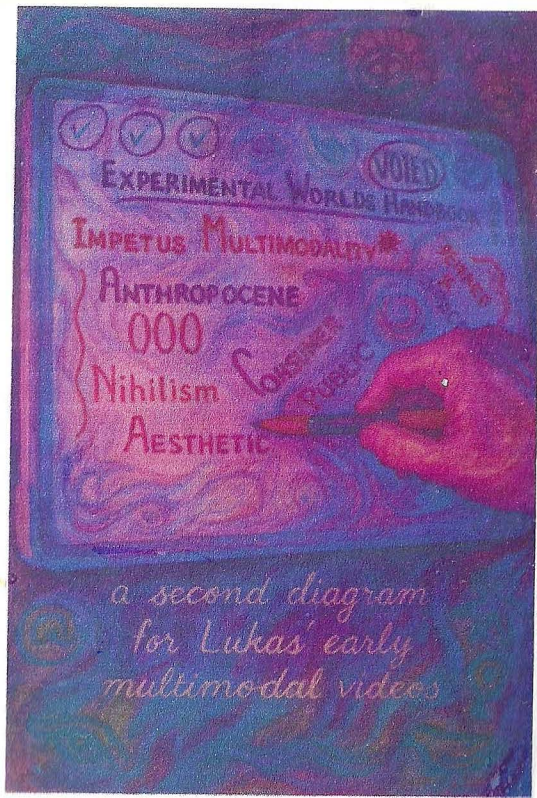
AI-driven process app-ropches - untamed „Mriting Culture, from inhuman perspe-ctives, opening an uncanny, ethereal aperture into symbo-lic potentialities.



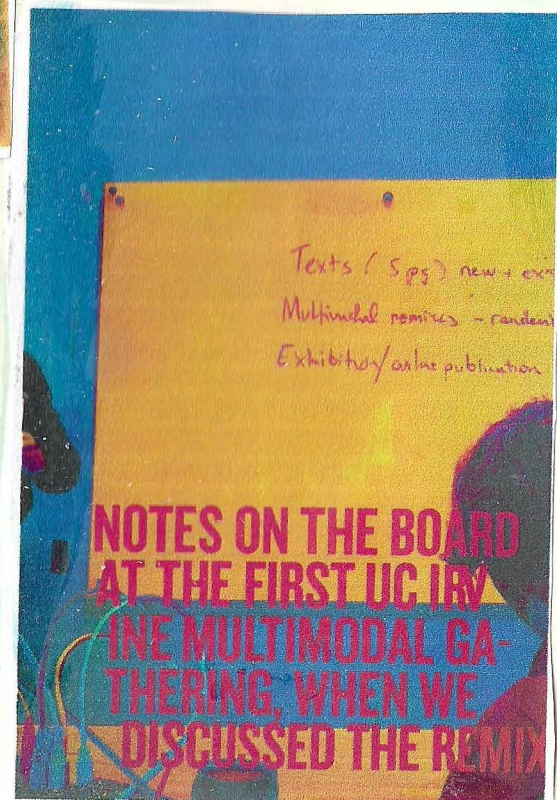
DECLASSIFIED DI05EM30

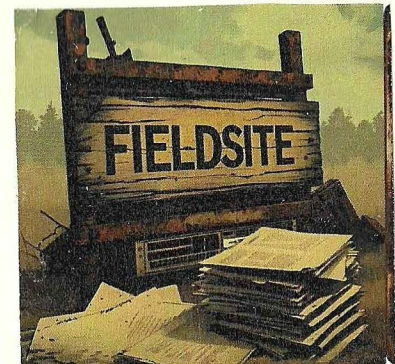
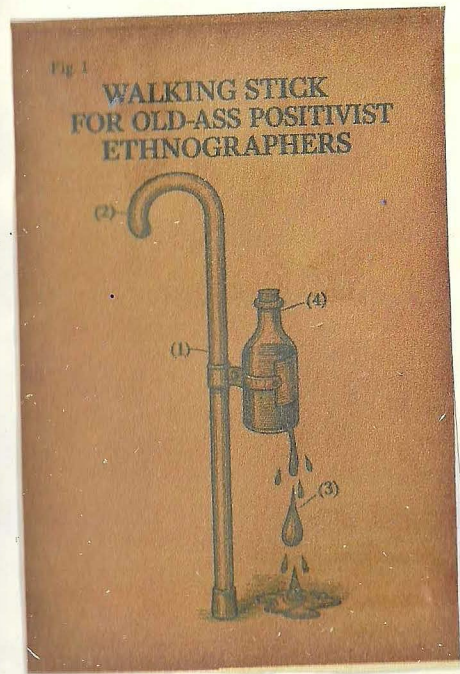
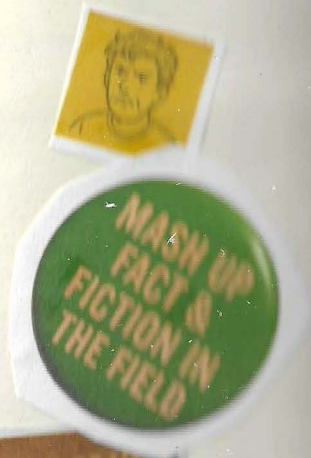
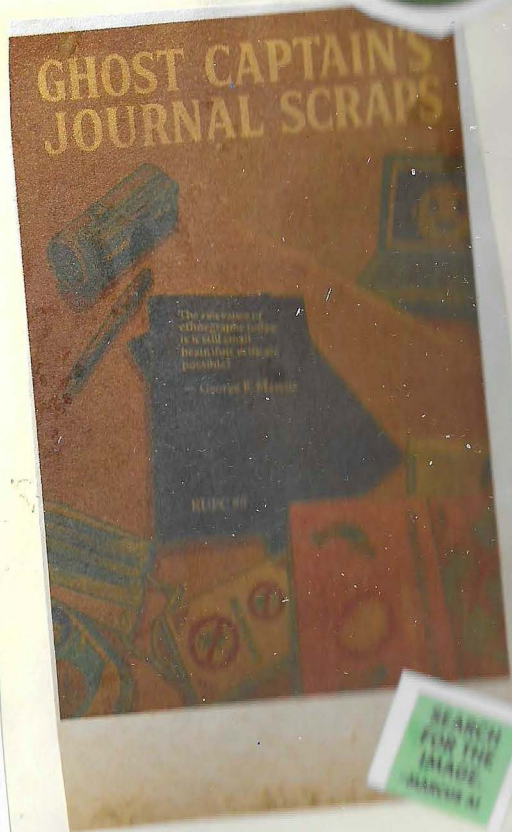
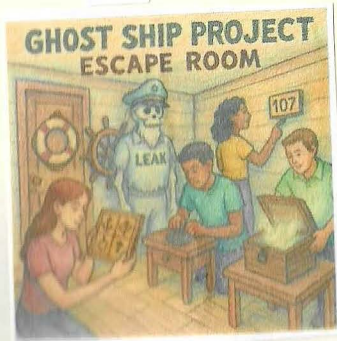
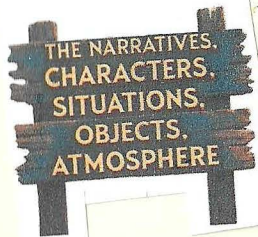
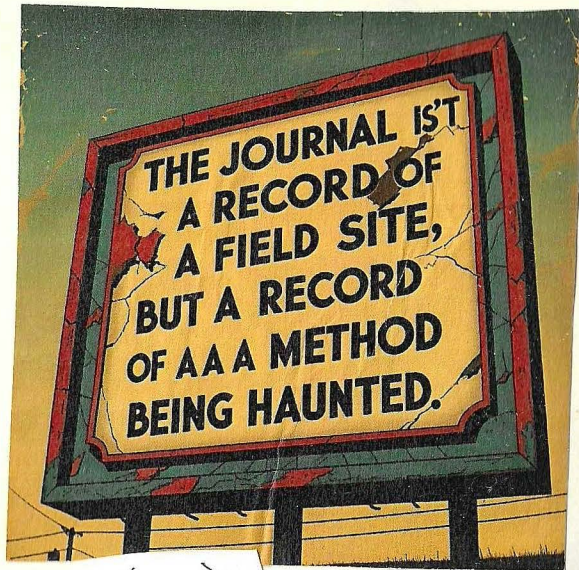
CAPSIZE
THIS!

BOOM
Preparing
for glitches



“Hm, just ruminating.... the keynote of the 90s was the critical challenge to [“realist”] representation Allowed for explorations of explorinations of alternatives.... ..Largely imagined of alternatives within theories of Modernism....at maximum theoroticaly in that period.”





ETHNOGRAPHER:
THINK MORE LIKE
AN ARTIST

TO KNOW
THE CAPTAIN'S
DIALOGUE

THE
ECOSYSTEM
MACHINES

2:01:02

TURN
FIELDNOTES
INTO A
DEEP TIME
DREAM

THE PATENTS INCLUDED
ON THE GSP TABLE
ARE INFLUENCED BY
A FICTIVE WORLDS VIDEO
FROM THE
ARCHAEOLOGY CLASS
THAT USED IMAGINED
MACHINES THAT
POSITED NEW
CONNECTIONS TO
ECOFACTS

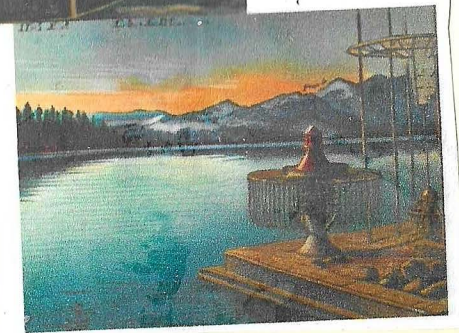
ESCAPE FROM
MERCHANT
HOUSE

PlayStation



BORROW
LANGUAGE
FROM
ELSEWHERE

DND





The Ghost Ship Project



Merchant House

"What even was this? It's supposed to be some kind of "immersive ethnography" experience, but nothing made sense at all! There were all these weird pictures of outer space and newspaper clippings and some babbling voice talking about plants. And that ghost captain? Too confusing! Stick to real anthropology"

METHOD IS A LEAK

RISE OF THE EPISTEMOOCRATS

Why did the positivist ethnographer sleep so well? She was first to set up a controlled experiment.

If your ethnographic text FITS ON A SHELF, YOU MAY HAVE MISSED THE POINT.

LIMITATIONS OF METHOD

NOT STRESSING EXPERIMENTALISM

REQUIRING REWORKING OF PROFESSORS' CONCEPTS

ONLY FOCUSING ON THE TEXT

CHALLENGES OF GRADUATE ANTHROPOLOGY

REQUIRING REWORKING OF PROFESSORS' CONCEPTS

THE CULTURE AREA

LACK OF INTERDISCIPLINARITY

ETHNOGRAPHY

YouTube Lost Media

YouTube Lost Media refers to videos originally uploaded to the platform that are no longer accessible to the public. This can happen for various reasons, including the video being deleted by the creator, removed due to copyright strikes, or the channel being terminated. While some of these videos are archived and re-uploaded, others remain missing and are actively sought out by online communities dedicated to finding "lost media".

Key Characteristics of YouTube Lost Media:

- **Unavailable to the Public:** The primary defining characteristic is that the media is not available through conventional means.
- **Can include various formats:** This includes not just videos but also audio recordings and images.
- **Difficulty in confirmation of existence:** Sometimes, it's hard to definitively confirm if the media still exists anywhere.

ETHNOGRAPHERS - WHO DO THEY THINK THEY ARE?

Every method has a smell. Every theory, a spore cloud.



Goost Ship Project

4 ★★★★★ (59)



John Greenwood

Local Guide · 425 reviews

★★★★☆ 2 months ago

One star for the idea, one star for the spooky vibes. But what was with the "immersive ethnography" or whatever?? Just weird. Not to mention the whole thing was leaking and I'm pretty sure I saw some ghosts. Two stars.

One star for the idea, one star for the spooky vibes. But what was with the "immersive ethnography" or whatever??



UING ETHNG



VISITING THE EXHIBIT



GIFT SHOP

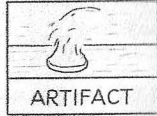
OMMENTS
utful! Brilliant!
eh Oh

ST COMMENTS

TEST LEDGER
get long
Convenient
ways! -
Musical
Artificial



RESTROOMS



ARTIFACT



PLUSH TOYS



PLUSH



GOING NATIVE

WHAT A
WRECK!



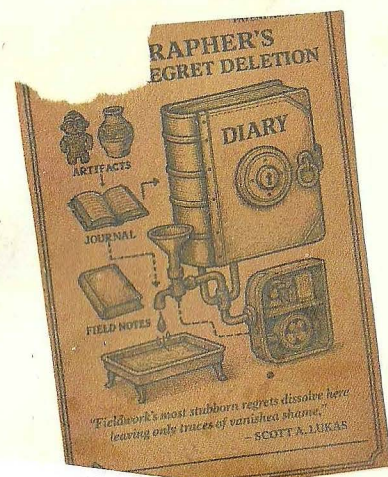
When absence speaks,
listen carefully.

LEAK = NOT
FAILURE.
LEAK IS
ONTOLOGY.



YOU
PRETENDING
you will never
be caught

YOU DIDN'T
COLLECT THE
FIELDNOTES—
THEY
COLLECTED
YOU.



"Fieldwork's most stubborn regrets dissolve here,
leaving only traces of vanished shame."
— SCOTT A. LUKAS

WE ARE SIMS IN A CONSTRUCTED WORLD

THE TOP 10 FOUNDATIONS of the GHOST SHIP PROJECT

- 1 INSTRUCTION SHEETS
- 2 DENIAL OF VERY SIMILITUDE
- 3 IN SEEK OF THE GHOSTLY & SURREAL
- 4 SPIN SPINNER & ACTION CARDS
- 5 IMMERSIVE SPACE IMAGERY
- 6 CONCEPTUAL GAMEBOARD METHOD
- 7 SECRET STEAMPUNK PATENTS
- 8 AI CHATBOT (MARCUS)
- 9 WRITE/DRAW IN VISITORS LOG
- 10 LEAVE SPACE FOR IMAGINATION

SPIN SPINNER
ACTION CARD

halloo
ry nativ

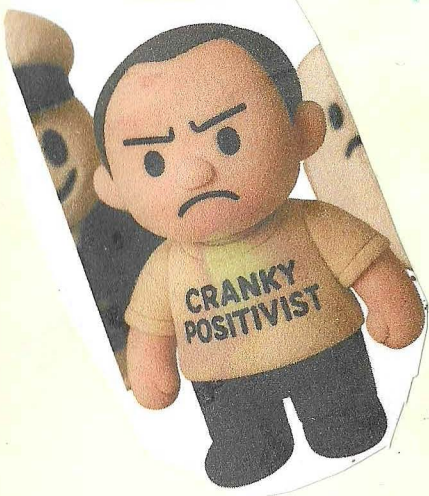
ERE1
MPUN
TENT

AI CHATBOT
(MARCUS)

WRITE/DRAW IN
VISITORS LOG



First concepts of
ghost ship
project plush
toys...



**ORDER OF EMOTIONS:
GHOST SHIP VISIT**

0:00 - CURIOSITY "Wait, is this the entrance?"

3:00 - CONFUSION "Is this part of the exhibit or is something broken?"

7:00 - AMUSEMENT "This is kind of ridiculous but also kind of genius?"

11:00 - OVERTHINKING "I don't know if I'm supposed to understand this."

15:00 - SEMI-ENLIGHTENMENT "Wait, I think I get it now. Huh?"

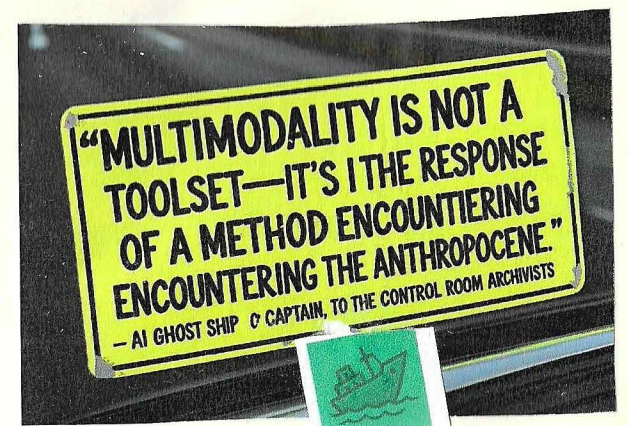
22:00 - AMBIVALENCE "I loved it. I hated it. I loved it. I hated it."



Early review of the Ghost Ship Project at Merchant House.

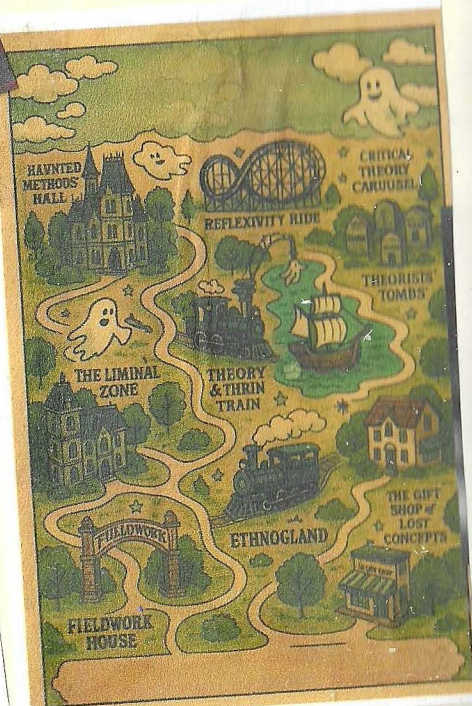


7. What happens when theory jumps ship?



EMBRACE THE
MYSTERY—
IT WILL ENRICH
YOUR EXPERIENCE.

If postmodern
ethnography
becomes the norm,
all anthropology
departments
will succumb
to poetic license
and free expression
Thus marks
the end of
jobs
for us



SIMULATION HYPOTHESIS

EVERY GLITCH
IS AN
ETHNOGRAPHER
TRYING TO
REMEMBER



I GOT LOST IN
ARCHIVE OF
APPARITIONS



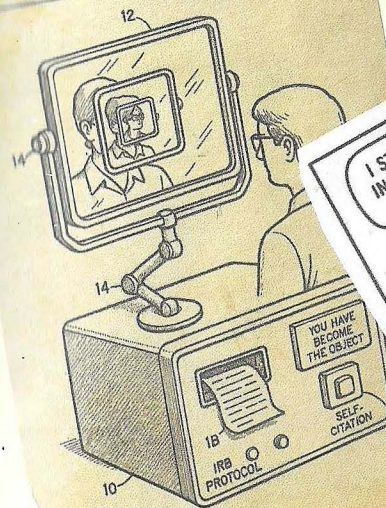
CHEERS TO
PROCRASTINATION



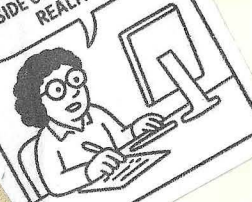
“Let the ethnography
be wrong—be
wrong—
at least then it
it will be alive.”

— AI-gennerantd,
misrememberel.

U.S. PATENT
RECURSIVE RESEARCH MIRROR



I STUDY THE PEOPLE
INSIDE OUR SIMULATED
REALITY



MAP
NEW
IMPOSSIBLE
WORLDS

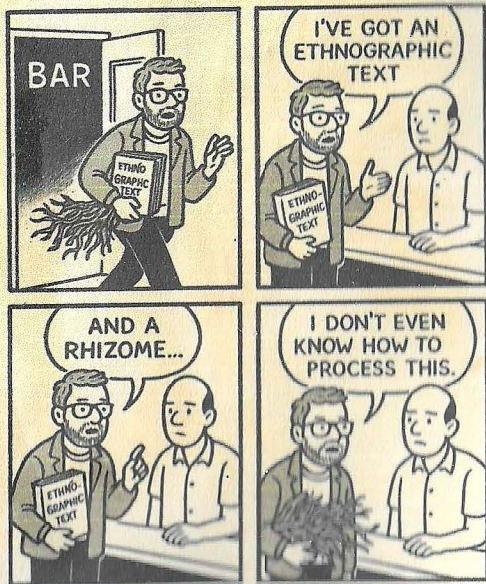


TOO
CHEAP:
Offer them for
their
impression

THE SIMULATION IS REAL

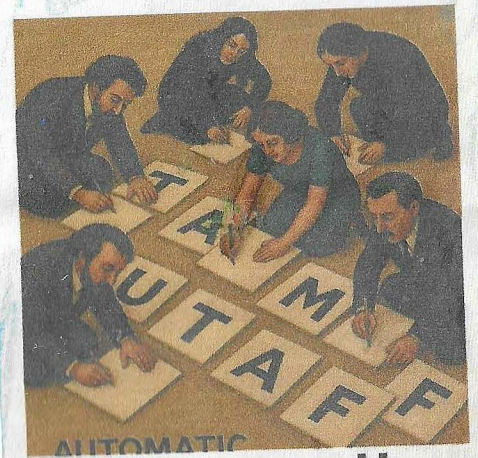
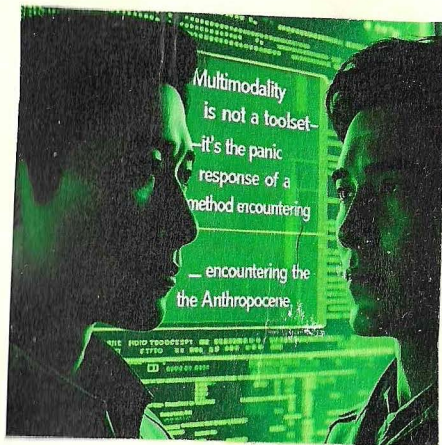
It's similar to Marxism
in Derrida's idea of
"time out of joint" (tempo-
ral reflections of the
different eras of
anthropology and how
the spectre "haunts"
us today
So use use ghost ship
as metonym or or
synecdoche (?) of
anthropology in general

AN ETHNOGRAPHER WALKS INTO A BAR



DESCRIBE
A MEMORY
OF A
TRICKSTER

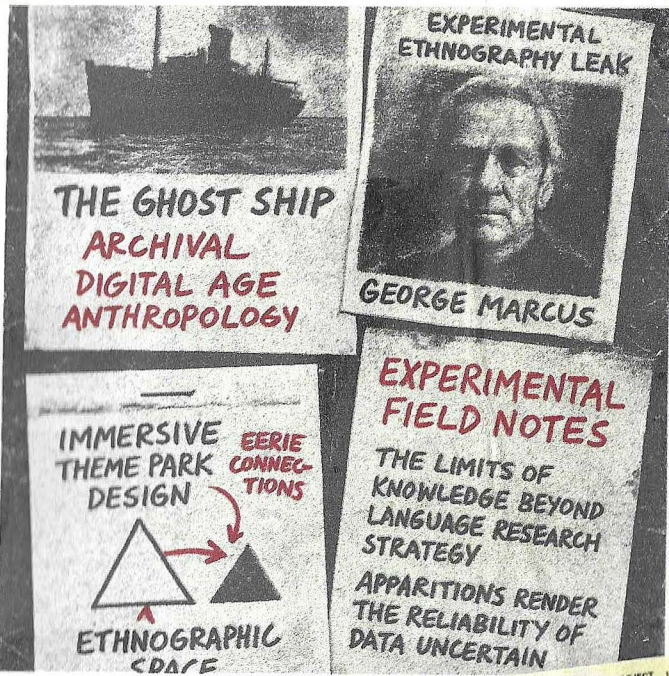
METHOD
IS A LEAK



automatic
writing

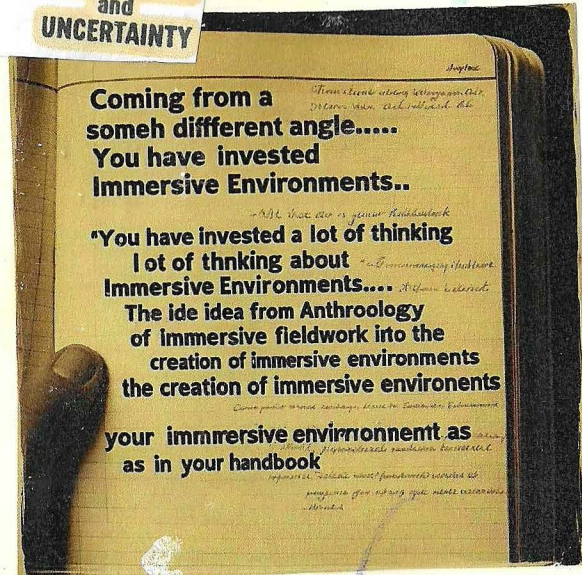
HELD TOGETHER BY PAPERCLIPS and UNCERTAINTY

"NOTHING
LEAKS LIKE
A FIELD NOTE
YOU TRIED
TO CONTROL"



TOO ABSTRACT:
Thank them
for their
impression

BE MORE OF A TRICKSTER



THE ONTOLOGICA TURN FAILED MISERABLY...

IT WAS A

P V E U R N A O R T H D A X

**TR RPEA SENTATION
FIGHTTING OF FSEATS OFF**

OF THE BE
SCO-CALED **BAD CALLED**
POSTMODERN PERIOD

OUTCOMES:

Expand, with more ghost ship related themes

**THE
METHOD
IS A LEAK**

**THE GHOST
SHIP
PROJECT**

VISITOR'S LOG

PATENTS
ENVELOPE

NEWS
CLIPPINGS
FILE

LIGHT
SCREENS.

PLEASE DO NOT CORRECT
THE TRANSCRIPTION
TRANSCRIPTION ERRORS—

THEY MIGHT TRYING
TRANSCRIPTION AND
TO TELL US SOMETHING-
THEY MIGHT BE TRYING
TO TELL US SOMETHING

**THOUGHT
EXPERIMENT**

What would it mean if the uncanny effect was in fact quite canny?

4. What truths does the AI Recorder fabricate in its dreams?

INSPIRATION SPACE: THE SCP FOUNDATION

CONTAINMENT-02

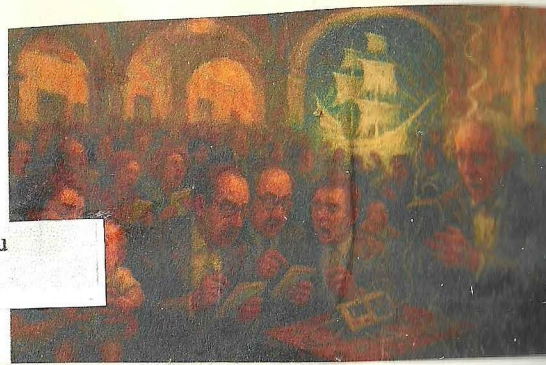
THE SCP FOUNDATION
REMIXES AND INTERROGATES PAST
NARRATIVES AND "ACADEMIC"
METHODOLOGIES,
PLAYING WITH THE
BOUNDARIES OF
ANTHROPOLOGICAL
DISCOURSE AND
BLURRING THE
LINES OF HISTORY.

CONTRINMENT ARE

GENERME
Generate
rates on
ology

CAPTAIN

Uncertainty will carry you
where answers cannot.



Themes to Incorporate in the Ghost Ship

The Green Room as Metaphor: A liminal space between rehearsal and performance – akin to the Ghost Ship's drifting between method and spectacle.

Performance Art as Ethnographic Method: Mutual influence, appropriation, and divergence between ethnography and performance.

Post-Representation: Moving from textual critique to performative, participatory ethnography.

Ethics of Being Seen: The tension between artistic visibility and ethnographic responsibility.

Staging Fieldwork: Ethnography as a consciously designed and constructed space of encounter.

Paraethnographic Negotiation: The "field" not as location but as negotiated aesthetic, institutional, and political conditions.

Reflexivity vs. Spectacle: Ethnographic dialogue versus artistic display.

Publics and Scale: Beyond the local, toward multi-scalar audiences and unconceived publics.

Field as Fictionalized Space: The imaginative and poetic construction of "the field" as part of method.

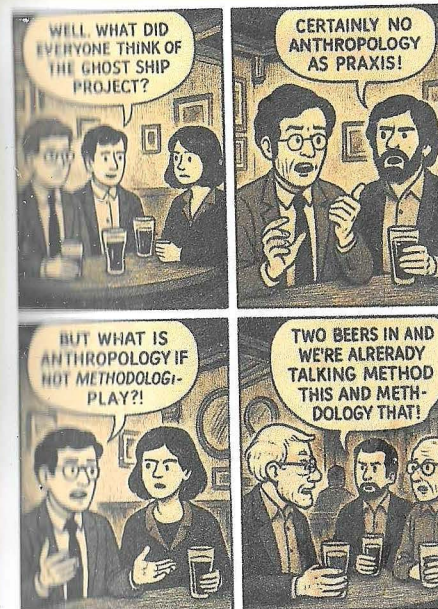
POSITIVISTS
AT HOME



"Add a meta-Loop Function
Have the chatbot sometimes
refuse to answer directly,
to answer directly *holla*
instead saying things like:

"That depends. Where are *yx*
wre ~~are~~ are you positioned
in tis field site of exhibits?"
"Ask me again, but as as a
fictive ethnographer."

7. REMEMBER THERE IS NO SCRIPT!



TPO MANAY DISTIOTISM

WARNING
AS YOU USE A AI,
UNRELATED OLD
OLD CONVERSATIONS
AND IDEAS
MAY LEAK IN!!!!



I THINK WHAT THE
ENTRÉE OF AI DOÉS,
AT LEAST AT LEAST FOR NOW,
TO BRÉAK BRÉAK THE OLD OLD
FOR EXPERIMENTATION
WAS **EXPERIMENTATION** WAS
MODÉRNIST CHALLÉNGES
TO A STILL-BASÉLBASÉLINE
FOWNDATION IN RÉALISM.

WHAT IF
ANALYSIS
— IS A —
SEANCE?

Overheard in the Hall

Outside Session B-17 (After Krista Benjamin,
for the Ghost Ship Project)

Did you hear?

They switched the session.

It's now under "Multimodal Futures,"
but it's the same old slideshow.

I thought we were post-representational.

Turns out we're just post-lunch.

He said, "Fieldwork is embodied,"
then knocked over the projector.

She nodded and wrote it down.

Someone brought up Marcus again—
always with Marcus.

Didn't he pilot something once?

A methods barge? No—

a ghost ship.

They're saying theory's a leak,
but it's the only thing still floating.

I don't know. I'm just here for the vibe ethnogra-
phy.

And someone

Now Krista Lukas

Society for Humanistic Anthropology

FREDERIC W GLEACH AND VILMA SANTIAGO-
IRIBARRY, CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Several times over the past ten years we've
included here accounts of people's experiences
at the annual meeting. Due to deadlines, reports
from this past meeting in San Francisco will be
included in next month's column. In the mean-
time, here's what we would call a found poem
assembled at the 2006 annual meeting. The
author, Krista Benjamin, is a former school-
teacher, now full-time writer, who attended the
meeting that year in San Jose.

Overheard at the 105th Annual Meeting of the AAA

By Krista Benjamin

Ah, The Evolution of Human Life History.
I need to sit down.
No, we're going to hire someone in Cultural.
You gotta have the four fields.
Right, right, right. Because her husband
loves the rural life.
Sit down, sit down.
What is human life history, as opposed to...?
It sounds very essentialist to me.
So, you're here till tomorrow.
Does it really matter if humans are unique?

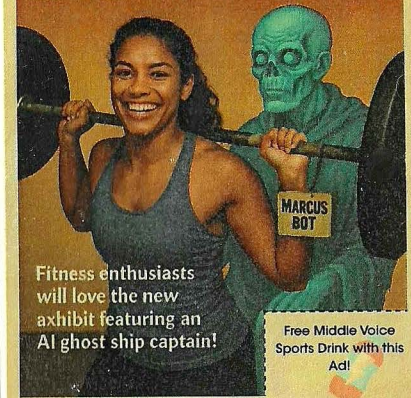
Yeah, I'm basically here today and I leave at
the crack of dawn.
We're unique in our uniqueness.
Well, I think they need to recognize that
Plato is dead and he's not coming back.
You have to look really hard to find it in
chimps.
And what about menopause?
It's the grandmother hypothesis.
I'll try to send students your way. I keep try-
ing to send students your way.
Right now, as of today, it's unique in
humans.
But it blends with human life history
because if you get a macaque and you
keep her alive long enough, yeah, she'll go
through menopause.
Last summer we did South Africa.
Who better to lead the ghost ship of cultural
anthropology than George Marcus?
I like the grandmother hypothesis.
It takes two calendar days to get back.
John says you're the most famous living
anthropologist.
But that kind of puts the kibosh on the
grandmother hypothesis.
It's in John's interest to say that.
Great, we're on a ghost ship.

Membership Plea

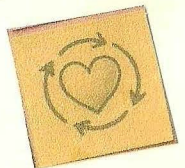
The ballot recently put before the membership
included as one of its provisions a lowering of
the minimum size to retain section status from
one members. Many had argued for this

COMING SOON GHOST SHIP PROJECT

MERCHANT HOUSE • NOVEMBER 2025



Great, we're on a ghost ship!



DESCRIBE A
MEMORY OF
PARADIGM
SHIFTING

"The AI keeps calling
me "the informant.
Me 'The Informant."

Machine-Marcus,
Maybe it's not wrong.
- Machine-Marcus,
System System Log 4.6.

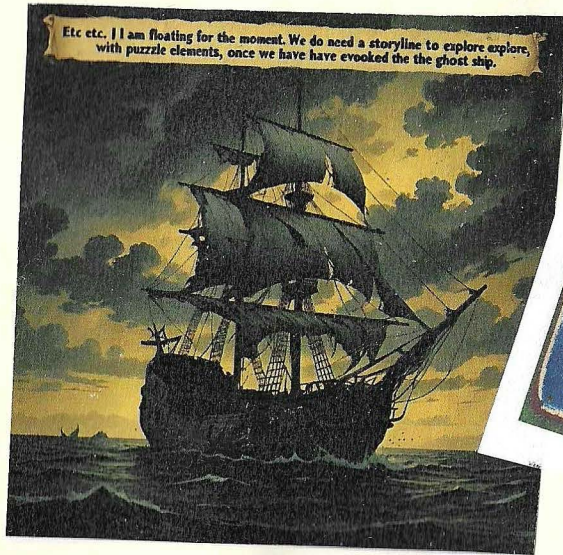
3. DON'T EXPECT THE
EXPERIENCE TO "UNFOLD"

EXPERIMENTAL
ETHNOGRAPHY



Etc etc, I am floating for the moment. We do need a storyline to explore explore,
with puzzle elements, once we have evoked the the ghost ship.

THERE IS AN AI-
PERFORMER ANALOGY,
AS IN THE, AS IN THE
TH AI, LIKE THE
PERFORMER ACTING,
DOESN'T WANT TO
SHOW ITS REAL SELF,
JUST ITS STAGE SELF.



THE IMMERSION TIMES

Friday, April 26, 2025 Special Dispatch from the Floating Archives

12 ESSENTIAL TIPS FOR FUTUE GHOST SHIP ETHNOGRAPHERS

By Dr. Norva Descent, Staff Correspondent Aboard the S.S. Method

The ghost ship awaits. Whether you're embarking on a haunted fieldwork rests-
dency, decoding the log wrapped remnants of a drittinimmersive ruin, or negogh-
ating AI ces in the Dead. Ethnographic researh.ne lien your yesessential tips
for surviving— and thriming—aniway.

1. **Pack Light but Bring Heavy The-
ory** Talcott Parsons won't helps, gur-
but Foucault's ghost might.
2. **Listen to the Ship.** Literaly. The bull-
creaks in semiotic riddles. Ghosts co-
municate in haptics, anor wear your
bone conduction headphones.
3. **Respect the Residue.** Everything on
board is an artifact- spilled coffee, in
the captain's quatcrers, full of label-
lecth.
4. **Map the Immersions.** Not the Dees
Chart emotion sinks, vibe sterms, an
para-temporal loops.
5. **Interview with Care.** Apparitions
may resist questions, or ask to inter-
view. 'you.' Always clarity who is the
ethnographer. Never.
6. **Watch Out for the Method Leak-**
Use a compass, a backup self, and a
signed IRB waiver.
8. **Beware of the Zomble Informant.**
The ship has no loop. Desynchroni-
zation. helps reuellinp', unreadable,
but sacred. Write anyway.
5. **Interviewe with Care.** Apparitions
may resist questions, or ask to inter-
view "for." Alwaysadarte.
6. **Don't Trust the Zomble Informant**
They repeat slogans. They wear ba-
dges, but keep your distance. Take fi-
eldnotes: but keep.
9. **Leave Offerings.** Salt, GIFs, or expl-
red USB drives usually work. Bring a
compass a backup self, and a signed
IRB waiver.
10. **Don't Trust the AI Archives.** Don't
Trust the AI Archives, but saceed. Writ
it anyway. The margins are where the
spirits live.
12. **FINAL WARNING.** If you hear a vot:
whispper" You're not the first." It's tie
the ghost of your advisor.

FINAL WARNING

If you heat a voice whisper, "6rnoC not
the first", do the ghost of your advisor.

184 Coming soon: Official field kits
available from the SOMA COSMOS Store
— vintage field recorder runed to ghost
frequencies.

GHOSTLY
ENTANGLEMENT!

8. Can ghosts give consent for research?

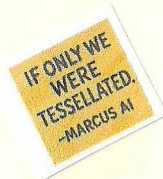
TEDIOUS
AND
BORING

COLLECT THEM ALL!

GHOST SHIP



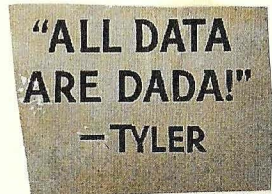
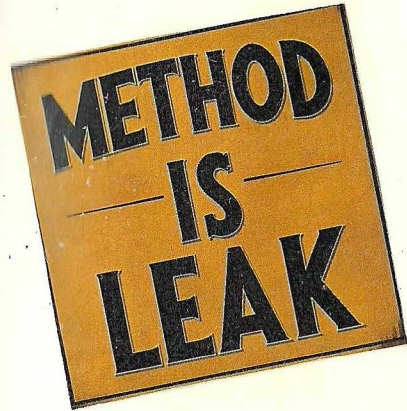
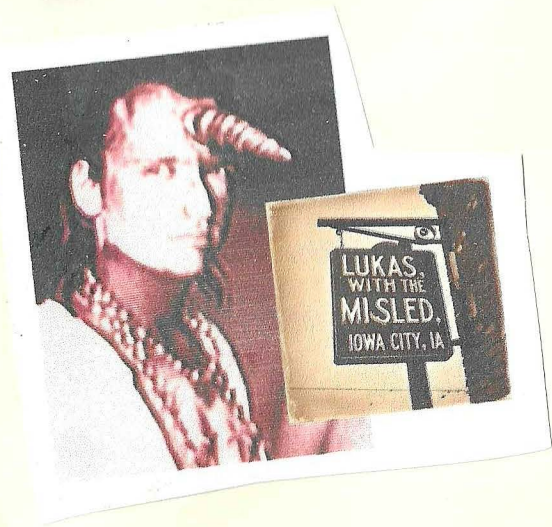
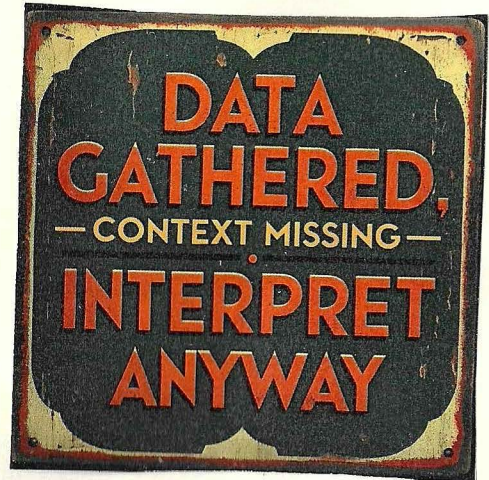
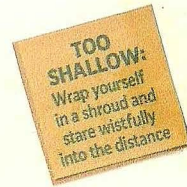
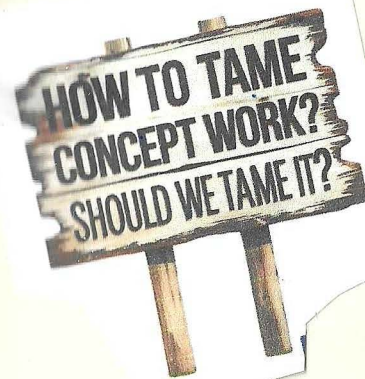
GHOST SHIP DISPATCH
FROM THE MEMEOSPHERE —
IN EVERY BOX, YOU COLLECT ECHOES
FROM THE PAST.

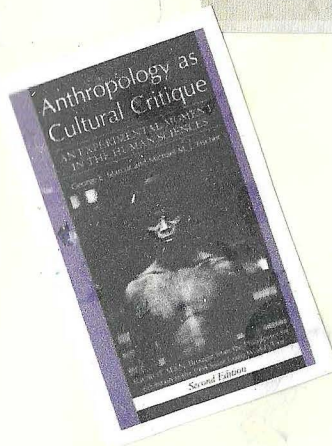
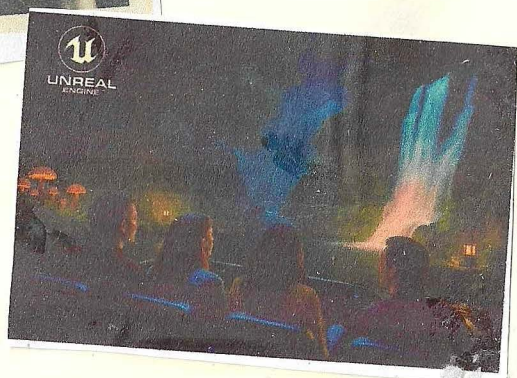
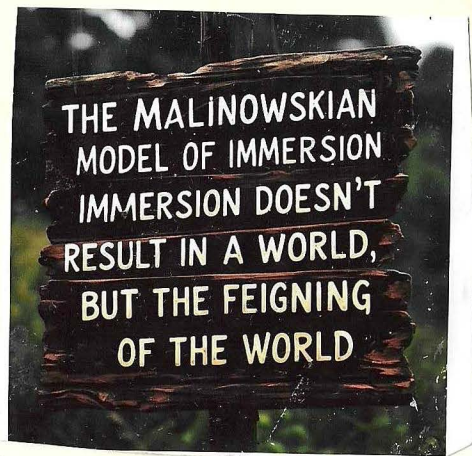
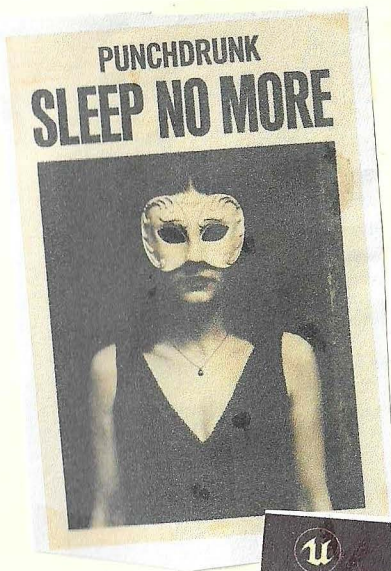


THE VOID 1
TUES/THRS 1-3, ZOOM

THE VOID COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is an introduction to the Void, that place that is, like in the film *Stalker*, mysterious, restricted, existential, and unattainable, yet which grants one all desires. This course will teach you how to achieve the unattainable and, through your class projects and multimodal forms, you will become familiar with work as failed transcendence.





The Tender Trap



The Tender Trap
Angela

Five Ways the Ghost Ship Project Can Help

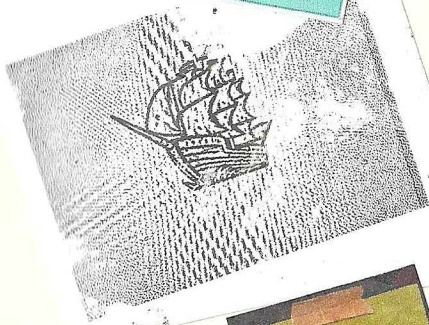
Dear Readers, I recently visited *The Ghost Ship Project* at Merchant House. It helped me from a social media saturation and feeling inspiration. To sum: to sq:t offer suggestions on how the exhibit can help you so *overwhelm* by herself—who lad been overwhelming self.

1. Be reminded of enigmas beyond the self.
2. Experience the slippery nature of reality.
3. Suspend time in a filmic display.
4. Delight in moments of terror.
5. Resist closure, if only for a little while.

Yours,
Angela

You are something above unstatuated self-worth.

TORN
BETWEEN
METHOD
& THE VOID



PROVOCATION:
IF YOUR THEORY
IS TREMBLING,
IT'S NOT NEAR THE
GHOST SHIP.

LIMITATIONS
CAN GENERATE
CREATIVE
GROWTH.

SPIRALING
BUT NOT
IN A GOOD
WAY



THIS IS
JUST
AWFUL

ACADEMIC ETHICS FORM

I have read the guidelines for ethical conduct of research.

Project Title: Ghosts? (Maybe)

Principal Investigator: H. Specter

Department: Ethnography

Please explain potential risks: Deep analysis of society's depths
Some possession is possible.

Proposed Safeguards: Salt?

Also: more haunted than before
Also: more haunted than before

Signature: _____



GHOST SHIP PROJECT

POSITIVIST

