

Life

Call for Papers

The managing, moulding, and design of processes of life has been an ongoing project central to modernity since the rise of capitalism's most successful life-strategies: make live, let die, give form to life. Today this project unfolds through the design of infrastructure: a highway, a supermarket, software, optical fiber, a data center, corporate providers of energy and water, and materializes as spatial arrangements. It is a formatting and planning. What does resistance to biopolitical power look like? The issue seeks submissions for two general categories: dead-life and living-life.

Dead-life

Here we propose to investigate the way current forms of power manifest themselves as the organization, design and configuration of dead life-worlds. Space becomes a *commodity*, bodies become *labour*, activity becomes *programme*, the multiplicity of the city becomes *zoning*, politics becomes a *statistical distribution* of a population, identities become incorporated into capitalist and racist *subjectivities*. These interventions operate through violence(s), such as political suppression, mechanical discipline, electrical numbing, pharmaceutical relaxation, or cosmological violence. The dead-life section seeks submissions that trouble the boundaries between living and the non-living things that are central to the production of dead life-worlds. We encourage submissions that engage with Marxist readings of zombie fiction, epidemiological architecture, slaughterhouse vitalisms, or geo-poetic interventions into biocentric life-worlds. Dead-life creates ready-made intellectual categories for what is a human, what is nature, and how the very conditions of life itself are defined.

Living-Life

We seek a shift from designing form to *designing new kinds of practices*, from impersonal encounters to *mobilization*, from infrastructure to the *uproar of urban life*, from hollow aesthetic formalisms to *improvisation in public space*, from large-scale development to *slow micro-urbanism*, from advertising to the formation of new *values*, from bare life to *political life*. In these alternative organizations we see the development of distinct *ways of living*, *living lives*, and *forms-of-life* that differ from those dictated by the capitalist ideal of profit and the modern notion of development. These forms of organization are enacted through collective power, anarchist and squatter communities, autonomous movements, pockets of resistance and decolonization strategies. Despite attempts to subdue it, *Life* emerges as inherently *unprogrammable*. We especially encourage submissions that demonstrate decolonial thinking or challenge racist population logics.

For Scapegoat's Life issue, we solicit features (4500-6500 words), projects (Max 1000 words) and reviews (1000-15000 words) in Art, Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban fields. Please send 300 word abstracts before May 1, 2015 to scapegoatsays@gmail.com