

Simone Osthoff

International Symposium

Transcoding Flusser: Synthetic Thinking



In the spring of 2016, from March 19 to May 07, the third iteration of the exhibition *Without Firm Ground—Vilém Flusser and the Arts*, curated by Baruch Gottlieb and Siegfried Zielinski, was showcased at the West Den Haag. A review of the second iteration of this exhibition at the Akademie der Künste, in Berlin (November of 2015) was written by Rafael Cardoso and is included in this issue. The exhibition was first showcased at the ZKM, Karlsruhe, where it was co-curated by Peter Weibel. The West Den Haag iteration consisted of five rooms with a bit less material than the previous versions. It also included videos, books, diagrams, manuscripts, and a few objects by and about Flusser’s multidimensional work and life. The Hague exhibition, like the others, was also accompanied by an international symposium, titled *Transcoding Flusser: Synthetic Thinking*.



The symposium took place at the auditorium of the Royal Academy of Art (KABK) and was organized and moderated by Baruch Gottlieb and Steffi Winkler, with support and careful visual documentation by West Den Haag. The round table included ten Flusser scholars working in different disciplines who examined Flusser's provocative suggestion that computer codes and synthetic thinking might free us from the tyranny of linear thinking. The format privileged dynamic discussions among the participants as well as between the panel and the public. Archived on Vimeo is video documentation of all discussions moderated by Baruch Gottlieb and Steffi Winkler, in addition to the twenty-minute presentations by Fiona Hanley, Rainer Guldin, Katerina Krtilova, Peter Mahr, Marcel René Marburger, Arjen Mulder, Simone Osthoff, and Polona Tratnik over the two-day event.

Discussions and presentations on Vimeo:

http://www.westdenhaag.nl/exhibitions/16_04_Flusser/more2

Complete information about the symposium at the West Den Haag website:

http://www.westdenhaag.com/exhibitions/16_04_Flusser/more1

Flusser Studies is going to publish part of the proceedings in the fall issue of *Flusser Studies* (Flusser Studies 22).



Photos by Gordon Meuleman (courtesy West Den Haag)