Question: Is obsolescence and randomness a theme in all your work?

Kevin: Yes it's a running theme... I make works that try to negate their original purpose. In my hand drawn countergraphs, I utilize the aesthetics of infographics, but I select values randomly and try to make my graphs as situated and personal as possible. When I look at those graphs a month or year later I have no idea why I chose those values. They have no value to anyone but myself; they just map a particular moment in my mental workings, the moment when I'm creating the work and beyond that they are completely obsolete.

Nathan: Today, data collection is largely random because there are so many machines that are collecting data that is not being used for anything, e.g., cameras on buses. Because it's so random, it's not a threat the way it would have been perceived 20 years ago. There's so much data that it has become simply noise.

Question: Is your imagined audience a force in what you create?

Kevin: The main piece of the show *forces* an interaction from the audience, unlike the use of interactivity as a kind of buzz word that assumes/implies an equal exchange between the audience and the work, when in reality the audience has been reduced to some kind of avatar or, as Nathan says some kind of remote control operator. In my mind, this piece extracts something from the audience, so they are meant to feel a little wrought. There's a bit of aggressiveness there, the way the data is collected without the knowledge of the audience with force in a clandestine way, and then privatized.

Obsolescence, omnipresence, randomness, data truth, exploitation, critique of the desire for the immaterialism of the post-human—all are here in the thickness of these embodied and hobbled installations that bring us to our senses, if just for a moment, and inspire us to awake to the data that we constantly breathe in and out, in and out, in and...

Wayne Egers is a filmmaker, artist, and poet with interests ranging from Zen Buddhism, deep ecology, phenomenology, and writing from the body.

Kevin Day + Nathan McNinch
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