



Are We All Addicts Now? Symposium and Book Launch

Tuesday 7th November, 6.30 - 9pm

Central St Martins, University of the Arts
London

Tickets: £4 - £7

bit.ly/2yEjgZK

Part of the *Are We All Addicts Now?* exhibition at
Furtherfield Gallery open 16 September - 12 November
2017, Saturday - Sunday 11 am - 5 pm. More info:
furtherfield.org/programmes/exhibition/are-we-all-addicts-now

This event celebrates the publication of *Are We All Addicts Now? Digital Dependence* edited by Vanessa Bartlett and Henrietta Bowden-Jones and will feature presentations from many of the book's key contributors who include:

Katriona Beales
Henrietta Bowden-Jones
Ruth Catlow
Fiona MacDonald : Feral Practice
Gerald Moore
Emily Rosamond
Tony D. Sampson
Theodora Sutton

Are We All Addicts Now? Digital Dependence is the first publication to explore internet addiction from an interdisciplinary perspective. It was designed by Stéfan Schäfer and is published by Liverpool University Press.



During the symposium, neuroscientists, philosophers and artists come together to discuss the emerging diagnosis of internet addiction. Informed by the latest scientific research, the programme includes a presentation by Henrietta Bowden-Jones, a leading specialist in internet addiction disorder.

The discussion will seek to move beyond the biological model of addiction to explore the social and political conditions that shape online behaviour. Taking into account the increasingly precarious nature of contemporary working conditions, speakers will ask whether internet addiction is best understood as a form of illness, or simply a sensible adaptation to our current political environment? Philosopher Gerald Moore's presentation will explore digital capitalism as a means of manufacturing addiction, while Theodora Sutton will discuss the cultural moralisation of technology and the problem with the 'digital detox.'

As increasing numbers of people struggle to moderate their online behaviours, this event will also explore how artists' work is providing strategies for counteracting the seductive, addiction-making qualities of digital space. Artist Emily Rosamond's presentation explores how artists suffer from 'reputation addiction' through the impulse to constantly check online profiles, while Katriona Beales and Fiona MacDonald : Feral Practice discuss possible strategies of resistance to digital addiction explored in the *Are We All Addicts Now?* exhibition.

Ticket price includes a drink *:

£7 full price | £4 concessions (UAL staff/student, external student unemployed, senior)

*ticket price covers a token for 1 alcoholic drink or 2 soft drinks, with a pay bar available for additional purchases.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL - bit.ly/2yEjgZK

The publication will be available to purchase on the night at the discounted price of £10 (cash only, RRP £14.95).

The book, '*Are We All Addicts Now?*' is also available from Liverpool University Press: liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/products/100809

Convened by curator Vanessa Bartlett

Presented in partnership with Central Saint Martins Art/ Design and Science Research Group

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Vanessa Bartlett is a researcher and curator working between Australia and the UK.

Katriona Beales is a sculptor who also makes digital artefacts, moving image and installation stressing the continuing role of the object in digital life.

Henrietta Bowden-Jones is the Founder and Director of the National Problem Gambling Clinic in the UK, the only NHS service (CNWL NHS Trust) designated for the treatment of pathological gamblers and their families.

Ruth Catlow is an artist and curator working with emancipatory network cultures, practices and poetics. She is co-founder and co-director, with Marc Garrett, of Furtherfield.

Fiona MacDonald is an artist, curator, writer and researcher based in Kent.

Gerald Moore is Associate Professor in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures and the Department of Philosophy, Durham University.

Emily Rosamond is an artist, writer and lecturer in Visual Cultures at Goldsmiths University.

Tony D. Sampson is a former musician and lyricist, who is currently Reader in Digital Cultures and Communication at the University of East London.

Theodora Sutton is a digital anthropologist and DPhil student at the Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford.

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