

Performing Infrastructure

Keynote Lecture for Archipelago of Artistic Practices
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How do infrastructures consolidate power relations? How might counter-hegemonic infrastructures undergird resource distributions, relations, and collective actions in new ways – and what forms of thinking might support these pursuits? This lecture explores both the violence of infrastructure (when used as a tool for settler colonialism, resource extraction, and corporate domination) and its emancipatory potentials as a locus for activism and reactivation. It posits ‘performing infrastructure’ as a framework for thinking about infrastructure – as something that must ‘perform,’ and that is, in part, comprised of human actions – that foregrounds its participatory nature, and therefore brings its problems and potentials as a political tool into focus.

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