28.02.14

FIGHT 11

Stephan Backes / Rodell Warner

AT THE EDGE OF THE AFTERLIFE

Tom Trevatt

At the entropic saddlepoint between life and death a temporary equilibrium can be reached, just long enough to stave off the inevitable. Pushing a system to its boundaries can aid in the development of the resilience needed for it to flourish.

$36.8° \pm 0.4°C$

A contagion spreads, takes hold, populations panic. KEEP AWAY FROM THE SCREEN. Affective disorders, depression for example, can increase dependent on different colour lighting. LA is installing LED lights to replace its current high-pressure sodium lamps; the yellow hue of many Hollywood movies shot at night. As a profound switch in the aesthetic of cinema, this banal piece of road maintenance will mark a paradigmatic shift. The fear is that the blue light of the LED will tragically alter the inhabitant's mood.

Pressed forcefully against climate catastrophe, humanity faces a choice, yet not so much a choice to be made, but one the consequences of which must be endured, mitigated or suffered through. Ecological incentives to produce a cultural or conceptual change abound. For many it is too late.

$+4°C$

But what pressure must be exerted in these scenarios to be effective? To the edge of collapse? Is the system's resilience to be tested by social disturbance on a global scale? The inside of a human body maintains a temperature within a normal tolerance of $0.5°C$, death can occur with body temperature changes of only a few degrees, the inside of any system has similar tolerances. How hot can it get?

What status the crisis? Are we conceptually bound to it? As the surface palpably shudders and verges on apocalypse, as sharp, jagged edges impinge and coalesce around a thudding glitch, the field of vision is catastrophically shattered, the observer is not longer stable, entangled in the field itself. Hypertrophic expansion, the pushing at the edge of the membrane.