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The Aesthetics of the Global

While the analysis of institutions, networks, infrastructures, and technologies has dominated recent conversations on globality, “aesthetics”—form, style, rhetoric, design, etc.—has largely been relegated to epiphenomena. We hope to rectify this critical oversight by proposing a series of papers on localized interactions with perceived global flows. The forms these exchanges take, indeed what we might call their “aesthetics,” materializes the global as an analytic and sensorial space as much as any other structural components. The materiality of global flows, in other words, has “textuality” worth exploring, if we are to continue present debates on the common *and* differential experiences of globalization.

Our panel explores questions such as follows: In what sense does becoming global entail an aesthetic dimension? How does such aesthetics shape the global? What might we learn from comparisons of these “aesthetics of the global” that emerge in local arenas? What are the implications for imaginations of globality, global circuits, and global media?