

Seigworth, Gregory J., Millersville University of Pennsylvania, United States

Affect Bleed: The Immanent Politics of the Everyday

Affective moments sometimes bleed-through or resonate because they jut out of experience at odd angles or with jagged edges, because they don't quite fit within the usual frameworks of conventional understanding, because they make new demands on the social order. Sometimes it is a tiny tear in the fabric of belonging, other times the re-suturing of wayward threads back into place. These resonant moments press along the innermost linings of our everyday existence like (extra)bodily-absorbed/-emitted leading indicators signaling that something somewhere – a taken-for granted infrastructure of feeling – has begun wobbling out of place and is, thus, entering the realm of collective re-imagining. Refusing to return so neatly into the ambient background of our existence, coming apart at the seams, struggling toward becoming articulate, finding new plateaus for what we might call 'states of grace,' it then becomes our task to hasten (or, yes, also sometimes thwart) the affect bleeds' arrival from virtual swarm to actual existence. Most of all, I want to argue how such moments offer real flashes of what Raymond Williams called 'resources of hope.'