

Crane, David, Independent scholar, United States

Impersonal Affects: Becoming Intimate with Laurel Nakadate and Jill Magid

This paper examines the works of multimedia artists Laurel Nakadate and Jill Magid and how those produce intimately affective relations with their subjects (for the former, older men who hit on her; for the latter, institutions, especially governmental ones). Situating their work as a critical engagement with post and third-wave feminism (and attendant issues of [post]representation), critiquing Nicolas Bourriaud's utopian notion of "relational aesthetics," and drawing on Elizabeth Grosz's Deleuzian concept of impersonal force (as a rebuff to intersubjective recognition), I focus on the ways in which Nakadate and Magid situate themselves within their own work as explicitly gendered and implicitly transcultural "differential agents." As such, their works effect, and affect, a remediation of conventional power relations (both interpersonal and institutional) that is productive, even if not always fully "successful."