

ENTANGLED CARTOGRAPHIES

2025.11.6-7

For detailed schedule
and information on
the conference, scan:



Image Credit
Map for the Blind, 1837

*I have rivers but no water; forests but no trees; cities but no buildings. What am I?
A map. (origins of riddle unknown)*

In his 1931 paper "A Non-Aristotelian System and Its Necessity for Rigor in Mathematics and Physics", Polish American scientist and philosopher Alfred Korzybski introduced the now-iconic phrase, "a map is not the territory." While Korzybski's original focus was on general semantics, the metaphor he coined has since gained far greater reach, prompting deeper reflections on the relationship between representation and reality. This question, which has occupied thinkers throughout history—from Plato's allegory of the cave to Jean Baudrillard's concept of simulation and simulacra—remains central in understanding our entanglements with the world.

In the context of today's rapidly shifting landscapes—shaped by advancements in digital technology, ecological crises, and societal transformations—*Entangled Cartographies* takes this relationship between map and territory as a jumping off point to investigate fluctuating and transmutative topographies. The conference puts forward topics of **sentience**, **society**, **reality**, and **cosmology**, where cartography, both literal and metaphorical, could serve as a critical tool for navigating and untangling these new converging spaces.



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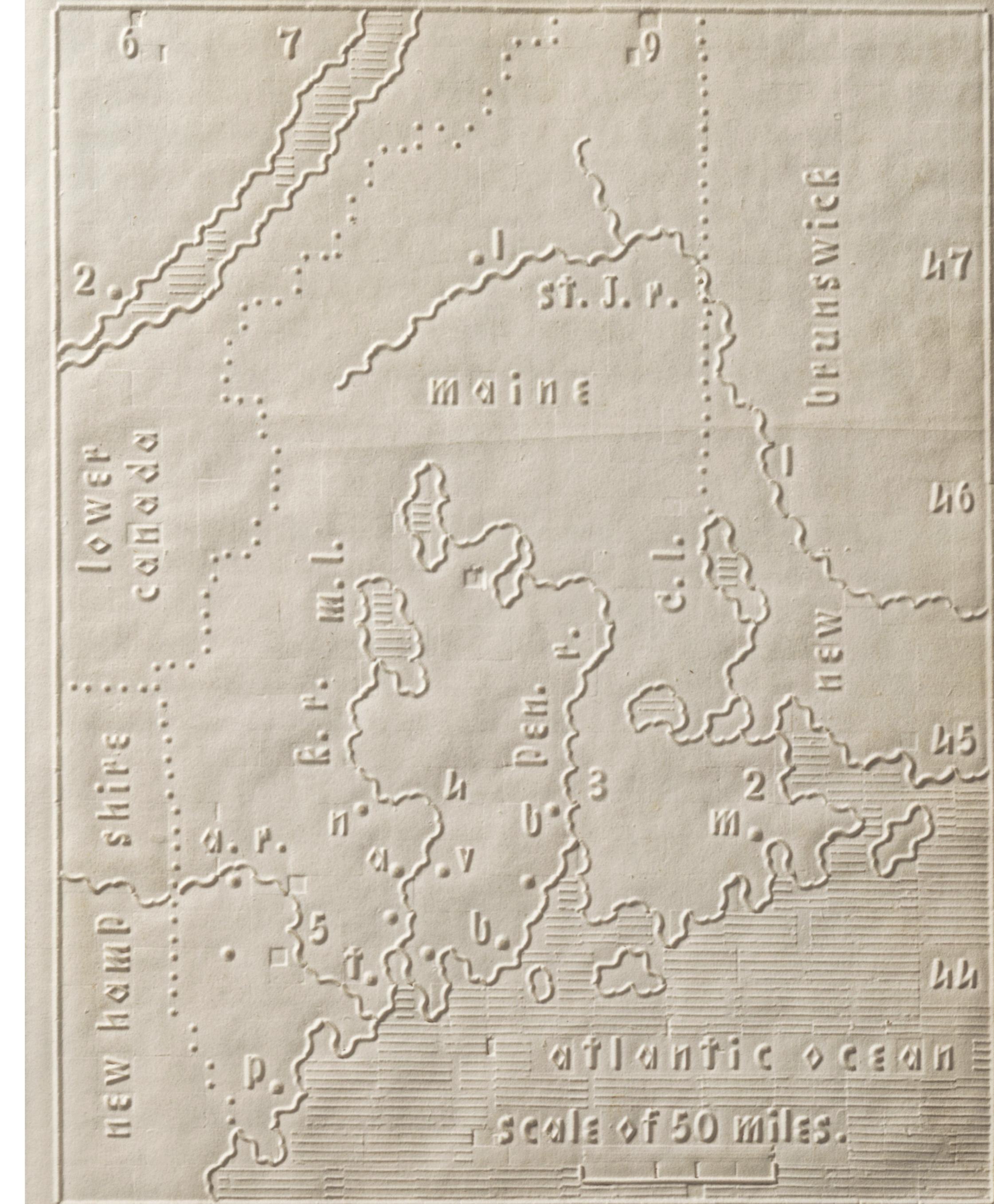
DUKE KUNSHAN
Humanities Research Center

DTRM

Design
Technology
Radical Media

Presence
Lab
Duke University
Duke Kunshan University

V2_



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

2025.11.6-7

THU. 11.6

Keynote One

Boris Debackere

Artist, Head of Production, V2_Lab for the Unstable Media

Location / Time: **IB Lecture Hall / 6:00-7:00pm**

FRI. 11.7

Keynote Two

Victoria Szabo

Research Professor of Visual and Media Studies, Duke University

Location / Time: **IB Lecture Hall / 9:00-10:00am**

Networked Societies Track

Chair: **Benjamin Bacon**

Location / Time: **AB1079 / 10:15-12:15pm**

Synthetic Cartographies: Constructing Landscape Demographic Data

Jia Zhang, Columbia University (online) **10:15-10:45am**

Historical documents, interviews, and objects as holders of memories across generations.

Daniela Torres Medina, Duke Kunshan University **10:45-11:15am**

Gathering the Cracks: Poetic Counter-Mapping of Informal Networks in Bacheng

Zhiyuan Ma (and collaborators), Duke Kunshan University **11:15-11:45am**

Entangled Intimacies: How VTuber Avatars Redraw the Cartographies of Networked Societies

Huiwei Wen, New York University Shanghai **11:45-12:15pm**

Environments & Realities Track

Chair: **Rui Hu**

Location / Time: **AB2103 / 10:15-11:45am**

On Performative Foraging as a Form of Sensory Cartography
Ishraki Kazi, New York University Shanghai **10:15-10:45am**

A Journey to the Left: Directionality and Cartographic Perspectives in the Visual Culture of Xiyou Ji
Chengjin Su, Zhejiang University **10:45-11:15am**

Navigating Commercial Media Monopolies with Embodied Mediation
Asha Sophea Janardhan, Duke Kunshan University **11:15-11:45am**

Keynote Three

Ionat Zurr

Artist, Associate Professor of Fine Arts, University of Western Australia

Location / Time: **IB Lecture Hall / 1:30-2:30pm**

Ambient Intelligence Track

Chair: **Daniel Weissglass**

Location / Time: **AB1079 / 3:00-4:30pm**

Conceptual Cartography: LLMs as Conceptual Maps
Daniel Weissglass, Duke Kunshan University **3:00-3:30pm**

Disembodied Reflection: The AI that is its Own Map
Xinyu (Kiri) Tian, New York University Shanghai **3:30-4:00pm**

Reimagining web typology by drawing on the decentralized, adaptive intelligence of slime mold from a posthuman perspective.

Yanrui (Linda) Shao, Delft University of Technology (online) **4:00-4:30pm**

Techno-Ontologies & Cosmologies Track

Chair: **Vivian Xu**

Location / Time: **AB2103 / 3:00-4:30pm**

Weird World: The Networked Eco-horrors of Globalization, Translation, and "World Literature" in Pola Oloixarac's Mona

Julia Irion Martins, New York University Shanghai **3:00-3:30pm**

Nomadic Intelligence as Distributed Sentience in Central Asia
Kymbat Altybay, Duke Kunshan University **3:30-4:00pm**

Female bodies, land and resistance: cuerpo-territorio as counter-cartography in resource extraction in Latin America
Qianying (Yelena) Ye, New York University Shanghai **4:00-4:30pm**



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