ENTROPICAL

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Entropical is a research project started in 2015, the international year of the soil. This first presentation of Entropical consists of four art works in which the value and dynamics of the exchange of materials in the biological world is set against the abstract value of algorithms and computer calculations. How can we bring these value systems into a direct productive relationship in a time in which intensive computation is valued far more than ecological regeneration? How, for example, can Bitcoin positively affect the rhizosphere, the layer of earth around the roots of plants?

Debra Solomon, Entropical / En Necromasse, forest root, 2015

One of the exhibition works comprises a two-part installation built up from mycelium and silicium. A network of fungal threads is grown in the installation itself. The heat necessary to produce the mycelium comes from a computer processing block chains, the technology behind the mining of cryptographic currencies such as Bitcoin. The protein-rich mycelium mats that form during the exhibition will later be used to inoculate poor urban soils with fungi to initiate a robust ecosystem. In the front space of the Glazen Huis, typographic works and silk screens connect natural processes with network architecture.

Entropical plays with the concept of 'entropy', the second law of thermodynamics, a condition of constant change in which materials and energy are transformed. But the term is also used in cryptography, where it refers to algorithmic processes and abstract information. Entropical inquires into the incentive to produce ecological regeneration in an age in which running intensive computation (e.g. ‘mining Bitcoin’) yields far more value than soil production and ecological regeneration.

Debra Solomon, Entropical / En Necromasse, leaf skeleton, 2015

Debra Solomon, Entropical / En Necromasse, spore print, 2015

Debra Solomon, Entropical / En Necromasse, mycelium, 2015

Debra Solomon, Entropical / En Necromasse, forest root, 2015

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