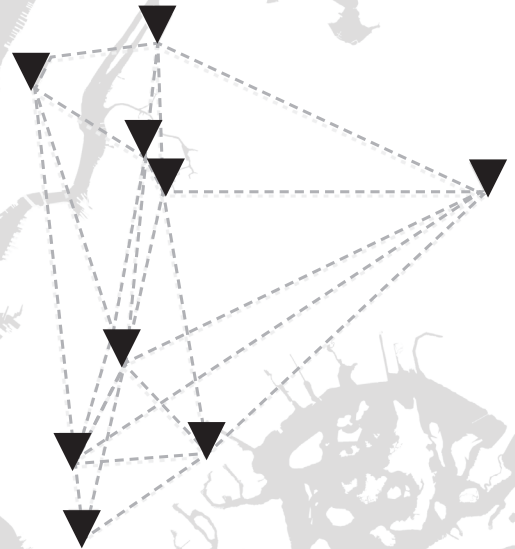




Privacy In Public

An exhibit on data privacy hosted
by New York City's public libraries

December 1, 2018-February 1, 2019



About Privacy in Public

Digital safety and privacy are often treated as an individual concern and burden: we are told to practice digital hygiene, to manage our passwords and clear our histories, monitor our credit, use encryption. Yet data is increasingly transforming public and civic spaces, online and off. And avoiding digital participation means losing out on opportunities—or even avoiding public spaces where our data may be collected without our consent.

What happens when we consider our privacy, security, and safety as a shared and public concern? How do the problems and the remedies change if we address privacy as communities instead of as individuals?

Why libraries?

Librarians are increasingly on the line to provide digital guidance to the public, and to provide physical space for digital interaction. The public library systems of New York City, with support from Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO) and the Mayor's Office of the Chief Technology Officer, have created curricula, tools, and strategies for librarians to protect people who seek out digital services in public spaces.

As part of this effort, we invite you to engage in a public conversation about privacy by visiting nine site-specific artworks. Each artwork will consider questions of digital risk, safety, behavior, protection, harm, mitigation, and remedy. Each will speak to the others, and will be in conversation and drawn from its particular local context.

About this guide

We invite you to use this booklet to develop a customized log of all of your visits. There's space here to record your reactions to each piece. When completed, the booklet will show a full picture of the exhibition and will create an intentional "data trail" that's built upon your experience.

Library Ley Lines

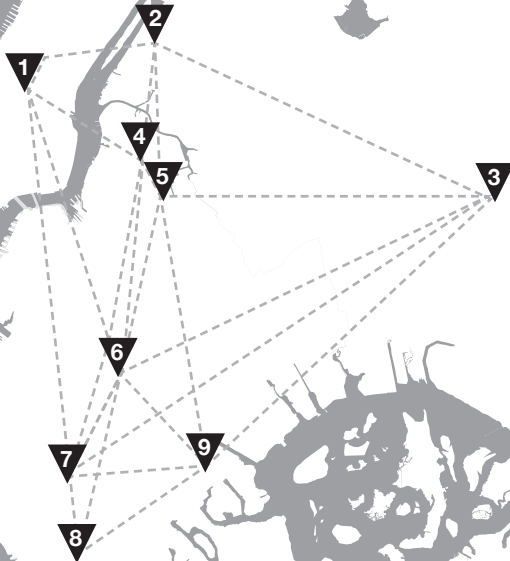
New York is a city obsessed with making space rational. We live within networks of numbered grids and debate optimal subway and bus routes as though our commutes are minor battles of a long war. *Ley lines* are based on the idea that there are other, ancient grids and networks running through places, governed by electromagnetic energy or supernatural powers.

The cables, cell towers, and antennas that make the city part of digital space are kind of like ley lines, connecting people and places across the city across huge distances.

While exploring the city through visiting these library exhibitions, see what other kind of ley lines between sites you can find. Every few pages, you'll find some prompt questions about things you might encounter between libraries. Use them to find (and draw) some new maps of your own!

LIBRARIES

1. HEISKELL
2. LONG ISLAND CITY
3. QUEENS CENTRAL
4. LEONARD
5. BUSHWICK
6. FLATBUSH
7. RYDER
8. GRAVESEND
9. MILL BASIN



Notes and Questions

Reflection Between Libraries

- How many LinkNYC kiosks do you see around the libraries you visit? Are they being used? For what?
- If you take the subway to the libraries, watch the other people on your train car. How are their actions private and how are they public?

Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library

40 W 20th Street, New York, NY 10011

Taeyoon Choi's partnership with The Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library will include a series of workshops for community members. Visit privacyinpublic.org for more information.

Directions

Take the 4, 5, 6, N, Q, R, or W trains to Union Square; walk north along Broadway to 20th Street and turn left. The library is located between 5th and 6th Avenues.

Hours

Monday - 10AM-5PM	Friday - 10AM-5PM
Tuesday - 12PM-7PM	Saturday - 10AM-5PM
Wednesday - 10AM-5PM	Sunday - Closed
Thursday - 12PM-7PM	

Taeyoon Choi is an artist, educator, and activist. His art practice involves performance, electronics, drawings, and installations that form the basis for storytelling in public spaces. Choi cofounded the School for Poetic Computation where he continues to organize sessions and teach classes on electronics, drawings, disability and social practice.

Notes and Questions

Queens Library at Long Island City

37-44 21 Street, Long Island City, NY 11101

Annabel Daou's *Password* consists of a collated collection of responses from visitors to the library who were asked to anonymously divulge the strategies they use to create private and memorable passwords for their personal online accounts. In sharing these strategies, visitors offer something personal to other library visitors, while contributing to a text that oscillates between singular and shared experiences. Printed on silk, a material associated with intimacy, the work suggests that secrets and hidden truths reside within the public institutional space of the library.

Directions

Take the F train to Queensbridge and walk north along 21st Street.

Hours

Monday - 9AM-8PM

Tuesday - 1PM-6PM

Wednesday - 10AM-6PM

Thursday - 12PM-8PM

Friday - 10AM-6PM

Saturday - 10AM-5PM

Sunday - Closed

Annabel Daou's work takes place at the intersection of writing, speech, and nonverbal communication. Her paper-and-tape constructions, sound pieces, and performances explore the language of power and intimacy. Recent and upcoming projects include: *Chou Hayda?* an audio work at the National Museum of Beirut (through December 2018) and *just one question*, a solo show at Galerie Tanja Wagner, Berlin (November 2018).

Notes and Questions

Queens Central Library

89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432

Some Important Reminders While Surfing the Web by Alejandra Delfin consists of four panels that depict tactics and tools for personal cybersecurity. These panels depict tactics and tools for personal cybersecurity, from the importance of strong password usage and encrypted communications, to online privacy and identity.

Directions

Take the F train to 169th Street. Walk southwest toward Merrick Boulevard and make a left. The library is just after 89th Avenue.

Hours

Monday - 9AM-9PM

Tuesday - 9AM-9PM

Wednesday - 9AM-9PM

Thursday - 9AM-9PM

Friday - 9AM-7PM

Saturday - 10AM-5PM

Sunday - 12PM-5PM

Alejandra Delfin is a peruvian printmaker. Her works address economic inequality and environmental justice. She graduated from SUNY Empire College, has studied at Bob Blackburn Printmaking Workshop and Atelier 17 with Hayter (France). She is a recipient of BRIO (Bronx Council on the Arts) and Action Lab awards (Bronx Museum).

Notes and Questions

Notes and Questions

Reflection Between Libraries

- According to 2000 U.S. Census records, there are 138 different languages spoken in Queens. Some linguists estimate that 800 different languages are spoken throughout the entire city. Do you know other languages? When do you use them? When and where is a spoken language a kind of privacy shield, and when and where is a spoken language a dangerous thing to use?

Leonard Library

81 Devoe Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211

Social media platforms are the first choice for sharing our lives and connecting with friends, family, and our nuclear communities. Those small communities, however, aren't the only ones seeing our posts; corporations, governments and the larger internet community sees them too. *the public is private* features a scrolling marquee that displays the text of a curated selection of posts intended for smaller nuclear communities. The marquee shares posts that are geolocated at Leonard Library or that use the hashtag #atreegrowinsinbrooklyn.

Directions

Take the L or G train to Lorimer-Metropolitan. Exit onto Union Avenue and walk south, making a left onto Devoe. The library is at the corner of Devoe and Leonard.

Hours

Monday - 10AM-6PM	Friday - 10AM-6PM
Tuesday - 1PM-8PM	Saturday - 10AM-5PM
Wednesday - 10AM-6PM	Sunday - Closed
Thursday - 10AM-8PM	

Toisha Tucker is an interdisciplinary conceptual artist and writer. Through text-based prints, photographs, and installations, they debunk accepted social constructions around race, gender, and identity. Using epistemological, literary and linguistic investigation, they also delve into the relationship between technology and human empathy. See more of their work at toishatucker.com.

Notes and Questions

Bushwick Library

340 Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206

Politicians and marketers now use data and online advertising to try to change our behaviors. But why are these tools only available to people in places like Washington DC, Manhattan and London? *Bushwick Analytica*, hosted by Tega Brain, is a series of workshops at Bushwick Public Library inviting local middle schoolers to harness the power of data driven advertising to develop and promote their own targeted campaigns. These sessions will cover the inner workings of internet advertising, and the many ways that data is collected online and used to categorize us. The resulting advertising campaigns will be on display in the library and published online. Visit privacyinpublic.org to learn more.

Directions

Take the L train to Montrose Avenue. Walk south for three blocks. The library is at the corner of Bushwick Avenue and Siegel Street.

Hours

Monday - 10AM-6PM	Friday - 10AM-6PM
Tuesday - 10AM - 6PM	Saturday - 10AM-5PM
Wednesday - 10AM-8PM	Sunday - Closed
Thursday - 1PM-8PM	

Tega Brain is an Australian-born artist and environmental engineer whose work addresses ecology, environmental management and data-driven systems. She is an Assistant Professor of Integrated Digital Media, New York University. She lives and works in New York.

Notes and Questions

Flatbush Library

22 Linden Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11226

American Artist's *Faraday Study* is a small room library visitors can use to read, study, and plan, absent of any cell service or WiFi signal. The room uses a signal-blocking fabric associated with survivalist practices of eliminating radio waves or protection from lightning strikes. While we find more innovative ways to maintain privacy in digital space, the only way to truly find privacy is through escape.

Directions

Take the B or Q to Church Avenue. Walk toward Flatbush Avenue on Church and then make a left on Flatbush. Turn right onto Linden Boulevard.

Hours

Monday - 10AM-6PM	Friday - 10AM-6PM
Tuesday - 1PM-8PM	Saturday - 10AM-5PM
Wednesday - 10AM- 6PM	Sunday - Closed
Thursday - 10AM-8PM	

American Artist is a New York-based interdisciplinary artist whose work extends Black radicalism and organized labor into a context of networked virtual life. American attended the Whitney Independent Study program and has exhibited at The Kitchen (New York), the Studio Museum in Harlem, and the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago.

Notes and Questions

Notes and Questions

Reflection Between Libraries

- How many computer stores or repair shops do you see in the neighborhoods you're visiting to see these different exhibitions? How about stores selling phones? How do you think differently about privacy on a phone versus while using a computer (in the library, in your house, or somewhere else)?

Ryder Library

5902 23rd Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11204

Salome Asega's *Radical Reading* is a video series for young adults and parents to learn about the historical continuum of surveillance in a fun way. Drawing on early public-access edutainment like *The Magic School Bus*, *Radical Reading* embeds video shorts in books by authors who approach surveillance studies in intersectional theory. From settler colonialism to current bureaucratic structures, *Radical Reading* tackles multiple frameworks for understanding the oppressive surveillance state.

Directions

Take the F Train to Avenue N. Exit midway down the platform to 60th street. Walk west along 60th street. Turn right on 23rd Avenue. The library is located at the end of the block.

Hours

Monday - 10AM-6PM	Friday - 10AM-6PM
Tuesday - 10AM-8PM	Saturday - Closed
Wednesday - 10AM-6PM	Sunday - 1PM-5PM
Thursday - 10AM-8PM	

Salome Asega is an artist and researcher based in New York. Currently, she is a Technology Fellow at the Ford Foundation. Salome has participated in residencies and fellowships with Eyebeam, New Museum, The Laundromat Project, and Recess Art. She has exhibited and presented at the 11th Shanghai Biennale, Performa, EYEO, and the Brooklyn Museum.

Notes and Questions

Gravesend Library

303 Avenue X Brooklyn, NY 11223

The Protest We Never Had by Mimi Onuoha begins from the premise that by using surveillance infrastructure to profit off of consumers' data, tech companies like Google and Facebook have quietly committed some of the greatest acts of digital dispossession of our time. Because these acts unfolded slowly over time and under the hood of popular sites, they have never warranted a full-scale protest from the public. *The Protest We Never Had* is a series of protest signs designed for this exact purpose: rallying against the structural digital order of our day. The signs may be used and taken by community members in pursuit of this aim.

Directions

F train to Avenue X. Walk east along Avenue X. The library is located on the north side of the avenue.

Hours

Monday - 10AM-6PM

Tuesday - 1PM-8PM

Wednesday - 1AM-6PM

Thursday - 10AM-8PM

Friday - 10AM-6PM

Saturday - 10AM-5PM

Sunday - Closed

Mimi Onuoha is a Brooklyn-based artist and researcher investigating the social results of data collection and computational categorization. Her work uses code, text, performance, and objects to explore missing data and the ways in which people are abstracted, represented, and classified.

Notes and Questions

Mill Basin Library

2385 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234

In Sam Lavigne's *Verified Purchases*, a computer program searches Amazon.com for a sample of books in Mill Basin Library's collection as of November 15, 2018. The software compiles lists of who purchased each book and all the other products they have bought on Amazon. These lists of "related purchases" are then printed on small cards and placed into books in the library's collection, revealing the scope of knowledge that Amazon has about its customers.

Directions

Take the Bergen Beach bound B41 to Ralph Avenue. The library is located right on the corner.

Hours

Monday - 10AM-6PM

Tuesday - 10AM-6PM

Wednesday - 10AM-8PM

Thursday - 1PM-8PM

Friday - 10AM-6PM

Saturday - 10AM-5PM

Sunday - Closed

Sam Lavigne is an artist and educator whose work deals with data, surveillance, cops, natural language processing, and automation.

Notes and Questions

Credits

This project is presented with special thanks to the following:

Participating Branch Managers and Artist Liaisons:

Lauren Comito, Mill Basin Library
Chancey Fleet, Heiskell Library
Nelson Lu, Queens Central Library
Alexa Orr, Leonard Library
Negla Parris, Flatbush Library
Mirian Rivera-Shapiro, Gravesend Library
Jill Rothstein, Heiskell Library
Tienya Smith, Long Island City Library
Chun (Michael) Tam, Ryder Library
Marc Waldron, Bushwick Library
Tisha Williams, Ryder Library

Participating Artists

American Artist
Salome Asega
Tega Brain
Ingrid Burrington
Taeyoon Choi
Annabel Daou
Alejandra Delfin
Sam Lavigne
Mimi Onuoha
Toisha Tucker

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David Giles, Brooklyn Public Library
Samantha Grassle, NYC Mayor's Office of the
Chief Technology Officer
Jeffrey Lambert, Queens Library
William Marden, The New York Public Library
Megan McDermott, Mozilla Foundation
Sophie McGrath, The New York Public Library
Melissa Morrone, Brooklyn Public Library
Joahannes Neuer, The New York Public Library
Luke Swarthout, The New York Public Library
Bonnie Tijerina, Data & Society

Exhibition guide design by Ingrid Burrington
Printed by Scout Books

Notes and Questions

