

CONDITIONS & POSSIBILITIES:

A Practical Guide to Schizopolitics



Noah Ortega, *Conditions & Possibilities*, 2021, camera operator: Elizabeth Lamb

The condition is a pathological relationship with a faulty schematic. A paranoid attachment. Ultimate objectification. The symptoms of this condition are sticky, like a wad of bubble gum tangled in the hair of a sleeping body politic. Synthetic parasitic, delicately oozing and impenetrable flexibility. A contradiction of terms, affects, modes, & liabilities. An illness, a seemingly endless viral load, made of boom/bust cycles of isolation, exhaustion, apathy, anxiety, and the manic want for more. We are debtor-addicts. Already mad with desire and living in the imposed phantasmagorical delusion called neoliberal democracy. (see [SPK, *Turn Illness into a Weapon*, 1987](#)).

Despite the constant connectivity of global [information, consumer, social] networks, those who suffer from this condition feel increasingly isolated. The revolutionary potential of the network form lost to market-speculation. And as the external forces of alienation are made internal, they melt into a kind of “detached spectatoralism, [that] replaces engagement and involvement” with ironic detachment (see [Fisher, Mark, *Capitalist Realism*, 2009](#)). The condition itself works to arrest the possibilities for a different way of doing.

Is it true that the production of the signifier is inseparable from the institution? What technologies produced your body/subjectivity? Semantics, huh? What if I don't have anything to say? What is/are the a/e/ffects of silence? What inspires action?

Be apprehended by the brief madness of imagination. Do not own, but freely give of your expression. Agitation and action are dialectical. They generate THE BREAKDOWN: (“symbolic actions, serious struggles, allusion to themes from the past, a festival to demonstrate against the consumer society, the occasional sacrificial destruction of things” (see [Guattari, Felix, Molecular Revolution: Psychiatry and Politics, 1984](#)). “We are not sick”, the living rot frankly states, “we are working as intended”. “This is fine”, the masses implore, “we choose to exist like this”. “Change”, whispers desire, “it is the only way through”.

We practice collective action & visibility. “They study without an end, plan without a pause, rebel without a policy, conserve without a patrimony.... They’re building something in there, something down there. Mutual debt, debt unpayable, debt unbounded, debt unconsolidated, debt to each other” (see [Harney, Stefano and Moten, Fred, The Undercommons: Fugitive Planning & Black Study, 2013](#)) ...a debt without limit, credit, or need for repayment; a queer debt. To find and articulate POSSIBILITIES, we stitch ourselves together into monstrous absurdities; a social hydra, a beast with five heads. Too hungry, sick, deviant, overworked, and/or poor to care to meet power on its level. We subvert the violence of visibility and install ourselves into the cracks in the landscape. We grow downward, roots seeking out all those others the condition made and calling to them. Together we make a billion tiny points of resistance.



Geraldo Mercado and Noah Ortega, *Conditions & Possibilities*, 2021, camera operator: Elizabeth Lamb