

Unleashing Black Imagination to Shape the Future

Black Imagination Study Group

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About

Intelligent Mischief is a creative studio unleashing Black imagination to shape the future.. Our purpose is to boost invention and imagination, re-align action logic, and experiment with new forms of civil society to create atmospheres of change. We come from a long tradition of Black collective imagination grounded in an African-centered worldview.. This imagination has been the source of our freedom, our sovereignty, our survival and resilience..

Hopes

We begin by honoring and following in the traditions of our ancestors and the creativity of our peers.. Through studying the history and practices of Black collective imagination we hope to discover the following:

- A set of principles, values and assumptions that underpin Black collective imagination.
- Black imagination practices, technology, tools and methodology that can inform IM's work and our approach to building a community of collective imagination (what should we call this?)
- Ancestors, practitioners and collaborators who help us harness our collective imagination.
- Additional resources that we can explore together

Approach

Phase 1: Read

Take the time to savor the gifts that our ancestors and beloveds have conjured up in these texts and other offerings. Read for pleasure. Read for connection. Read for self care. Read as exodus. . And, if you can, read together with others. Share what you're discovering, what's being sparked and what is expanding your imaginations and your innate feelings and assumptions about what is possible.

Phase 2: Digest and make meaning. As you read, jot down what's percolating and the potential meaning and implications, Write down your inspiration, and most importantly capture the ideas that pop up in conversation with the texts.

Phase 3: Create. Make, write,, adorn yourself, dance, write music, draw, embody what you are discovering in new practices of self love, of Black love. Of certainty that our imaginations have power to shape the future.

crew ---> creating content? Wearing a street wear line? A gathering? We'll play it by ear. Send us notes in our DMs to let us know how it's going. This is the time to dream. The liminal space between epochs.

Phase 4: Who knows?!! A community is launched, a tribe, a family, an ecology,

Resources (comment to add resources)

- Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination by Robin D.G. Kelley
- Black Imagination by Natasha Marin
- The Black Imagination: Science Fiction, Futurism and The Speculative by Sandra Jackson
- Chimurenga Chronic – The African Imagination of a Borderless World
- Afrofuturism: The World Of Black Sci-Fi And Fantasy Culture*
- Obsidians Speculating Futures: Black Imagination and the Arts
- We travel the space ways: Black imagination, fragments and diffraction
- Black utopia, the history of an idea: from Black nationalism to Afrofuturism
- Queer times, Black futures
- Fictions of land and flesh

- Afrofuturism 2.0*
- Speculative Blackness
- Liberation, Imagination, and the Black Panther Party: A New Look at the Panthers and Their Legacy*
- Black Regions of the Imagination: African American Writers between the Nation and the World
- Posthuman Blackness and the Black Female Imagination
- Black Imagination and the Middle Passage (W.E.B. Du Bois Institute)
- AfroSurrealism: The African Diaspora's Surrealist Fictionltt to.Z(The Cultural Politics of Media and Popular Culture)
- When is Wakanda: Afrofuturism and Dark Speculative Futurity
- Philosophy, Mythology and anAfrican Cosmological System
- Darkies Never Dream: Race, Racism, and the Black Imagination in Science Fiction
- A few rules for predicting the future
- https://er.educause.edu/articles/2019/3/five-principles-for-thinking-like-a- futurist
- Octavia Butler on Rules for Predicting the Future https://searchingforthesublime.tumblr.com/post/34745829956/a-few-rules-for-predicting-the-future-octavia?fbclid=IwAR3TZ9hy1kISaY01rVuxo2PY4-9Shvq47CBjw0PaURjSjARZfvK_B8PEvjYj
- Dark Matter: A Century of Speculative Fiction from the African Diaspora
- Afro-Future Females: Black Writers Cart Science Fiction's Newest New Wave Trajectory
- Mojo by Nalo Hopkinson
- The Wave by Walter Mosley
- Black Atlantic Speculative Fictions
- Black to the Future by Mark Dery
- Black to the Future by Walter Mosley
- Black from the Future
- Astrofuturism: Science, Race, and Visions of Utopia in Space by DeWitt Douglas Kilgore
- NoN-Black Imagination (but still somehow useful)
    - https://theopenutopia.org/full-text/introduction-open-utopia/
- Clay's Ark by Octavia E. Butler
- Speech Sounds (short story) by Octavia E. Butler
    - https://www.unl.edu/english/docs/englishweek17/engl200-speechsounds.pdf
- The Negro Trail Blazers of California by Delilah L Beasley
- The World Doesn't Require You by Rion Amilar Scott
- Genesis: An Anthology of Black Science Fiction

- Trans Futures https://www.dukeupress.edu/trans-futures
- https://www.academia.edu/41115275/Imagining_Otherly_Performing_Possible_Black_Trans_Futures_in_Tangerine
- More Brilliant than the Sun by Kodwo Eshun
- Ten Doris Commandments by Janelle Monae
- The Comet by WEB DuBois
- Blake, The Huts of America by Martin Delany
- Imperium in Imperio by Sutton Griggs
- Ark of Bones and Other Stories, by Henry Dumas
- Black, Brown and Beige: Surrealist Writings from Africaand the Diaspora by Robin Kelley and Franklin Rosemont
- The Afrosurrealism Manifesto by D. Scot Miller
- Black Utopias Speculative Life and the Music of other Worlds, https://www.dukeupress.edu/black-utopias
- MOVIES
    - Fast Color
    - Saaraba by Amadou Saalam Seck
    - Space is the Place
    - Parliament/Funkadelic Documentary
    - The Upsetter
    - Pumzi
- Music Videos
    - Daydreamin' - Lupe Fiasco
    - Next Lifetime - Erykah Badu
    - Jump Up in the Air - Erykah Badu
    - Prototype- Andre 3000
    - Many Moons - Janelle Monae
    - Moonwalker - Michael Jackson
- Art Shows
    - Marvelous Freedom/Vigilance of Desire
    - Afro surrealist film festival in Jamaica
    - Abigail DeVille