MATERIAL WITNESS

Media, Forensics, Evidence

By Susan Schuppli
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The evidential role of matter – when media records trace evidence of violence – explored through a series of cases drawn from Kosovo, Japan, Vietnam, and elsewhere.

Overview
Author(s)
Praise

The evidential role of matter – when media recor
war, of ecological disaster, of surveillance, and the gaps in transmissions to explain how matter becomes the agent to bear witness. This book offers a compelling case for the extended evidential prowess lurking in grains, pixels, molecules, particles, and in the blurry outlines of X-rays or the fuzz of radiation. MATERIAL WITNESS is brilliant and it is sharp.”

Esther Leslie, Professor of Political Aesthetics at Birkbeck, University of London

violence – explored through a series of cases drawn from Vietnam, and elsewhere.

In this book, Susan Schuppli introduces a new operative witness, an exploration of the evidential role of matter, external events and exposing the practices and procedures for which materials become contested agents of display and holders of power. Organized in the format of Witness moves through a series of cases that probe the degree to which a rearrangement of matter exposure, witnessing, raising questions about what can be known, which is seen or sensed, about who or what is able to tell things, and about whose stories will be heeded or listened to.

An artist-researcher, Schuppli offers an analysis of sensibility with a forensic imagination rich in technolinguistic content to link the material world and its affordances with the political.

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