

YING SZE PEK
DOKTORAND*IN

KULTUREN **K**
DER KRITIK
d **K**

DOCUMENTARY EXPANDED: THE WORK OF HITO STEYERL 1994 – 2015

SUBJECT

The works of Hito Steyerl have modeled key strategies for engaged art in the age of globalized art production and exhibition, bringing into visibility issues of racism, gentrification, migration, warfare, mass surveillance, and the financialization of the global economy. The dissertation examines the changing modes and significations of the documentary in relation to these filmic and video works.

RESEARCH INTEREST

The dissertation proposes an interdisciplinary theoretical framework for the criticality of the contemporary artwork in the global context since the 1990s. The study takes into account an expanded understanding of artistic mediums and the global art exhibition as an institutional site.

APPROACH AND OUTCOME

Case studies of Steyerl's works from 1994 to 2015 show how the global contemporary artwork:

- Can be understood through an aesthetics of experience that brings together media and film studies approaches and exhibition history methodologies.
- Marked a break with modernist and postmodernist understandings of the artwork by speaking to poststructuralist and postcolonial epistemologies.
- Necessitated the critical reevaluation of aesthetic realism through fictionalization and the creation of futurity.

