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## Tracking Change - Contemporary Cartographies

The Australian Network for Art & Technology (ANAT) is pleased to announce the **July discussion** on the **Synapse elist** which, throughout 2008, is investigating the leading-edge of art and science research collaboration.

In the closing years of last century, the assumed objectivity of cartographic representation came under serious challenge, driven by increasingly accessible mapping tools grounded upon revisionist approaches to history, geography and culture. Artists - as is often the case - became the 'research and development' arm of these new approaches to mapping, charged with capturing and representing the exponentially increasing banks of spatial, cultural and social data held about and throughout our world.

Beginning on **1 July** the list will discuss **the changing landscape of cartography** and survey the innovative work being produced at the cross-roads of art, mapping, geography and the social body.

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### DISCUSSION GUESTS

ALLARD VAN HOORN investigates the language of representation to understand territory and its manifestations. He is the founder of the Platform for Urban Investigation (PUI), a nomadic cross-disciplinary research facility investigating local urban environments alongside architects, designers, choreographers, theatre makers, musicians and visual artists. The PUI collaborates with the Rijksakademie Amsterdam and its RAIN Networks. [www.allardvanhoorn.com](http://www.allardvanhoorn.com)

SIMEON NELSON established himself as an artist in Australia and Asia in the 1990s, before moving to London in 2001. In 2007/08 he was the first-ever Artist in Residence at the Royal Geographic Society, which culminated in an exhibition of his work, *Cryptosphere*. He is currently working on international commissions, collaborations and exhibitions and holds the position of Reader in Sculpture at the University of Hertfordshire, UK. [www.simeon-nelson.com](http://www.simeon-nelson.com)

CHRISTIAN NOLD is an artist, designer and educator working to develop new participatory models for communal representation. Since graduating from the Royal College of Art in 2004 he has led many large-scale participatory mapping projects, including *Bio Mapping*, which has been staged in 16 different countries involving over 1500 people. He is currently based at the Bartlett, University College London. [www.softhook.com](http://www.softhook.com)

ESTHER POLAK is interested in the visual and documentary possibilities of Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Her *AmsterdamREALTIME* project (2002) was one of the first large-scale art explorations of GPS mapping, whilst her 2005 project, *MILK*, won a Golden Nica at Ars Electronica. Her current work, *NomadicMILK*, continues her broader goal of using GPS not just for making comprehensible visualizations, but also for telling human stories. [www.esterpolak.nl](http://www.esterpolak.nl)

ÚRBANSITAN LABORATORY was founded in 2005 by Ásta Olga Magnúsdóttir and Anna María Bogadóttir, a duo of urban adventurers exploring and experimenting with the connections between people and the physical and informational dimensions of the cities they inhabit. They live and work in Cape Town and New York respectively (but are currently united in their ultimate hometown of Reykjavik) and their work is presented internationally. [www.urbanistan.org](http://www.urbanistan.org)

JEREMY WOOD was born in San Francisco and raised in Berlin and Oxford, before gaining his MA in Fine Art at Saint Martin's in London, where he still lives. He has worked across the fields of drawing, sculpture, and experimental photography. In 2000 he began using satellite navigation technology and, for the past half-dozen years, has used GPS to track his daily movements and create a personal cartography. [www.gpsdrawing.com/jw.html](http://www.gpsdrawing.com/jw.html)

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