

JUST IN TIME WE

PRIME MERIDIAN

UNCONFERENCE





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ABOUT TIME ZONE PROTOCOLS

In 1884, the International Meridian Conference (IMC) was convened in Washington, DC, its sole purpose being to “[fix] upon a meridian proper to be employed as a common zero of longitude and standard of time-reckoning throughout the globe.” The “Protocols of the Proceedings” developed out of this conference established a prime meridian, a fixed geographical reference point, while also enforcing a universal time standard. The formation of the prime meridian and universal time simultaneously afforded a system of both organization and control, establishing a dominant means by which local communities were regulated, with or without their consent. Developed out of 2020–2022 Vera List Center Fellow Rasheedah Phillips’s ongoing practice as a member of Black Quantum Futurism, the Time Zone Protocols research project and exhibition and the accompanying Prime Meridian Unconference analyze the proceedings of the IMC, tracing the creation of the written and unwritten political and social agreements, protocols, and rules that underlie Western linear time constructs. Black Quantum Futurism situates the international and US time zones in their sociopolitical and historical contexts, and illuminates the ways globalized time constructs have catalyzed and perpetuated systemic oppression denying Black communities access and agency over the temporal domains of the past, present, and the future. In considering new spaces and times for political empowerment, Time Zone Protocols engages Afrodiasporan cultural and communal survival mechanisms and temporal technologies that Black individuals and communities have developed, uncovered, and reconfigured to combat temporal oppression and reclaim spatial agency and temporal autonomy. Through the TZP research project, including an exhibition, TZP Surveyors Discussion Group, the Prime Meridian Unconference, and www.timezoneprotocols.space digital site, the project facilitates the rewriting of the protocols of time, rezoning the time zones, and unmapping the imperialist global time colonization project with a Black futurist lens and utilizing a Colored People’s Time as an ontological framework and alternative theory of temporal-spatial consciousness.



Time as ontological frameworks and alternative theories of temporal-spatial consciousness.

The three-day, hybrid *Prime Meridian Unconference* brings together artists, architects, musicians, physicists, geologists, technologists, and scholars of African American Studies. Through interactive talks, workshops, panels, performances, and plenary sessions, the participants consider new ways of understanding our relationship to space-time, utilizing specific Black social, geographical, and cultural frameworks that seek to unmap Black temporalities from the Greenwich Mean timeline. Together they explore and unpack the standards and protocols of time that have left and continue to leave Black people locked out of the past and future—stuck in a narrow temporal present. Speakers and presenters include Dr. Andrea Roberts, Asia Dorsey, Walter Greason, Kendra Krueger, Ingrid LaFleur, V. Mitch McEwen, Moor Mother, Mendi + Keith Obadike, Danielle M. Purifoy, Ingrid Raphaël, Thomas Stanley, Joy Tabernacle-KMT, Ujijji Davis Williams, and Celeste Winston. The Unconference will produce alternative principles that relate to the possibilities of reshaping, remapping, dismantling, and creating new time zones, or protocols of time.

Preceding the exhibition and Unconference, www.timezoneprotocols.space launched. Developed in collaboration with the design practice Partner & Partners, the site documents the ongoing *Time Zone Protocols* research project and sets the stage for the exhibition and *Prime Meridian Unconference*. The site, which includes interactive ways of marking and tracking alternative temporalities, documents ongoing research and the findings and rewritten protocols from the Unconference and bridges this iteration of *Time Zone Protocols* with Black Quantum Futurism’s forthcoming Creative Capital project *Time Zone Protocols: Confederate States*. The Unconference was livestreamed on the *Time Zone Protocols* website and veralistcenter.org.

In the weeks leading up to the exhibition and Unconference, Black Quantum Futurism convened a group of Time Zone Protocols Surveyors—individuals who met to examine and discuss TZP research materials, including an archive of readings, images, sounds, and videos on time zones, time, temporality, prime meridians, and temporal oppression as experienced by Black communities. The Surveyors also attended and contributed to the Unconference, collectively developing



protocols, resolutions, temporal tools, time zones, and markers. These principles and new protocols are compiled and shared, with attendees taking the principles back to their communities with a commitment to working toward upholding them and creating liberated futures, new space-times, and environments where these shared principles can be utilized and honored.



PURPOSE OF THE JUST IN TIMEKIT

The Just in Timekit contains tools, guidelines, and resources that you can use to run discussion groups. The Timekit is a guide for examining and discussing Time Zone Protocols research materials, on time zones, time, temporality, prime meridian, temporal oppression as experienced by Black communities, and social, political, and cultural concepts of time and temporality.

Building on tools developed by Black Quantum Futurism since 2012 and adapting a few tools from the Long Time Academy Toolkit, the Timekit contains tools that center on new ways of understanding our relationships to space-time, utilizing specific social, geographical, and cultural frameworks that depart from colonial linearity and shift the standards and protocols of time that leave Black people locked out of the past and future, and stuck in a narrow temporal present. The Timekit also includes a syllabus, meeting agenda template, and discussion questions to facilitate your own discussion based on the Time Zone Protocols project. You can use the Timekit to add to the collectively developed protocols, resolutions, temporal tools, time zones, and new markers of time that have been compiled to be utilized in communities with a commitment to working toward creating liberated futures and restoring or creating new localized space-times and shared temporal principles.

Please share back your discussions with collaborators and community members and your new time tools, temporal protocols and rituals! Your contributions are part of the collective project to rezone the time zones and rewrite the protocols of time! Please share with Black Quantum Futurism: On social media with the hashtag #TimeZoneProtocols, on our website at www.timezoneprotocols.space, or email blackquantumfuturism@gmail.com.

If you are utilizing the Time Zone Protocols materials in your research and discussions with collaborators and community members, please credit and/or provide citations to Rasheedah Phillips, Black Quantum Futurism, and/or the Time Zone Protocols project where appropriate. You must request permission if you are utilizing these materials for commercial purposes or reprinting.



IMPORTANT RESTORATION OF BLACK SPACE-TIME

We have always needed to navigate white western timelines and timestreams as our ancestors did the stars. We have always needed keep watch over the ways that western linear time commits violence upon Black lives, how it is perpetually misaligned with Black temporal realities. We have always been attuned to the ways in which the Greenwich Prime Meridian is openly hostile to Black bodies, denying us access to our own pasts and futures, fixing the parameters for our movement through time and space. Black Space-Time(s) meaningfully disrupt colonial notions of time, stealing back time, hacking time to actively create visions of the future(s) and interventions into the past(s). Black Space-Times: Reframe Standard Time. Dissolve Daylight Saving Time. Unmap the Time Zones. Hack the Thermodynamic Arrow. Dismantle the Master's Clock. Submerge the Prime Meridian. Reactivate Colored People's Time. Revive the Black Time Belt. Restore Black Space-Time(s).



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR BLACK SPATIAL-TEMPORAL DIMENSIONS

Acknowledging the Future(s) is a short statement or ritual at the start of meetings or events to acknowledge land, ancestors, and future generations who may be impacted by our present decisions. It borrows from Indigenous and Aboriginal Land Acknowledgments and Black and Afro Diasporan rituals of honoring our ancestors. You can design your own or try out one of the following:

ACKNOWLEDGING THE MMERE DANE: BLACK TIME BELT AND ITS QUANTUM FUTURE

From can't see to can't see let us acknowledge the sun.

Let us acknowledge that this land we gather on.

The foundations we stand on, its infrastructure, its glory, it's ingenuity belongs to our African Ancestors, who turnt brutality and hate to liberation/education. We are living in the alchemy of our ancestors' futures. We are the quantum result of the madness.

Today we give thanks and take a moment to dream of the spiral connecting the African diaspora together in a past present future dance.



BLACK SPACE-TIMES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge our ancestors who first came to this land as explorers, and then as captives forced to work this land, forced to create a life inside of a black hole. We must remember our African ancestors who left so much richness in the soil for future generations, Our ancestors who provided the blueprint, the sound, the dance, the ritual and culture so that we can remain rooted and connected to a deeper past. We must remember the blood, sweat, and tears that our ancestors gave to this land and never forget the extreme violence they faced and to educate ourselves to fight unjust laws that continue to marginalize and dehumanize our lives. Our ancestors faced a daunting task, but fortified and fought for better future(s) for many generations to come. Today and everyday we will acknowledge the many lands of our African ancestors. In memory, We will worship, We will dance, We will go back and fetch it, and We will speak it into existence. We acknowledge that the decisions we make today and together have implications into the future(s) and far beyond our lifetimes. We acknowledge and respect the needs of today's children and those yet to be born. We understand this as lobi, a word from the Akan that means today and tomorrow. Ashe.



TIME ZONE GENERATOR QUESTIONS

The survey asks participants about connections to time and memory, as well as questions about self, community, and family, and reflects on the time/durational statements and everyday ways we talk about and think about time in our communities. The order of questions is non-linear.

You can also answer these questions and add them to a new time zone at www.timezoneprotocols.space/generator.

WHAT IS AN EVENT ON MY PERSONAL TIMELINE THAT I WOULD ALTER SLIGHTLY?

CAN I CREATE THE FUTURE? WHY OR WHY NOT?



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE "ON TIME"? IS THIS SIMILAR OR DIFFERENT FROM HOW MY FAMILY, COMMUNITY, OR CULTURE WOULD DEFINE IT?

HOW DOES ASTROLOGY INFLUENCE MY SENSE OF TIME (IF AT ALL)? HOW DOES IT INFLUENCE MY SENSE OF UNIVERSAL TIME?

WHAT IS AN EVENT ON THE WORLD TIMELINE I WOULD CHANGE OR ALTER SLIGHTLY?

CAN I CREATE THE FUTURE? WHY OR WHY NOT?



ARE THERE PLACES IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE I FEEL LIKE I BELONG? OUT OF PLACE? WHAT ABOUT THESE SPACES MAKES ME FEEL THESE WAYS?

IF HUMANITY WERE ABLE TO BUILD A TIME MACHINE, SHOULD WE USE IT? WHY OR WHY NOT?

WHAT KINDS OF THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS COME UP FOR ME WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE "PAST"?

HOW WOULD I DESCRIBE THE PACE OR TEMPORALITY OF MY NEIGHBORHOOD, COMMUNITY, OR REGION?



HAS TIME SPED UP AS I'VE GOTTEN OLDER? HAS MY TIME PERSPECTIVE SHIFTED IN SOME OTHER WAY?

WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME I FELT AWARE OF MY IDENTITY/IDENTITIES?
WHEN WAS I FIRST AWARE OF THE INTERSECTIONS OF MY IDENTITIES?

CAN I CHANGE THE PAST? WHY OR WHY NOT?

GROWING UP, HOW DID I ENVISION MY FUTURE SELF? IS IT DIFFERENT OR THE SAME AS THE PERSON I BECAME?



WHAT EVIDENCE, ARTIFACTS, OR DOCUMENTATION DO I HAVE OF MY ANCESTRY?

HOW FAR BACK AM I ABLE TO TRACE MY ROOTS?

DO OTHER ASPECTS OF MY IDENTITY OR CULTURE PLAY A ROLE IN HOW I VIEW OR EXPERIENCE TIME (I.E. GENDER, SEXUALITY, AGE, RACE, ABILITY/DISABILITY)? IF SO, HOW OR WHY?

WHAT ARE SOME OF MY EARLIEST MEMORIES? WHAT IMAGES DO I REMEMBER?



CREATE A FUTURE MEMORY.

WHAT ANCESTOR WOULD PULL ME BACK INTO TIME LIKE KINDRED?
DO I KNOW WHY?

DOES MY RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL BELIEFS (IF ANY) PLAY A ROLE IN
HOW I VIEW TIME AND ETERNITY? IF SO, HOW?

HOW DO I DEFINE THE CONCEPT OF TIME? HOW IS IT SIMILAR OR
DIFFERENT FROM HOW MY FAMILY OR COMMUNITY DEFINES IT?



AN IMAGE, SOUND, SMELL, OR SONG THAT REMINDS ME OF SOME OF
MY EARLIEST MEMORIES:

CAN I CHANGE THE FUTURE? WHY OR WHY NOT?



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN ENCOUNTERING MAPS & CLOCKS

- Who is the mapmaker or clockmaker?
- Who is the intended map/clock user?
- What is the purpose of the map or clock?
- What, if anything, on the map or clock is up for question?
- What is being taken for granted if and when you use the map or clock?
- What temporal landscape does the map/clock embody? What year was it made? Does it still stand the test of time? What has changed? What has remained?
- Where are you in time when you are using the map or clock? What are the intersecting and conflicting temporalities are pulled into your NOW/present when using the map or clock?
- Imagine the boundaries and Contested Boundaries that the map or clock contains—how can they be remapped/redrawn/re-envisioned to be more equitable in time and space?
- What unspoken agreements, understandings, contracts, social constructs, and negotiations are embedded in the map or clock?
- Once we dismantle the master's clock, what clocks or timekeeping practices will take its place? What already exists that we can learn from? What can we communally create?



AFROFUTURIST ADVOCACY TOOLS & TIME IN JUSTICE STRATEGIES

- Temporal abundance vs. Temporal Scarcity
- Quantum of Systemic Oppression
- Inclusive & Expansive Future Visioning
- Temporal Conflicts & Familial, Personal, Communal Time
- Understanding of Political Institutional Time & How it Operates in White Supremacist Culture
- Past, Present & Future as Open Possibilities



TIME ZONE PROTOCOLS SYLLABUS: WEEK 1

THEMES

Dismantling the Master's Clock: Examining the Origins of Western Linear Timelines, Enslaved, and Colonized Temporalities

ARTICLES

- *Counter Clockwise: Unmapping Black Temporalities From Greenwich Mean Timelines*
- *Time Zone Politics and Challenges of Globalization* by Karl Benediktsson* & Stanley D. Brunn
- *The Standardization of Time: A Sociohistorical Perspective* by Eviatar Zerubavel
- *White Time: The Chronic Injustice of Ideal Theory* by Charles W. Mills
- *Time, Slavery, and Plantation Capitalism in the Antebellum South* by Mark M. Smith
- *Slaves of the Time Belt*

STUDY

- Circadian rhythms of European and African-Americans after a large delay of sleep as in jet lag and night work **OR**
- Advancing the sleep/wake schedule impacts the sleep of African-Americans more than European-Americans **OR**
- The Racial Inequality of Sleep: How the Sleep Gap Between White and Black Americans Causes Racial Inequality - The Atlantic **AND**
- Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the State of Virginia (Richmond: 1853), 149-152, 155.

- OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- Take the BQF Time & Memory Survey alone, or with a family member, friend, collaborator, or community member
 - Choose a tea to drink and share at the first discussion. We will open with a very brief tea time ritual.



SKIM

- The Protocol Proceedings of the 1884 Prime Meridian Conference. Pay special attention to the Final Act and the seven resolutions at page 200!
- Preliminary Inventories No. 76: Records of United States Participation in Conferences, Commissions, and Expositions (in folder). Pay special attention to pages 15-17.
- "End Daylight Saving Time" site

Read two or more articles of your choosing from the TZP Library Sections (<https://timezoneprotocols.space/archive/library/>):

- Prime Meridian
- Time Zones
- Time/Temporality
- Racialized/Colonial Time

LISTEN

- Moor Mother - Creation Myth (Official Audio)
- Slam - "Sha-Clack-Clack" by Ray aka Saul Williams

VIEW

- Peruse the folder of images entitled Racialized Time
- Peruse the folder of images entitled Time Zones | Prime Meridian |

WATCH

- 22nd October 1884: International Meridian Conference in Washington D.C. the Greenwich prime meridian
- What was the 'Scramble for Africa'? - BBC What's New
- The History Of "Sundown Towns" | This Day Forward | msnbc
- Lovecraft Country - Episode 1 Clip | HBO | HBO Max
- Not Just Tulsa: 5 Destroyed Black Towns
- Making Greenwich the centre of the world
- In Our Time: S16/07 The Berlin Conference (Oct 31 2013)



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are just a guide. Please feel free to let the discussion flow naturally or add in questions you want to pose.

- What was surprising about the readings, images, and videos? What was something you learned that you didn't know before?
- What emotions arose as you were reading/viewing/listening? What was your somatic or bodily response? What is sitting or lingering with you? What do you plan to return to or revisit?
- How do you relate the materials to your own experience, community, culture, and/or mental models, values, frameworks associated with time and space?
- How has gentrification and marginalization occupied/taken up both our space and our time? Consider the temporal-spatial impacts of particular policies and laws on land, property, space, labor, time zones, etc.
- How does the current regime of time uphold oppression on the four levels of racism/oppression?:
 - Personal/Internalized - private beliefs and biases
 - Interpersonal - personal beliefs affect interactions between people/in public
 - Institutional - occurs within institutions and systems of power
 - Structural - biases among institutions and across society
- What temporal issues or problems feel like a priority to focus on when considering new interventions, protocols or approaches to time and temporality? List the issues and problems, and on Day 2, we will further consider the interventions, protocols, rituals, and approaches to address those problems.



TIME ZONE PROTOCOLS SYLLABUS: WEEK 2

THEMES

Black Grandmother Paradoxes, Womanist Temporalities, Temporalized Identities, Daylight Saving Time, Quantum Time Capsules, Material Cultures of Time, Temporal Tools and Protocols

ARTICLES

- *Project: Time Capsule* by Rasheedah Philips
- *Liberating Clocks: Exploring Other Possible Futures* by Michelle Bastian (2017)
- *Recontextualizing responsibility for Justice: The Lynching Trope, Racialized Temporalities, and Cultivating Breathable Futures* by Matthew Houdek (2021)
- *On Race and Time* by Gordon B. Moskowitz, et. al (2015)
- *Daylight Saving Time: An American Academy of Sleep Medicine Position Statement* (2020)
- *Examining the Relationship Between Racialized Poverty Segregation and Hazardous Industrial Facilities in the U.S. Over Time*
- *Pigtails, Ponytails, and Getting Tail: The Infantilization and Hyper-Sexualization of African American Females in Popular Culture* by Sika A. Dagbovie-Mullins (2013)
- *Adolescent Citizenship, or Temporality and the Negation of Black Childhood in Two Eras* (2019)
- *Clock Time vs. Event Time: Temporal Culture or Self-Regulation?* by Tamar Avneta and Anne-Laure Sellierb (2010)

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- Daylight Saving Time is on May 13, 2022. Keep track and document Daylight Saving Time's impact on your body and temporal rhythms.
- Begin to fill out the Time Tool planning sheet to begin developing your temporal tool or protocol and the Future Generations Impact Assessment sheet.
- Gather some images of Black Temporalities.



SKIM

- *Joining the Great Plains in Space, Place, and Time: Questioning a Time Zone Boundary* by Rob Kuper
- *The Spacialization of Metric Time: The Conquest of Land and Labour in the United States and Europe* by Dan Thu Nguyen
- *So What If the Clock Strikes? Scheduling Style, Control, and Well-Being* by Anne-Laure Sellier and Tamar Avnet
- *Black Women Temporal Portal Guidebook*
- *Daylight Sabing Time and Artificial Time Zones—A Battle Between Biological and Social Times* by Till Roenneberg

SEARCH

Read two or more articles of your choosing from the TZP Archive Sections:

- Science & Tech
- Space/Spatiality
- Material Cultures

All articles from the main reading list are in the folder unless otherwise noted. For all other readings, try to utilize open source materials. Contact Rasheedah at blackquantumfuturism@gmail.com if you require temporary access to a material.

LISTEN

- Nina Simone - 22nd Century
- Sun Ra - Outside the Time Zone
- Moor Mother, Circuit City - Time of No Time

WATCH

- Rare Footage Shows All Black Towns in 1920s America | NowThis
- Watch a few videos from Temporal Portal TV // Daylight Saving Time Epilogue
- Hippolyta Becomes Dahomey Amazon - Lovecraft Country 1x07
- A missing 200 years of Black architecture history | Ep 10 | REIMAGNING BLACKNESS & ARCHITECTURE



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are just a guide. Please feel free to let the discussion flow naturally or add in questions you want to pose.

- In the context of the readings on Daylight Saving Time and the event passing two weeks ago, what are your thoughts, feelings, and observations on DST and other forms of temporalized regulation? Did you have more awareness of DST on your body this time around? Share any other thoughts or notes from the DST Tracker Activity.
 - How does time show up at the intersections of our identities and social positions - gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, income level/ social status, etc.?
- Other than political authority, what else has shaped western societies' perception of time (science, technology, medical, etc.)? (Janelle)
- Reflect on what the readings shared about how Black children are robbed of their temporalities and their childhoods or their "time of innocence." Innocence is a portal of creation. When you look at children, they are the most imaginative and playful. Did you experience that period of innocence? What is your connection to your "inner child spirit of play?" Is spirit connected to time? (Sakinah)
- What are some of the temporal technologies that Black people and communities have designed over time to combat the temporal oppression you have been reading about, discussing, and identifying over the past few weeks? What about in your own family or community?
 - What images and visions are conjured when you think of liberated Black temporalities, or when you think of Black "no time?"
- Reflecting on the issues you identified in the first discussion, how can we all participate in shifting or dismantling the current temporal designs and protocols of time? Feel free to provide examples of your own projects or share ideas and brainstorm from the Design a Time Tool or Temporal Protocol.
 - Are there ideas from the readings you want to build on?
 - What kind of resources and support would you need to realize your ideas? To bring them to your community?



SAMPLE AGENDA

DATE & TIME

LINEAR TIME	ACTIVITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Welcome +acknowledgments → Group Norms → Tea Time Ritual Facilitated by:
	Introductions
	Break
	Group 1 Facilitated by: Group 2 Facilitated by: * Keep shared notes document!
	Full Group Debrief and Review Next Meeting Syllabus + Agenda



DESIGN A NONLINEAR TIMELINE

* If you are doing this exercise solo, you can modify the instructions for a personal event.

EXERCISE 1

IDENTIFY A TURNING POINT IN OUR SHARED AND/OR COLLECTIVE TIMELINE. DETERMINE HOW IT COULD HAVE BEEN IMPROVED AND WHAT THE OUTCOME COULD HAVE BEEN.

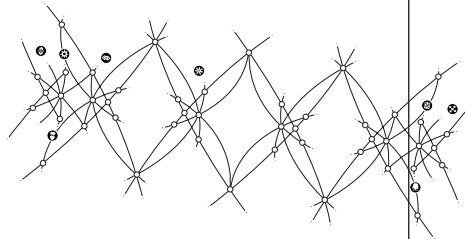
EXERCISE 2

CHOOSE A PAST (SHARED) EVENT. REVERSE THAT EVENT ON THE TIMELINE SO THAT IT IS IN THE FUTURE, AS IT HASN'T HAPPENED YET. WALK THROUGH THE EVENT AS IF IT IS UNFAMILIAR, AS IF WE ARE EXPERIENCING IT FOR THE FIRST TIME. WHAT NEW FEATURES ARE THERE THAT WE DIDN'T NOTICE BEFORE?



Exercise 3

CHOOSE A (COLLECTIVE) FUTURE EVENT. TURN IT INTO A SHARED FUTURE MEMORY, SOMETHING WE HAVE ALREADY EXPERIENCED. MAP IT ON THE TIMELINE.



DESIGN A TIME TOOL OR TEMPORAL PROTOCOL

IT IS A...

- Tool
- Protocol
- Process or Practice
- Ritual
- Time / Time Zone
- Other _____

NAME YOUR IDEA:

WHEN AND HOW WILL IT BE USED?

WHO SHOULD USE IT?

WHO SHOULDN'T USE IT?

WHERE WILL IT BE USED?

Share with blackquantumfuturism@gmail.com to add your tool to the collective protocols.



NAME OR COMMUNITY:

DESCRIBE/MAP/SKETCH YOUR IDEAS:

WRITE DOWN 3 WAYS TO SCALE UP YOUR IDEAS:



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME TRACKER

AS WE APPROACH DST [BEGINNING] [ENDING], WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS LEADING UP TO IT?

KNOWING SOME OF THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH DST, WHAT CAN YOU DO TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS ON SELF, FAMILY, OR COMMUNITY?

ASSESS THE IMPACT: HOW HAS DST AFFECTED YOU THIS YEAR? DID ANY OF YOUR INTERVENTIONS WORK? WHAT SHOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?



FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPACT ASSESSMENT*

A Future Generations Impact Assessment should be carried out at the beginning of a project or program of work, with analysis being documented, circulated, and discussed amongst those taking part in the work. If you are interested in sharing your responses as part of a collective impact assessment of new temporal technologies, please email them to blackquantumfuturism@gmail.com.

* adapted from Long Time Academy activity

PROJECT NAME

COMMUNITY/LOCATION

TEMPORAL MARKER

TOPICS

- Temporal tools, rituals, protocols, or technologies
- A performance or art piece
- A big event
- A community or group



ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ADD YOUR OWN:

HOW WILL THIS IMPACT BIODIVERSITY AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN 10, 50, OR 100 YEARS' TIME?

WHAT WILL BE THE IMPACT OF THIS WORK BE ON PEOPLE IN 10, 50, OR 100 YEARS' TIME?

WHAT COULD BE SOME UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES ON FUTURE GENERATIONS?



HOW CAN FUTURE GENERATIONS UNDO OR PREVENT NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES?

WHAT WILL SOMEONE IN THE COMMUNITY SAY ABOUT THIS WORK IN 10, 50, OR 100 YEARES' TIME?

WHAT'S YOURS?



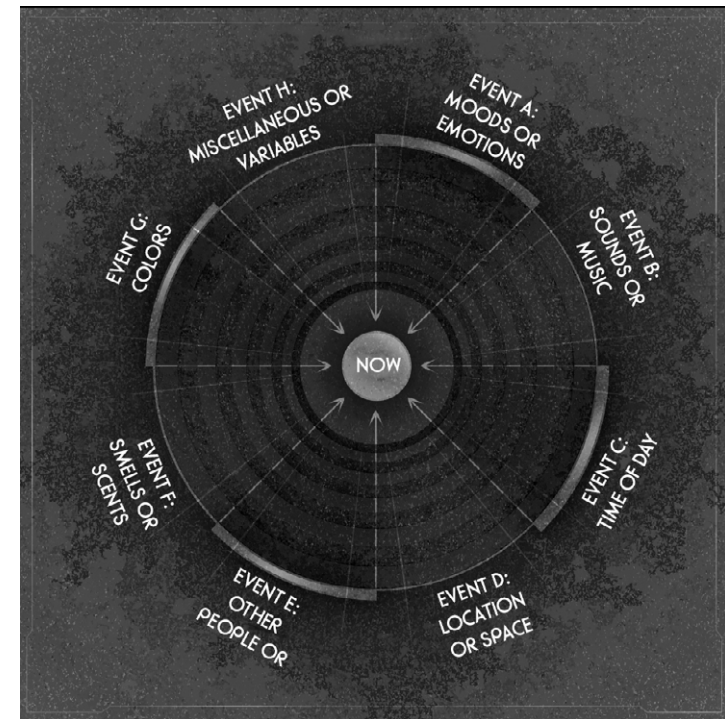
QUANTUM EVENT MAPPING

* Draw your map on the reverse side.

Map a future event, current/present event or past event, breaking it down into the synchronizing micro-events (Event A, Event B, etc.) that create or will create the fabric of the macro-event.

Determine the neighborhood of intersecting events that the now point of your macro-event pulls together by asking "what likes to happen together in a meaningful way in the same moment?"

Micro-events do not have to be causally-related in the normal linear sense of cause and effect. Time is simply one quality out of many that expresses a meaningful pattern as part of any given event.





CONSTRUCT A QUANTUM TIME CAPSULE

* Construct your time capsule on the reverse page.

WHAT MATERIALS IS THE QUANTUM TIME CAPSULE CONSTRUCTED FROM?

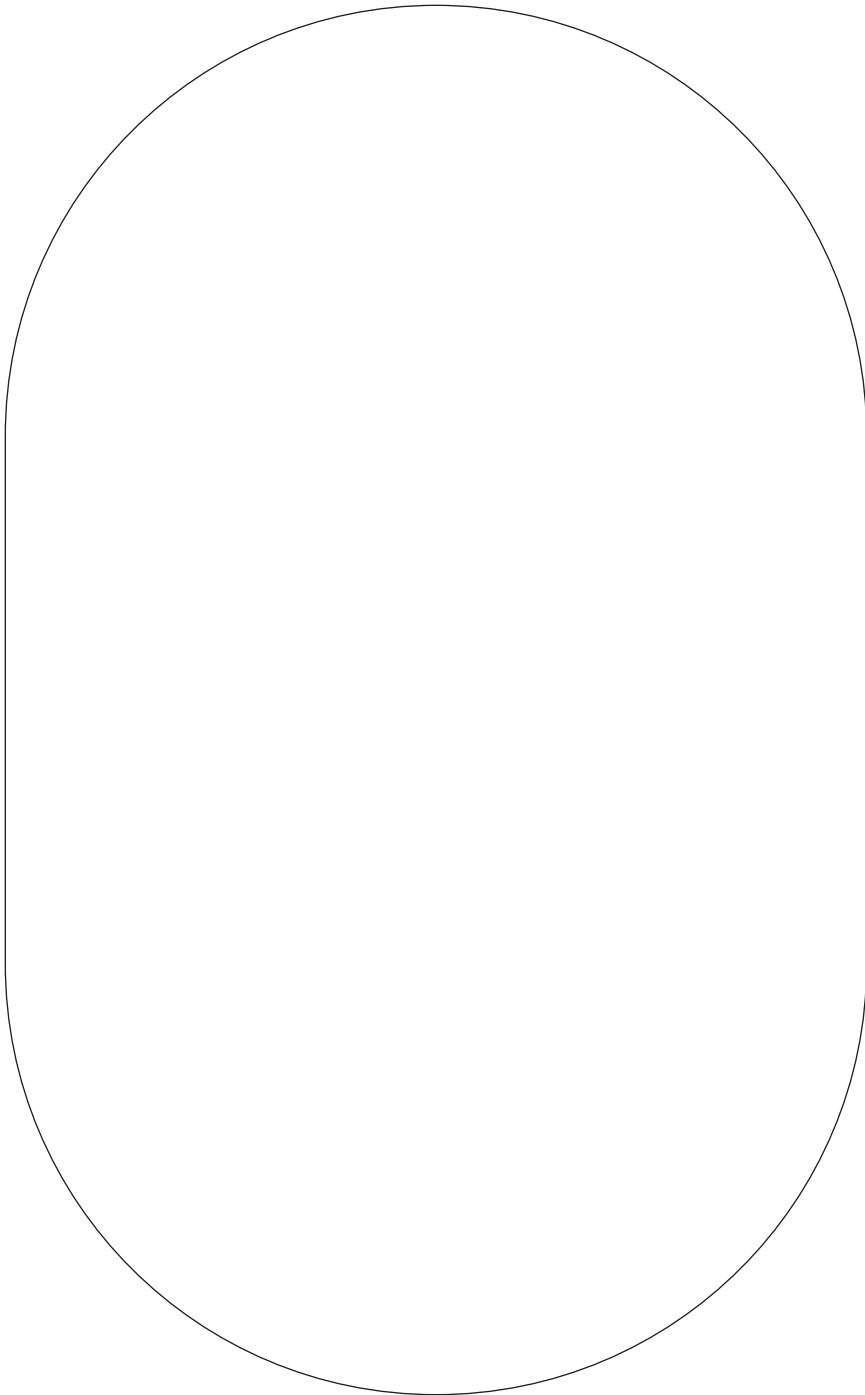
WHERE WOULD YOU BURY IT?

WHAT ITEMS WOULD YOU PUT IN A QUANTUM TIME CAPSULE THAT COULD BE OPENED BY PEOPLE IN THE PAST?

WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO UNEARTH, WHEN, AND WHY?

HOW CAN OBJECTS IN A TIME CAPSULE MAINTAIN THEIR UTILITY AND AVOID THE DETERIORATION OF LINEAR TIME?

HOW WOULD A TIME CAPSULE DIFFER IN YOUR CULTURE? WHAT ITEMS WOULD IT CONTAIN?



Housing Journey Maps

* Create your map on the reverse page.

CREATE A MAP OF YOUR HOUSING JOURNEY WITH ALL THE PLACES YOU HAVE LIVED OR CALLED HOME, AND/OR PLACES YOU WOULD LIKE TO CALL HOME IN THE FUTURE.

WHAT DOES YOUR HOUSING JOURNEY SAY ABOUT YOU?

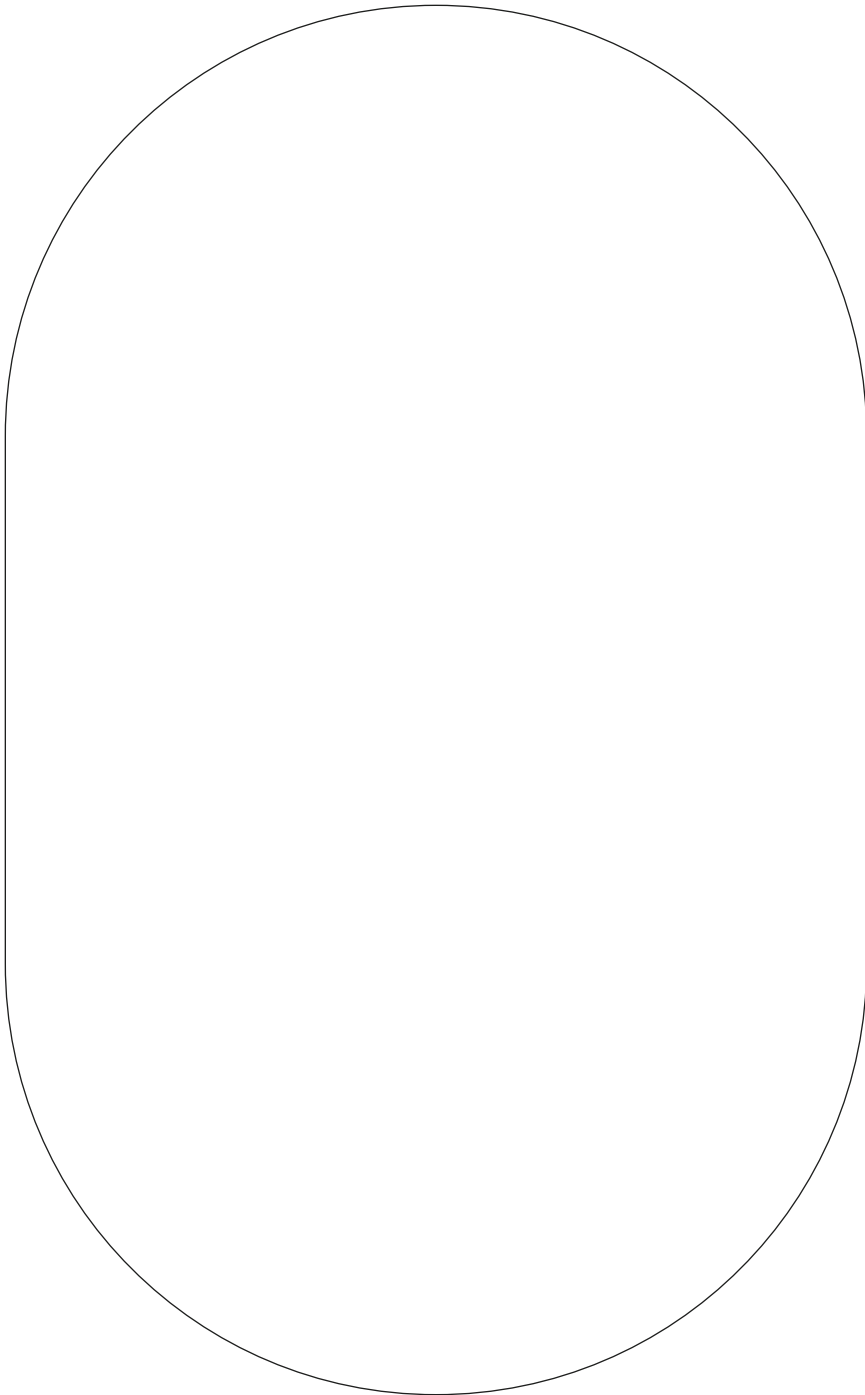
YOUR IDENTITY?

YOUR SENSE OF HOME?

SENSE OF COMMUNITY?

HOW DOES IT OVERLAP OR VEER FROM THE HOUSING JOURNEYS OF OTHERS IN THE GROUP?

HOW MIGHT IT COMPARE/CONTRAST WITH THE JOURNEYS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DISPLACED OR EVICTED?



BLACK QUANTUM FUTURISM GLOSSARY/FREQUENTLY USED TERMS

BLACK GRANDMOTHER PARADOXES

A non-linear bootstrapping/quantum pre-destination paradox noticeably present in stories where Black women are the time travelers, and where cause/effect appears to be open up to multiple, non-linear influences. The paradox also acknowledges the ways in which time feels layered in Afrodiasporan traditions, where the past is always layered over the present moment - our ancestors reside with and within us, even if on a different temporal plane/scale. For the purposes of the stories featuring the Black Grandmother Paradox, the phenomenon apparently resolves the grandfather paradox that otherwise limits time travel or deems it impossible.

BLACK SPACE-TIME OR CP TIME

Developed within Black and Afrodiasporan communities as both a survival mechanism for individual and communal trauma under the conditions of racial terror and oppression, and a hearkening back to pre-colonial Afrodiasporan temporal-spatial frameworks that are more beneficial to our survival.

NONLOCALITY

Not of, affecting, or confined to a limited area or part. In quantum physics, it means that two entangled particles behave as a single physical object, no matter how far apart they are.



QUANTUM EVENT MAP

The quantum event map mimics African and Asian diasporic cultural practices and perspectives on time and space, bringing together the micro (or quantum) events that like to “happen in time together” to construct future moments/ events or re-examine past moments/events as individuals or as groups and communities. Through this method of mapping, event memory (both future and past memory) is not attached to a specific calendar date or clock time, and memories are not formed in regard to a specific date or time. Rather, time and date are made a part of the memory, so it is embedded or weaved in and controllable in future memory. The date or time of your choosing is embedded in the map as a part of your memory, which means you can forecast or backcast events. Time becomes something remembered, not something that defines and predates the memory. The quantum event mapmaker becomes the active agent in the synchronicity/focal point, instead of time being the active agent defining the synchronicity.

RETROCURRENCES

An event whose influence or effect is not discrete and timebound—it extends in all possible directions and encompasses all possible time modes. We use retrocurrences to investigate how memory waves spread across time and space, reaching backward in time and forward in time, simultaneously, to include everything that has happened, could happen, could have happened, and will happen, and all the permutations therein. This dynamic event process takes on features and characteristics reminiscent of quantum matter, where time is reversible and information can flow in both directions, much like the flow of information within Octavia Butler’s novel *Kindred* (1979), and the layered and entangled temporalities etched upon Dana’s movement on the timeline as she travels back and forth between her home in 1976 and a pre-Civil War Maryland plantation.



REVERSE TIME-BINDING

Merriam-Webster defines time-binding as “the characteristically human activity of transmitting experience from one generation to another especially through the use of symbols.” The Black Quantum Futurist proposes “reverse time-binding” to specifically describe the process that is amplifying and transmitting symbols and signals from the future(s) backward into time. Much as it is the role of the griot to reach back into the past to pull it forward and link it to the present, Black futurists must play a role in transmitting the future(s) backward to support information flow through the entangled temporal networks necessary to sustain Black communal temporalities. In my 2017 short graphic novelette *The Telescoping Effect Pt. 1*, I demonstrate such a reverse time-binding between 2019; the racial terror during the Red Summer of 1919 that left scores of Black people lynched and maimed, and the solar eclipse of 1919 confirming the theory of relativity and revolutionizing the way the [Western] world regards space and time. To speak of a backward casting/ reverse time-binding is to offer a small concession to the timeline which we find ourselves on, hitched to the arrow of progress, speeding one second by one second forward. Reverse time-binding uses quantum physics and ancient Afro-diasporan temporal technologies to open up access to those spatial-temporal regions that the hegemonic classical progress narrative has displaced us from.

SONIC EMPATHY

A process of sonic excavation, applying a Black Quantum Futurism gaze to the afterlife of events and astrological influences, where astrological events are reversed and act retrocausally from the cosmic future to influence present events that will be subsequently written on the fabric of the past by light and sound.

SASA TIME

According to John Mbiti it is “an experiential extension of the now/moment stretched into the near future and into the unlimited past (or *Zamani*). Sasa is not mathematically nor numerically constant...The community also has its own Sasa, which is greater than that of the individual.”



SPACE-TIME COLLAPSE

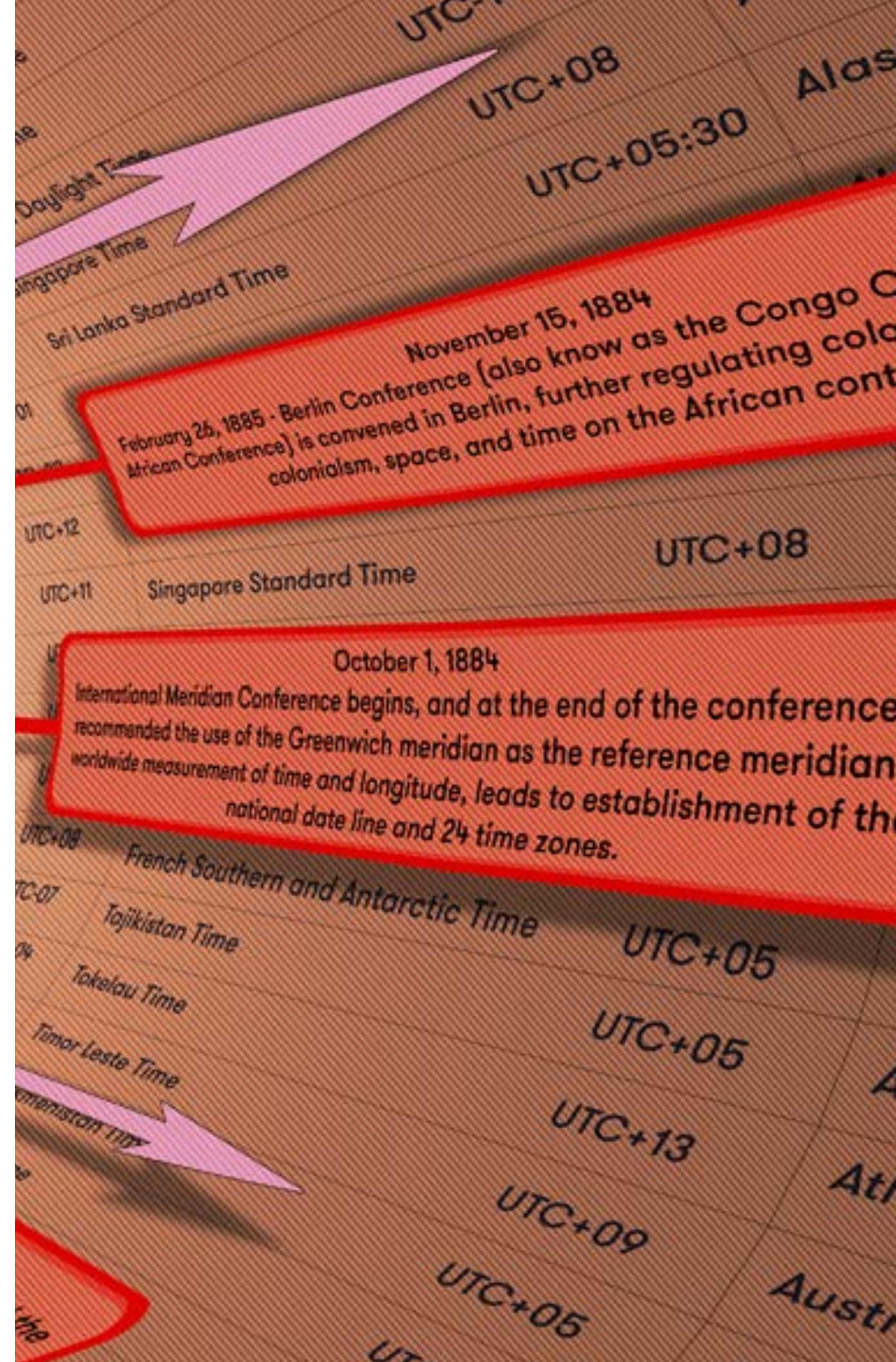
A wave or particle, initially in a superposition of all of its theoretically possible states—appears to reduce to a single state after interaction with an observer, or, measured, gives a result corresponding to only one of the possible configurations. For Black people, we are "measured" or observed under the white gaze, collapsing our space-times into the Western linear time-line, and limiting our possible configurations. Unobserved, unmeasured, and left to act on our infinite possibilities, we exist in all states.

SPACE-TIME COMPRESSION

Any phenomenon that alters the qualities of and relationship between space and time.

ZAMANI TIME

(Denial of death) - (Swahili) - Deeper, more infinite past. According to John Mbiti, "Zamani is not limited to what in English is called the past. It also has its own "past," "present," and "future," but on a wider scale. We might call it the Macro-Time (Big Time). Zamani overlaps with Sasa [the Micro-Time] and the two are not separable. Sasa feeds or disappears into Zamani. But before events become incorporated into the Zamani, they have to become realized or actualized within the Sasa dimension. When this has taken place, then the events "move" backward from the Sasa into the Zamani. So Zamani becomes the period beyond which nothing can go. Zamani is the graveyard of time, the period of termination, the dimension in which everything finds its halting point. It is the final store-house for all phenomena and events, the ocean of time in which everything becomes absorbed into a reality which is neither after nor before."





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