EVOLVING TIME ZONE PROTOCOLS

During the Black Quantum Futurism: Time Zone Protocols exhibition + Prime Meridian Unconference, presenters, visitors, attendees, TZP surveyors + our collective sharing produced a set of alternative principles, protocols, and/or values that reshape, remap, or dismantle and create new and equitable time zones or protocols of time based on Black communal tools, temporal technologies, ancestral techniques, and philosophies. Protocols, resolutions and practices are replicable and will be revisited/returned to at some collectively agreed upon time, such as a future Unconference or gathering, or in an online space.

Note: Protocols as used here means a draft set of agreements, approaches, strategies, tactics, lenses, experiments, rituals, and/or tools, in accordance with its etymological origins as first draft (or, first glue), and not in its more modern sense as "proper conduct." These protocols are merely a starting point and roadmap for a collective journey, and not the final destination. If you would like to add a protocol, please visit www.timezoneprotocols.space/generator and look for the related prompt or email blackquantumfuturism@gmail.com.

Protocol 1: Undesigning Systemic Time
Developed by Rasheedah Phillips

- Temporal abundance vs. Temporal Scarcity
- Inclusive & Expansive Future Visioning
- Past, Present & Future as Open Possibilities
- Spatial and Temporal Autonomy, Agency, Liberation, + Reparations

  See full set of prompts and experiments in the Time Zone Protocols Timekit.

Protocol 2: Bending SpaceTime with Botanicals
Developed by Asia Dorsey

- **The nature of time is rooted in our bodies and our bodies are rooted to each other as miraculous manifestations of nature**
    - "time cannot exist without us as observer…our physical bodies are in relation to all bodies around us including those of plants"
    - "Honor the sacred 'no' " – When we honor the "sacred no" we enrich others' experiences as well as our own

- We can choose to be observer and opt out of participation but we are still participant by default
- "Obliterate colonial time" when we share with one another
- "Diversity of time springs out as we experience the byproduct of relationship" . .

- **As we connect more, more possibilities of experiencing time exist**
  - Connection is an accelerator
  - Perceived time is the actual time
  - Claim space and honesty by being in relationship with each other

- **Plants have a special relationship to space time (because they are differently mobile).** Plants can access the multiplicity of timelines and collapse based on signals of need

Protocol 3: Dead Line?: slowing down in Black "spacetime"
developed by Dr. Danielle Purifoy

Dead *line - an enclosure
- Working definition: the latest time by which something should/can be completed (connection to plantation time)
- Historical definition: a line drawn around a prison beyond which prisoners were liable to be shot (a LITERAL dead line)

Where/When is your "deadline"?
- Create a map, image, or any representation of your own spacetime disconnected from racial capitalist patriarchy.
- Questions: What does it look/sound/smell/taste like? Who is with you? What do you do, or not do? How do you feel?

Protocol 4: Grief Reparations and Temporal Hush Harbors
Developed by Joy Tabernacle

- **Grief Reparations:** giving space, time, resources, funding for Black people to collectively and somatically process traumatic experiences & death (regardless of when these events occurred) Through:
  - Ritual, rest, kickbacks, celebrations, ect
  - Ongoing commitment to dismantling Plantation time

- **Temporal Hush Harbors:** Hush harbors were places where enslaved folks escaped plantation time to enact ceremonial time to reconnect with

ancestral/ natural time. Some times this wasn't always physically possible, so it had to occur temporally (ie in dream/vision state)

- So many ways to measure time. It can be measured by grabbing someone's hand who has a grandmother who's mother's mother's mother may have been a slave

- White people can be an accomplice to Black grief reparations by donating a day's/weeks/months wages to Black people, donating time off, donating labor, donating to Black healing events, funeral funds, and historical preservation funds

Protocol 5: Black Fugitive Infrastructures and Cross-time Space Routines
Developed by Dr. Celeste Winston

- **Maroon Geography:** Flight from slavery along with spaces of freedom through continuing Black struggles. Maroon Geographies as **Fugitive Infrastructure:** Ways that everyday people come together to create their own systems to sustain their lives even when survival seems impossible. (Cowen 2017)
    - "A grounded, systematic basis for flight."
    - Highlights the ways Black people have pushed back against violence that aren't individual, but are collective and sustaining.
    - **Fugitivity is an actively evolving process, shifting to new spatial and temporal contexts.**
    - Maroonage as an act of holding ground - we are going to stay here and create a space of freedom
- **How do you balance stasis and movement within the concept of Maroonage?**
    - Holding Place. Black people creating geographic refuge
    - How this relates to abolition - creating areas of refuge from police
    - Block Parties as holding of space
    - The Metro PCS blasting gogo music on georgia ave (site of extreme gentrification/Black displacement in DC) as a marker of place by Black people
- **Where do we locate the maroon in the future we're building?**
    - How do we position it outside of resisting anti-black violence
        - Care networks, cooperatives, worlds that
- **Protocol: How might we locate sites and possibilities of fugitive infrastructure across time?**
- **Protocol Prompts**

- Name a present-day anti-Black or other violent system, institution, or practice that you would like to focus on for this session.
- What is your knowledge of the history of that system/institution/practice? How does or might it connect with the history of slavery, colonialism, or imperialism?
- Spend some time thinking about popular solutions for reforming or abolishing that system/institution/ practice. What kinds of people and places do those popular solutions come from?
- What space routine might exist across time that demonstrates a longstanding infrastructure that refuses and pushes back against that system/institution/practice?

Protocol 6: Reticulation
Developed by Katherine McKittrick

See full set of prompts and experiments for *Reticulation. 1993. 2019.* at
Curiosities, Prompts, Inventions

Protocol 7: Cloud Time
Developed by V. Mitch McEwen and Nadir Jeevanjee

- **What if we take cloud time as something we might be able to access in a planetary way?**
  - If cloud time were something that we could access we would also need to be able to let it not be accessed. It would not be this mechanical time we can always tap into that is always going to be there. it would be a multiple temporality that we would have to participate in at some kind of energy level. Whether that's a feeling energy or physically some kind of energy level, we have to tap into it, but then also it would let ourselves be divergent in it as well.
  - This flux, is a flow. if you had a way of interacting with the flow, then you would measure time that way because you would just know. You know how much has flowed past you or through you, in whatever way you're able to do that right would be a measure of how much time has passed. Right in the same way that if there's some flow of water, and you can count on that flow being steady, then you could measure time in buckets.
- **Surface Time**
  - The surface is not just a means of accessing the deep, but it has its own kind of fuzzy and steady state. There's a way that we might think about how time might be surface time. Maybe surface time

also does a kind of work. It may be part of the way of dealing with these legacy systems. They are a kind way that we're organizing ourselves, but that may be its surface. Maybe part of the work to be done is to really start to model other deep layers or other more kind of atmospheric layers of a time.

- **What is "Instantaneous"?**
  - Deep ocean can take hundred of years to "understand" what is happening and respond to atmosphere – what is considered instantaneous needs relativity
  - Water comes from the ocean, deep ocean takes hundreds of thousands of years to warm (to fully realize)
- **Locating fugitive potentials**
  - What other coordinates can we choose?
  - Temporality of empathy
  - Practicing awareness of need
  - We talk about the weather because we know we're experiencing the same temperature, it's a way we know we can connect

Protocol 8: The Future of Black Spaces
Developed by Ujijji Davis Williams

Q: What is a black space? What is the future of black spaces?

A: A black space is a place where the construct of racialized oppression is absent. How that manifests physically has infinite possibilities because Blackness is not a monolith. Sitting at the precipice of vision and memory. What is present, what is past, what is possible?

Black Space is not a definition but a journey and a process. This means a collapsable present-future relationship. Black space happens in its own speed and time and doesn't rely on the normative structure of efficiency."

- **Questions about sound:** we know summer's here because folks start playing their music, sound is a way to create black space- how could that work in a neighborhood, and has it been implemented? Who is this for? Is it always reflective of the city and the sound? **How is music used as part of an everyday experience for the people it comes from, or as an advertisement to someone from elsewhere?**

Protocol 9: Epochs, Ages, and Yugas: Macro-Temporal Texture + Alter Destiny

ALTER DESTINY (Sun Ra) - not to be confused with a social revolution or messionic paradigm
- the only plausible future is alter destiny
- Alter Destiny is Mechanism for arriving in decoloniality - a mechanism and vehicle
- Decolonizing consciousness is decolonizing time
- Owning oneself is to create oneself. To create oneself is to first and foremost create time- time perceived as the foundation of any subjectivity, an time properly speaking meaning the time of new forms of life.-Achille Mebembe
- Alter Destiny is not a realism, therefore it cannot be a project.
- It's luminous details for the time being must remain perpetually on the tip of the tongue"
- Ultimately it is an evangelism. The world has already ended, from this composted fertility will grow– not only new trees, but new children.
- *Performance and reading of excerpts from Beloved*

-FUNK ENTENLECHY-
-FUNK ESCHATOLOGY-

Protocol 10: Timecasting with Entropy & Lasers
Developed by Kendra Krueger

Intuitive Technology (the original pattern)
Any type of technology is something that is moving or shaping Energy, Information and Matter. The original technology is a pattern - a replicated memory that is able to travel through time. Fundamental patterns exist that blend and build to form new patterns and new ways of existing,
- *What comes up for you when you hear the word technology*?
- **A pattern is a replicating piece of information that transfers through time**

Q. How do we gather and use entropic energy/information/matter?
- **Resonance systems -** a system that can actually filter and capture the harmonics to amplify // instruments and catching the frequency
- **Stochastic resonance –** finding clarity in randomness and increased noise. Nature moves towards this e.g. crayfish can actually see better when the water is cloudy

Spontaneous change, miracles, divination, trust, stability, discernment, systems

Q. What are we using these tools for? Liberation, healing, pleasure, consciousness exploration

Rituals are examples of resonant technologies – you need a container and similar repeating patterns, charge it up with your energy Systems are rituals - Systems are patterns stacked atop one another Resonant technology→ jewelry for healing - Crystals were placed under praise houses during enslavement

Protocol 11: Chronomorphism
Developed by Walter Greason inspired by Dwayne McDuffie

- **Chronomorphism:** The ability and commitment to connect past real & imagined experiences with present & future liminal moments.If we could teach people to break out of standard time, there is a metaverse of possibilities available to us all. We are simultaneously universal and infinitesimal, in every moment.

- **From this space Created convergence Media:** the way that stories are made in multiple platforms, creating different universes to interrogate who we are and how we connect through story.

- **How can an application of Chronomorphism achieve that same end?**
    - "If we had the power of 'The Flash' how much could we get done?" "Time doesn't matter"
    - "How does it let us deconstruct what we assume to be impermeable boundaries?"
    - "McDuffie is exploring through 'Owl Man' his own nihilism…do we believe in empowering each other or do we believe in destroying each other?"
    - How can you create deep philosophical questions through animation?
    - "How do you all chaos and manage it when you need to?'" "Both chaos and order"
    - "Do we have choices?" "No one path but lots of choices"

- **Activity: Four Qualities Exercise**
    - Grateful practice for introspection as a way to break out of the crush of time."exercise allows us to tap into moments when time is bent"
    - 1- Animal (deep, positive feelings and affection for)
        - What four qualities engender that affection?
    - 2- Object, something non-living (affinity for, connection to)

- ■ What four qualities you associate with that object
  - ○ 3- Body of Water
  - ○ Now count backwards from 100, listening to the sounds in the room.

Protocol 12: The Future of Time: Metaverse and Black Health
Developed by Ingrid LaFleur

- **How can multitemporal healthcare be created?**
- **What do we want ancestors (to tell them and share?)**
- Owning the means of production
- Everyone may not be able to access/ connect with ancestors so the metaverse could be a space to tap in readily. Not everyone is comfortable communing in real life. Immersive spaces can help with learning retention.
- How to transfer and distribute collective memory in a virtual space
- Elders and children love virtual spaces (virtual realities help with retention)
- Prototyping alternative realities in the metaverse
- Different modes of hacking and coding
- Deprogramming around expectation and inevitability
- Disrupting what we think of as wealth (children can never be behind)

Protocol 13: Malleable Futures
Developed by Ingrid Raphaël

Two minutes to fill out our identifications of time, report back to the group

Time is:	Time Has
Time is:	Time Honors
Time is:	Time Takes
Time is:	Time Gives
Time is:	Time Runs
Time is:	Time Moves

Like air time is expansive and a resource:
- Time is a moving body in practice- dance combines presence/attending future
- How we learn to move embodies time
- Time is a transformation of elements, it answers to its own devices, and we try to emulate time.

When we embody time, who do we become?

In malleable futures
we'll move with
Move through and
be with time.

Black Hair Time
- Braiding & Weaving are
- "A document is really an evolving ongoing braid"
- Time slows, shifts
- It's difficult to braid your own hair- it's difficult to do on our own
- Communal sense of time also means

Acts of Freezing Time: Photography, Writing, Transcribing, Storytelling, recording, etc.
- Documentation can be a powerful tool for reclaiming power
- Dance annotations- markers for what time is visualized as

Creating new time:
- What are your points of measure in your day to day that can be measures of time?
- In what ways do you make/create time?
- As the architect of your world, what is time measured by?

Protocol 14: Land, Entangled Time, & Space
Developed by Camae Ayewa

- **When you travel to a place, it's your job to learn what's going on.** Anthropology of consciousness is saying: you will know about this place- the information is stored, is shared, is available.
- **Black Quantum Futurism:** Sound is a quantum event; breaking down all the layers of things that have been buried.
- **How can we sharpen our sensitivity to reveal the truth about the places where we find ourselves?** Coming together, seeking community, exploring the vortexes that are always here.
- **How are the frameworks we've imposed on the natural world in dialogue with natural timelines and frameworks?** Miraculous and Horrific things are happening to us, and we can't explain or make sense of them in a linear timeframe…the unknown is also its own character
- **Yes, we are thankful, we are giving to this space,** "Anytime we gather, everyone is thankful"

Activity

- Ten minutes to be in meditation moving around the space; take it in, think about who's been there and why, why do we keep returning there?
- Walking Meditation: group discussion- what did you notice about the space, what names come up.

Protocol 15
Developed by Xenobia Bailey

My father and ancestors were agricultural people - had the current almanac in the house. So much of our resources are invested in banks, records, written words and tracking of property that we're divorced from. Would love to see observation of time through the human body- some kind of mapping that honors every body's time as different. Personal mapping that interacts with other people's maps. Perhaps meditation or song- sensitivities that we haven't ventured into that we can hone and cultivate.

Protocol 16
Developed by The BlkRobot Project

Renewed temporalities: We can work with Time and silence to reorganize our worlds in a way offering renewed temporalities conceptually, materially, metaphorically, spatially to destabilize normative time.