

Sequelism: Part 3 *Possible, Probable, or Preferable Futures*

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Sequelism: Possible, Probable, or Preferable Futures is a project that looks into the future and at that which is yet to happen. It considers how art and the inexact arena of futurology might be utilised as a means to better comprehend, rethink, obscure, or even colonise the present.

Knowledge of current and historical events often plays a role in collective foresight or prognosis of change that is yet to take place. In a similar fashion, futurology could be said to deal with memory in reverse. The project seeks to investigate how prospective visions might be generated for vastly differing reasons, offering great idealism on the one hand, or harnessing political and societal anxiety on the other.

The future is commonly manifested in popular cultural forms, including science fiction, yet how might we look beyond the present without recourse to established genres? To what extent does strategic foresight affect our understanding of the 'now' or the 'when'? Is the future a culturally specific phenomenon that is inherently 'Western' in its own gaze and orientation? And just how accurate can we be when imagining the future? The *Sequelism* project addresses issues and questions such as these. Disputing illustrative organisation around a predetermined thesis, the project itself invites doubt, speculation and to-be-determined outcomes.

This is the first in a trilogy of *Sequelism* exhibitions, with Part 2 in 2010. Co-curated by Arnolfini and Latitudes.

Sequelism is part of the *Futurology* series of exhibitions and events at Arnolfini: www.futurologyprogramme.org