



## Leper Creativity: Cyclonopedia Symposium

*By Reza Negarestani, Eugene Thacker, Ed Keller, Benjamin H. Bratton, Robin Mackay, McKenzie Wark, Alisa Andrasek, Zach Blas, Melanie Doherty, Anthony Sciscione, Kate Marshall, Nandita Biswas Mellamphy, Alexander R. Galloway, Dan Mellamphy, Ben Woodard, Nicola Masciandaro*

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Essays, articles, artworks, and documents taken from and inspired by the symposium on Reza Negarestani's *Cyclonopedia: Complicity with Anonymous Materials*, which took place on 11 March 2011 at The New School. Hailed by novelists, philosophers, artists, cinematographers, and designers, *Cyclonopedia* is a key work in the emerging domains of speculative realism and theory-fiction. The text has attracted a wide-ranging and interdisciplinary audience, provoking vital debate around the relationship between philosophy, geopolitics, geophysics, and art. At once a work of speculative theology, a political samizdat, and a philosophic grimoire, *Cyclonopedia* is a Deleuzo-Lovecraftian middle-eastern Odyssey populated by archeologists, jihadis, oil smugglers, Delta Force officers, heresiarchs, and the corpses of ancient gods. Playing out the book's own theory of creativity – "a confusion in which no straight line can be traced or drawn between creator and created – original inauthenticity" (191) – this multidimensional collection both faithfully interprets the text and realizes it as a loving, perforated host of fresh heresies. The volume includes an incisive contribution from the author explicating a key figure of the novel: the cyclone. CONTENTS: Robin Mackay, "A Brief History of Geotrauma" – McKenzie Wark, "An Inhuman Fiction of Forces" – Benjamin H. Bratton, "Root the Earth: On Peak Oil Apophenia" – Alisa Andrasek, "Dustism" – Zach Blas, "Queerness, Openness" – Melanie Doherty, "Non-Oedipal Networks and the Inorganic Unconscious" – Anthony Sciscione, "Symptomatic Horror: Lovecraft's 'The Colour Out of Space'" – Kate Marshall, "Cyclonopedia as Novel (a meditation on complicity as inauthenticity)" – Alexander R. Galloway, "What is a Hermeneutic Light?" – Eugene Thacker, "Black Infinity; or, Oil Discovers Humans" – Nicola Masciandaro, "Gourmandized in the Abattoir of Openness" – Dan Mellamphy & Nandita Biswas Mellamphy, "Phileas Fogg, or the Cyclonic Passepartout: On the Alchemical Elements of War" – Ben Woodard, "The Untimely (and Unshapely) Decomposition of Onto-Epistemological Solidity:

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### About the Author

Ed Keller is the CEO of the Keller Fay Group, and has been called "one of the most recognized names in word of mouth." The publication of his first book, "The Influentials", has been called a "seminal moment in the development of word of mouth." He is a past President of the Word of Mouth Marketing Association (WOMMA) and of the Market Research Council. He lives in New York.

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