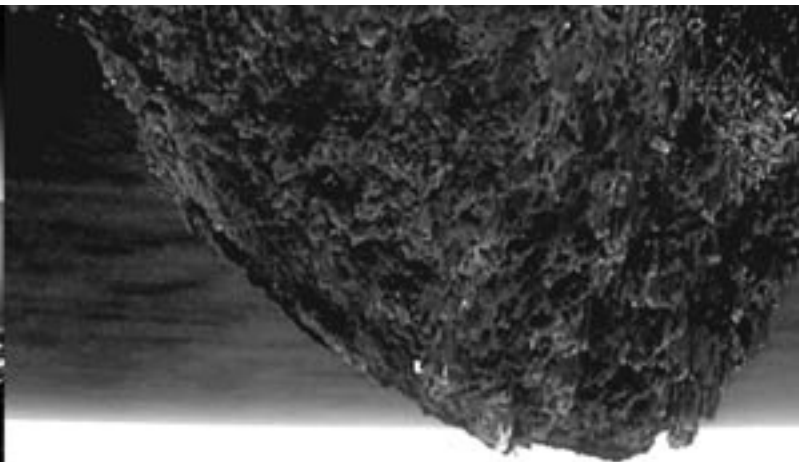


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Hollow Earth Theory (Revived) Field Studies 1 & 5

David Haines + Joyce Hinterding



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Hollow Earth Theory is nothing new in the history of ideas. The famous British seventeenth century astronomer, Edmund Haley believed that the inner earth was hollow and lit by a luminous atmosphere. Edgar Rice Burroughs wrote a cycle of novels set in the hollow earth. Jules Verne wrote 'Journey to the Center of the Earth' as part of a series of journey novels. John Cleves Symmes, an American nineteenth century eccentric believed that the earth was open at the poles and that the interior of the earth was inhabited. In 1906, William Reed added his book "Phantom of the Poles" within which he claimed to be able to prove his theory that the earth was not only hollow but able to sustain life. There is it seems a long list of people who have set out to prove or discover that the world is indeed hollow. In more recent times the Nazis where also curious and sent Dr Heinz Fischer, an expert on infrared rays to the Baltic to photograph the British Fleet by turning his cameras upward and shooting across the hollow earth.

People are still mounting expeditions to find out if the earth is hollow. Worthy of a plot from the filmmaker Werner Herzog, an adventure company is mounting a high-tech expedition to the Arctic Circle to locate the entrance of the inner earth complete with a Russian nuclear powered ice breaker. This type of 'adventure tourism' seems to follow firmly in the footsteps of the great Pataphysical author Reme Daumal

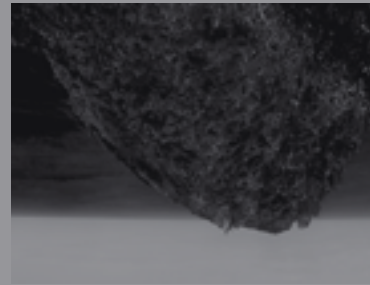
whose novel "Mt Analogue" is all about climbing an imaginary mountain.

Jules Verne wrote 'The Journey to the Center of the Earth' in 1864. It was with Verne's text that we began our own 'Pataphysical' journey of discovery to imagine the interior of an inhabited hollow earth. This has been manifested as a series of ongoing field studies, in this case we have decided to show the "phantom city" and the upside down mountain climbing sequence. We would rather not discuss too much about the way that these images have been made, except to say that they are a collapsed universe of image and sound making – a combination of digitally fabricated composites, field recordings or real time camera footage with minimal intervention.

David Haines has been a practising artist for over a decade, exhibiting in museums, festivals, and alternative exhibition spaces, and has created installations for galleries all over the world. Haines has been awarded several Australia Council grants for various projects in the area of New Media and Visual Arts, including a residency at The Australia Council's Tokyo Studio.

Joyce Hinterding has exhibited extensively both nationally and internationally both including a number of international biennales. She has been awarded several Australia Council grants for various projects in the area of New Media and Visual Arts, including a residency at The Australia Council's Green St Studio in New York.

Their collaborations have produced major works that have been shown in Tasmania, Sydney, and Madrid and Sao Paulo, and featured in the opening exhibition for the Australian Center for the Moving Image and Federation Square in Melbourne.



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