

THE SPACES AND STRANGE ATTRACTIONS OF LONG-DISTANCE RUNNING

Four quick points, one fast image, and one 'strange attraction'!

The image - the traditional sporting champion being delivered to the Sovereign (Queen; Fuhrer)



The strange attraction – between running practice and charitable altruism



Point One: the spatial re-distribution of running: running breaks out of the stadium onto the roads of the city; not just seepage/but made to happen; shifted to the desert but also the gym; viz. in natural, semi-natural & artificial environments; socio-cosmic in scale and geographic distribution

Point Two: the social re-distribution of running; breaks out of the elite to all social classes, genders, abilities, disabilities and children; numbers of runners b<http://www.runforcharity.com/reviews/marathon-run-for-charity.html>

Is more or less classless

Point Three: the temporal elongation of running: moves from sprint to long-distance; from long-distance to increasingly longer distance; spatially, temporally & socially, running pushes & is being pushed towards infinity! Across space OR statically on a treadmill

Point Four: the extremification of running: towards infinity, running displaces the body towards its biophysical limits; renders it precarious; trained self-mastery at the precarious limits of its social existence

Point Five: The Environing of the Running Body: In the process, the running body is turned from being a servant of the will (Leifenthal) to being a partner; whom one listens to and with whom one conducts a dialogue; in the process, the body-in-relation-to-its immediate environment underfoot becomes the significant environment in which one runs: not the environment at large

Linking the image and the strange attraction

from the technical mastery of the body within the controlled confinement of the stadium presented to The Sovereign to the technical mastery of the body at its precariously unconfined limits presented to The Precariat

Running ingrains and spreads through the popular classes, the habitus of a new primary social relation!

Running runs a social relation

Running grounds and embodies the idea of a social relation