CYBERBIOMES

mycelium /mʌɪˈsiːlɪəm/

Mycelium is the vegetative part of a fungus or fungus-like bacterial colony, consisting of a mass of branching, thread-like hyphae.

Referred to as the 'wood wide web', mycelium serves as an underlying informational hub for entire ecosystems. It allows plants, trees and microbes to communicate over long distances and to exchange nutrients through the vast network of nodes in soil.

"I see the mycelium as the Earth's natural Internet, a consciousness with which we might be able to communicate. Through cross-species interfacing, we may one day exchange information with these sentient cellular networks. Because these externalized neurological nets sense any impression upon them, from footsteps to falling tree branches, they could relay enormous amounts of data regarding the movements of all organisms through the landscape."

— Paul Stamets, Mycelium Running

biosemiotics /ˈbʌɪəʊˌsiːmɪˈɒtɪks/

Biosemiotics is the study of signs, of communication, and of information exchange in ALL the living organisms, that goes beyond the constraints of spoken and written language.

Eco-critical biosemiotics in particular focus on language as a process of *poiesis* which looks at how beings bring forth their lifeworlds in dynamic conjunction with the lifeworlds of other entities.

"Instead of seeing trees as individual agents competing for resources, she proposed the forest as a 'co-operative system', in which trees 'talk' to one another, producing a collaborative intelligence described as 'forest wisdom'. Some older trees even 'nurture' smaller trees that they recognize as their 'kin', acting as 'mothers'."

— Robert Macfarlane, Underland

panpsychism /panˈsʌɪkɪz(ə)m/

A philosophical view that asserts the existence of a proto-consciousness as a ubiquitous property of the universe, rather than something specific to human mind.

The socio-cultural theories of distributed consciousness are gradually being corroborated with findings from quantum-relativistic physics which increasingly lend support to formerly esoteric ideas such as the existence of infinite timeliness and parallel universes.

"Western consciousness is by no means the only kind of consciousness there is; it is historically conditioned and geographically limited, and representative of only one part of mankind. This widening of consciousness ought not to proceed at the expense of the other kinds of consciousness."

— Carl Jung, The Earth Has a Soul

ecocene /ˈiːkəʊsiːn/

A proposed re-framing of our geological epoch that challenges anthropocentric modes of domination that arise from reductive and extractive ontologies.

It is an epoch in which humans use regenerative design which mimics the processes of nature to increase diversity, modularity, tightness of feedbacks, increasing redundancy, mutually supportive networks, self-regulation based on information and resource exchange within nested networks, the sharing of abundance.

"It may be that the new "environmental ethic" toward which so many environmental philosophers aspire—an ethic that would lead us to respect and heed not only the lives of our fellow humans but also the life and well-being of the rest of nature—will come into existence not primarily through the logical elucidation of new philosophical principles and legislative strictures, but through a renewed attentiveness to this perceptual dimension that underlies all our logics, through a rejuvenation of our carnal, sensorial empathy with the living land that sustains us."

— David Abram, The Spell of the Sensuous
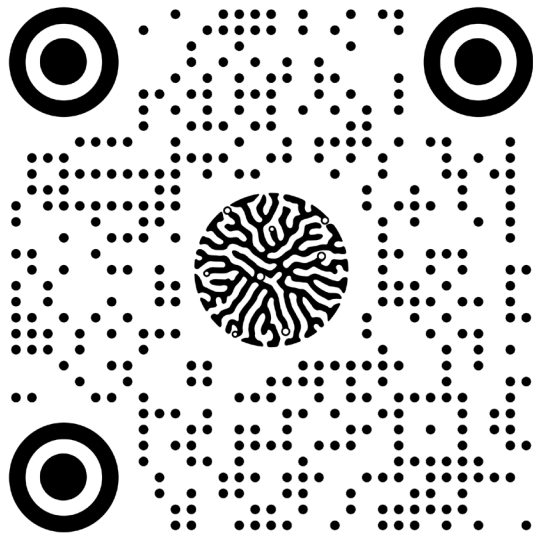
solarpunk /ˈsəʊləpʌŋk/

An eco-futurist movement that strives to go beyond the dystopian narratives to envision a world of distributed clean energy, available and benefiting everyone.

It is a vision of a society that functions more like an ecology – non-hierarchical, cooperative, diverse, and seeking balance – by using our existing technologies and things we already know are possible.

"It is now highly feasible to take care of everybody on Earth at a higher standard of living than any have ever known. It no longer has to be you or me. Selfishness is unnecessary and hence-forth unrationalizable as mandated by survival. War is obsolete. It is a matter of persuading all humanity to divert high-science technology from weaponry to livingry."

— Buckminster Fuller, Critical Path

https://cyberbiomes.org