

# Updating Benjamin

Presentation by group 2

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# Simulacrum of Rasmus

[http://www.acapela.tv/good-old-times-115580338\\_c1dfba2366b7b.html](http://www.acapela.tv/good-old-times-115580338_c1dfba2366b7b.html)

# Texts

Bill Nichols: "The Work of Culture in the Age of Cybernetic Systems"

Henning Ritter: "Toward the *Artwork* Essay, Second Version"

Hennion & Latour: "How to Make Mistakes on So Many Things at Once –and Become Famous for It"

# **Case: HEAVY RAIN**

[http://www.heavyrainps3.com/#/en GB/videos](http://www.heavyrainps3.com/#/en_GB/videos)

# **Bill Nichols**

“The Work of Culture in the Age of Cybernetic Systems”  
(1988)

## **Benjamin:**

Mechanical reproduction transformed the conception of self and reality

- Adjusted by the shock effect of **montage**

## **Nichols:**

Cybernetic systems transforms our conception of self and reality

**Does montage have its equivalent in interactive simulations?**

“The copy reproduces the world, the chip simulates it”

Bill Nichols, p. 633

# **Critique of Benjamin Ritter**

**Benjamin's mistakes in trying to differentiate film  
and new media from traditional art:**

- Originality
- "Here and now"
- Editing and montage.
- Technical measures/equipment
- The audiences' expert stance



## **Benjamin's core mistakes:**

- The “newness” of art
- Idealism
- Human behaviour vs. art

# **Critique of Benjamin Hennion & Latour**

The term aura

Fetishization mistaken as religion

The difference between technical and mechanical

**APPLAUSE**