

Escaping the Cartographic Gaze

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God's Eye View
The Glue Collective






Gazing serves as a battlefield...

for the definition of the Self / Other

“Nothing but an ideology of lies, a perfect justification for pillage; its honeyed words, its affectation of sensibility [are] only alibis for aggression.

Sartre, J. P. (1963). 'Preface', in F. Fanon (2001), *The Wretched of the Earth*. London and New York: Penguin Books.



When individuals make their own maps, they offer an expression of what they consider important, what they consider to be *of interest*, and for what they are willing to fight

Institute for Applied Autonomy (2008). 'Tactical cartographies', in L. Mogel and A. Bhagat (eds), *An Atlas of Radical Cartography*. Los Angeles: Journal of Aesthetics and Protest Press.



ParticipatoryGIS

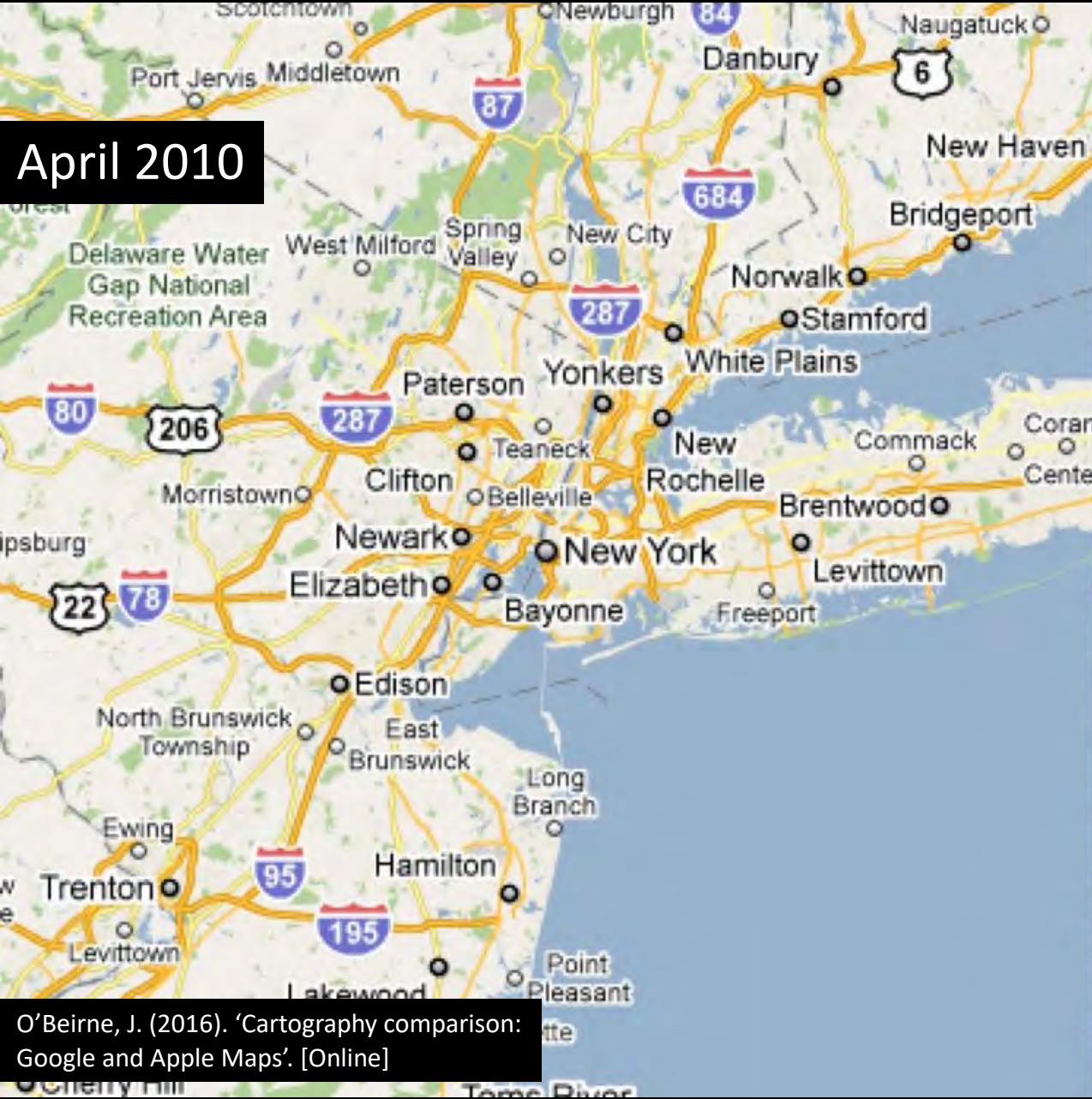
Interactive Mapping + Citizen Participation

Artwork: ParticipatoryGIS.com

Platforms have politics

No visualisation is neutral

April 2010



April 2016



O'Beirne, J. (2016). 'Cartography comparison: Google and Apple Maps'. [Online]

All perspectives are partial



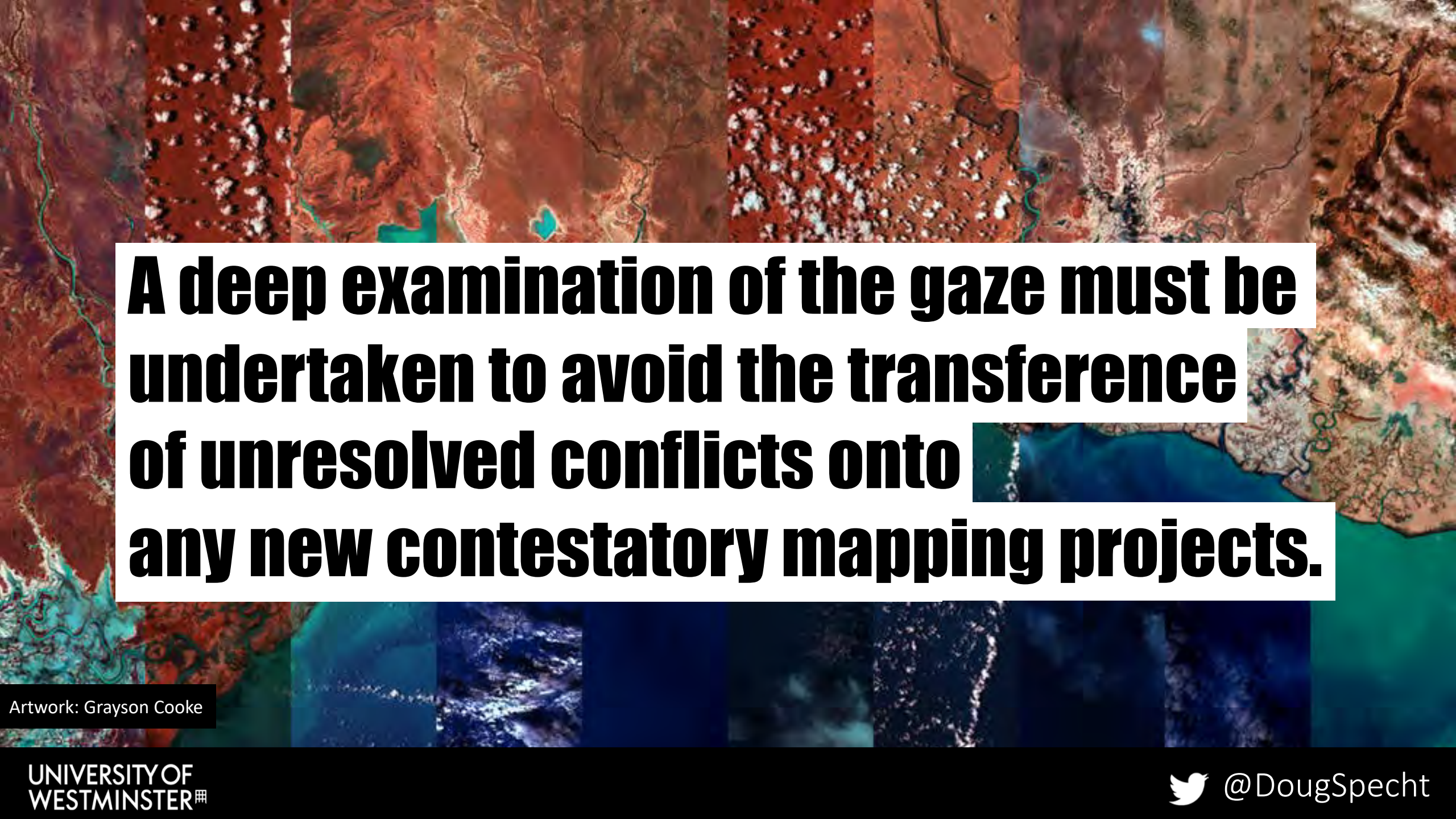
Counter-Mapping Return Workshop
NewMediaLab
Photo credit: Nimrod Zin



**Knowledge must not be
provincialised, nor passed off
as universal.**

Artwork: Grayson Cooke

Robinson, J. (2003). 'Political geography in a postcolonial context', *Political Geography* 22(6): 647–651.



A deep examination of the gaze must be undertaken to avoid the transference of unresolved conflicts onto any new contestatory mapping projects.

Artwork: Grayson Cooke

An aerial photograph of a river delta, likely the Fraser River, showing a complex network of channels and sandbars. The water is a deep blue, while the land is a mix of green and brown. A prominent white rectangular box with black text is centered over the image.

**Avoid illusions of completeness that
come with using multiple data sets**

Artwork: Grayson Cooke

Maps and visualisations are
more destructive than **guns and warships**
in their power to oppress the Other and
to **crush insurrection** against anything but
the map's representation of power.

Harley, J. B. (2002). *The New Nature of Maps: Essays in the History of Cartography*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press.



Did you find the world?

Or did you make it up?

Artwork: Grayson Cooke