

Special Issue 1 (2025)

Somatics & Electricity

Petja Ivanova (petjarossenova@gmail.com)

Abstract: This contribution summarizes in an undisciplined way electricity as a socio-material, somatic, and epistemological force after a participatory workshop. Drawing from feminist technoscience, membrane theory, and erotic pedagogy, I seek to dissolve the binary between electricity as a technical-industrial extract and as an immanent, bodily, and relational phenomenon. Instead of a traditional academic paper, I offer a set of poetic, Yoko Ono-inspired scores to invite embodied inquiry into charge, transmission, and touch. By attuning to the bioelectrical, the planetary, and the affective, I engage electricity not only as metaphor or infrastructure, but as method, as feeling, as relation.

Keywords: Body, Epistemology, Eroticism, Interdisciplinarity, Pedagogy

Submitted: 26 June 2025

Accepted: 26 June 2025

Published: 07 November 2025

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.17169/ogj.2025.381>

This contribution is part of Special Issue “membra(I)nes – Technologies, Theories, and Aesthetics of Im/Permeability”, edited by Muriel González Athenas, Susanne Huber, Katrin Köppert and Friederike Nastold, and was edited by Susanne Huber, Katrin Köppert and Friederike Nastold.

Somatics & Electricity

1. CHARGED GAZE

Let your gaze wander.

When you meet someone's eyes, hold each other's gaze,

hold it,

too awkward?

Keep holding.

Give in to how the charge between you transforms,

wander again to your next encounter.

2. SOIL SONG

Collect a patch of soil you are drawn to.

Push two nails into the earth.

Connect them with a copper wire.

Place your tongue on the wire's end.

Hum.

This is the love song of the ground.

Listen until you forget what you were trying to hear.

3. FEELING DEVICE

Sit beside a tree.

Close your eyes.

Place both palms on the soil.

Imagine your hands as voltmeters.

Wait for the tremble.

Let your body speak.

Do not translate it into words.

4. INTENTION AS CURRENT

Think of someone across the world.

Imagine sending them a signal through your spine.

Do not speak.

Only charge the space with thought.

Touch a body of water to press send.

5. EROTIC CHARGES

Go to youtube and find Audre Lorde's *Uses of the Erotic* recording.

Listen to it.