

Foreword

A few months before Bernard Stiegler came to Stuttgart in January 2020, he agreed to do an interview focusing on the concept of digital pharmacology. We finally met in the early afternoon of January 20th in the lobby of his hotel near the Public Library of Stuttgart, where his key-note lecture was to take place in the evening. We had planned to talk for about an hour at the most, to make sure that he would have the time to concentrate before the evening event. Some three hours later we were still in deep conversation. Having totally lost track of time, we suddenly needed to end our talk and hurry to the library so as not to be late for the event. Even after the public lecture, our conversation was resumed in a nearby restaurant.

Bernard Stiegler's energy and passion continued to fascinate us when we talked to him via the internet while working on the interview. In the summer of 2020, we had just sent him a transcript of our long conversation when the news of his death arrived. We were shocked. His death came completely unexpectedly, although he had told us he was suffering from a severe illness.

We are thankful that we had the chance to get to know him personally. As we continued to work on this book, his voice echoed in our minds. It is rare to meet a philosopher who is so completely dedicated to his work, so focused on intellectual endeavor and still so friendly, so welcoming and so generous. We were deeply impressed by his personal blend of seriousness and outstanding creativity, a rare combination. We hope that this book will pass on the energy we experienced in Bernard Stiegler. We would also like to thank his daughter Barbara Stiegler for allowing us to publish the interview.

This book is a result of a project funded by the *Professional School of Education (PSE)* in Stuttgart and Ludwigsburg, organized and carried out by the *International Center for Cultural and Technological Studies (IZKT)* of the University of Stuttgart together with the *University of Education in Ludwigsburg*. We would like to thank the PSE for the support.

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