

A Mashup World

A Mashup World:

Hybrids, Crossovers and Post-Reality

By

Irina Perianova

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PROLOGUE

Давно уже две жизни я живу,
одной — внутри себя, другой — наружно;
какую я реальной назову?
Не знаю... мне порой в обеих чуждо...

My lives are two disparate worlds
I live outside and inside all way through
But which one is real? Do I know? No.
Since often, both feel like alien brew...
(© Игорь Губерман –запуки : <https://www.inpearls.ru/>
My translation)

If

If freckles were lovely, and day was night,
And measles were nice and a lie warn't a lie,
Life would be delight—
But things couldn't go right
For in such a sad plight
I wouldn't be I.

If earth was heaven and now was hence,
And past was present, and false was true,
There might be some sense
But I'd be in suspense
For on such a pretense
You wouldn't be you.

If fear was plucky, and globes were square,
And dirt was cleanly and tears were glee
Things would seem fair, —
Yet they'd all despair,
For if here was there
We wouldn't be we.

E.E. Cummings



Figure 2. Francisco Goya. *Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters (Caprichos)*

Let me take you down, 'cause I'm going to
Fishberry Fields.
<https://www.theorganicview.com/>

Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very
persistent one.
—Albert Einstein

If man could be crossed with the cat it would
improve man but deteriorate the cat.
—Mark Twain

INTRODUCTION

1

What do the following have in common?

The fire-eating Chimera;

The word *brunch*;

The text message “My love 2 u”;

The poster “Vikberg is \$atan”;

GMO;

Buckwheat porridge (kasha) with Parmigiano Reggiano;

Pokémon go;

Peaceful war/ Войномир;

6lokaviza.

One does not need a long time to figure out that those seemingly unconnected clusters are all **hybrids**.

Whereas some of the above, like Chimera – a monster made up of body parts of different animals – or GMO (genetically modified organisms) are well known, others, such as 6lokaviza are totally enigmatic, at least for those living outside Bulgaria. A hybrid is defined as something heterogeneous in origin or composition (Merriam Webster online). It may be, for example, an offspring of two animals or plants of different races, breeds, varieties, species, genera, a person whose background is a blend of two diverse cultures or traditions, a thing made of two different elements, or even a word formed from words which originated in different languages, for example television – Greek *tele* and Latin *vision*.

Perhaps the best-known genetic hybrids are genetically modified (GM) foods, that is, “foods derived from organisms whose genetic material (DNA) has been modified in a way that does not occur naturally”, for example through the introduction of a gene from a different organism. For example, genes from salmon are inserted into strawberries because it protects the fruit from freezing. GMOs were first created by Monsanto to deal with the problem of pests, which would therefore help increase yields. It has been argued repeatedly that not enough research has been done to

prove that GMOs are safe and cases of big tumours in rats fed GMO food were recorded. (<http://www.gmoevidence.com/>)

The Pokémon go game, relates to a very different area. It is a relatively new hybrid, a combination of virtual and non-virtual reality. A search for Pokémons in temples and churches in different countries recently caused a lot of scandals, often with legal repercussions for the individuals. In this game the real and the virtual intersect and subjectively become part of the same time and space.

Vikberg (former president of Iceland whose financial scandal triggered off protest rallies in the country – IP) is described as \$atan – yet another type of hybrid. The alternating codes – letters and symbols – are intended to provide a concise and graphic labelling of his scandalous activities.

Buckwheat kasha is Russian, Polish or Ukrainian but not Italian. Eating it with Parmigiano Reggiano (which is Italian) reorients kasha to fusion food thus opening new taste vistas, which is very unorthodox for the traditional eaters of this food.

Perhaps the most mysterious hybrid mentioned above, *бљоковица*, or *blokaviza*, is the name for inferior quality rakia, a traditional Balkan grappa-like drink made from different fruits. However, blokoviza is also a new term in Bulgarian and refers to the use of Latin instead of the Cyrillic script, (which is the official script in Bulgaria) to write Bulgarian phrases or words. This type of writing, which also includes numerals, has become nearly the norm in text messages. It exists in Russian and Ukrainian, other languages, which also use Cyrillic script. A similar phenomenon is called *translit* in Russia and converting from and to Cyrillic script is widespread on the Internet.

2

Hybrids are of key importance for natural sciences but they belong in all areas and human endeavours. Myths of very different peoples literally swarm with diverse mixes and combinations of animals and humans, be they reptiles and female witches, like Medusa Gorgona, centaurs – a combination of horse and human, mermaids and mermen – fish and human, harpies – half bird, half-women or a host of other diurnal and nocturnal creatures. Gods and avatars of gods from the falcon-headed Egyptian god Horus to the most worshipped Hindu elephant deity Ganesha, or Pan, the half-goat Greek god of shepherds, hunters and the wilds, have been revered throughout the centuries. In works of art and fiction, much influenced by myths and religion – from Bosch to Goya, Boecklin or Chagall, and from Shakespeare to Flann O'Brien, Samuel

Beckett and Mikhail Bulgakov – to name but a few, hybrids roam free. They are at the centre stage in films – from comics to the cult *Lynchland* or more recent *The Killing of a Sacred Deer* directed by Yorgos Lanthimos.

Hybrids are also an in/tangible part of our psychological and social experience. Our very memory produces hybrids that have little to do with what has really transpired even when the event is located in the recent past. Those of us who have lived through a time of radical transition and turmoil know how many bones of contention there are at present with regard not only to the interpretation of the past but even of its very images in people's memory, and what gnawing pain this inability to get to the heart of history causes to us.

In social sciences the concept of hybridization emerged from post-colonial studies, particularly the work of Homi Bhabha (1994). It refers to a collapse of the global and local and death of the binary, which is typical of our age often described as post-modernism. It is used in relation to globalization because the same products are available everywhere whereas different people make use of those products in different ways. To quote Ulrich Beck, one of the features of post-modernism is that the right is no longer the right, and the left is no longer the left. The discourse of the so-called right and the so-called left often merges and blends – the issue I will be describing at length in the following chapters. The shift and subsequent hybridization of social discourse is psychologically very confusing and creates a sense of imbalance and disequilibrium.

In general, discourse is interdependent with social life – its analysis intersects with meanings, activities and systems outside of itself but most people have no recourse to them except through media and Internet images. Indeed, hybrids go back a long time, but it is indeed this century that has witnessed their most prolific production and reproduction in all spheres and domains of social practices – in lifestyle, politics, media and communication, as well as in education – and the list goes on.

3

The main idea of the book is to use the concept of hybrid as a springboard to narrow down or bridge the disciplinary divide. For this reason, the book cuts across a range of diverse areas on the lookout for connecting patterns in different, more specifically in the new context of **post-reality**. Though the book makes no claim to embrace the unembraceable and exhaust the subject of hybridity and hybridization, it strives for a holistic approach to the subject.

When Gregory Bateson discovered an array of similarities between widely different subjects and objects, he proclaimed the unity of the existing world. His theory of connecting patterns brings together the living nature and what is perceived as inanimate. It notes how the same fractals crop up in ornaments, snails' shells or flowers. Self-similarity in geometrical patterns, such as spirals and music, cannot be ignored either. Consequently, a direct link can easily be discovered between the political system and the tastes in science. The totalitarian state in the Soviet Union under Stalin with its cult of personality and autocratic rule, forced collectivization and non-functioning collective farms, a drive for industrialization and the system of concentration camps (GULAGs) was echoed by certain trends in science, which evolved or transformed with post-Stalinist changes of political leadership. Thus, the leading agroscientists in the period following WWII were Michurin and Lysenko. "Grandfather Michurin", whose face was known to every Soviet schoolchild because his photos sporting a majestic grey beard graced (or disgraced) every biology schoolbook, was a prophet of command science. Command science was no less real than command economy. Michurin's much quoted guiding motto, fully in compliance with the command party line, was "we shall not beg nature for alimony; we will take it ourselves".

The motto resulted in untold damage to nature as command science dealt with nature single-handedly and without hesitation: rivers were made to reverse their current, dam lakes flooded forests and cemeteries creating dead zones of rotten water and changing the climate. One of the worst man-made disasters due to command science is the death of the Aral Sea: once the biggest inland salt water lake, it went nearly completely dry because of the diversion of its primary sources of water.

Similarly, Trofim Lysenko, Stalin's and Khrushchev's darling and a proponent of "soft inheritance", claimed that he could turn winter wheat into spring wheat. He rejected "idealistic" Mendelian genetics and thought that DNA was a fiction. Lysenko received numerous awards and medals for his "great contribution" to science. At the same time, genetics, quite logically, was named pseudo-science because genes were perceived as something impossible to command. The prominent botanist and geneticist Nikolai Vavilov was declared an enemy of the people and died in prison.

A different angle to seemingly causally unrelated coincidences, predominantly as in-depth research into psychic phenomena, is Carl Jung's philosophical concept of synchronicity, which he called a causal connecting principle. Synchronicity explains the fact that sometimes a mental image of an unexpected event, which has not yet happened, pre-dates this event.

4

The wars of hybridized discourses and images, which due to the spread of the Internet and ease of access to multimedia are inevitable, do not result in a concrete victory. On the contrary, we deal with the compartmentalization of discourses and a homogeneous audience response, that is, the so-called echo chambers. The hybridization of images has been made possible by the use of collage techniques, which easily put together disparate entities as new reality representing make-believe events and experiences. Without special analysis this non/reality is unlikely to be differentiated from authentic stories and narratives. And the cognitive human mechanisms underlying human psyche function in such a way that any public discussion whatsoever, no matter whether rooted in reality or fantasy, is likely to generate the emergence of both opponents and supporters who are in most cases set apart and occupy impenetrable spaces.

Due to collage and layering, hybrids proliferate and snowball in the age of the Internet. A recent example of these techniques is illustrated in the controversial film about the Russian President Vladimir Putin directed by Oliver Stone and released in June 2017. In the film, Putin, who is often featured as the creator of a master plan for the world, showed Oliver Stone a video on his phone supposedly showing Russian forces bombing ISIS fighters – “our aviation at work”, in his words. Ironically, the video had turned out to be a clip from 2013 representing an American Apache chopper attack on Taliban positions in Afghanistan. Despite categorical denials by Putin’s No. 1 sidekick Dimitri Peskov, the fake was exposed beyond any reasonable doubt. (*Meduza* 20.06.2017)

The example is one of a multitude that show how truth and falsehood are intertwined like fractals in a kaleidoscope, often difficult or even impossible to pry apart at any social level. With increasing frequency, our age has been described as that of hybrid post-truth. In the video shown to Oliver Stone the only true and real element was an act of destruction. But it was used as a discrete element which became part of a new whole, glued together at will. Consequently, **discrete elements of the real no longer make up the truth. Truth is rebranded and turned into ‘alternative facts’, ‘post-truth’ or ‘fake news’.** Post-truth is frequently associated with the instrumental use of disinformation or the “weaponisation” of information and by implication, the weaponisation of language. Indeed, language is a perfect tool for deception. As Trivers (2011: loc.209) puts it: “Our most prized possession – language –not only strengthens our ability to lie but greatly extends its range.”

We can lie about events distant in space and time, the details and meaning of the behaviours of others, our innermost thoughts and desires, and so on. Orwell's prophetic vision of the world, where the past changes every day, is the only reality for many politicians. Indeed, he who controls the present controls the past. According to many analysts, it is a very dangerous phenomenon. In his book *On Tyranny* Tim Snyder warns that "post-truth is pre-fascism", that is, a pre-condition for tyranny, and affirms that to abandon facts is to abandon freedom. Alternative facts are "sturgeon of the second freshness". This metaphoric denial of the existence of alternative facts is drawn from Bulgakov's *Master and Margarita* where his hybrid creation Woland famously asserts that there is no such thing as "sturgeon of the second freshness" – it can only mean that the fish is off, rotten! There is "only one degree of freshness", others are blatant lies. Post-truth proclaims the reign of post-facts that do not exist in our reality.

But the new post-reality is not only about willful or random lies or untruths. The entire lifestyle is changing. Exams and interviews on Skype become increasingly common and "real" – with the consequence that the phrase "in person" acquires new meaning. For many drivers GPS is much more of an authority and much more "real" than their own senses – as a consequence, they may head down a one-way street disbelieving their eyes' evidence of oncoming cars.

The idea of hybrid truth and alternative facts accounts for the overwhelming importance of perception management. Since there is no truth, just perception of the truth based on emotions and trust, its management can be negotiated by the media pressured by the powers-that-be and the body politics. This is why facilities to combat the spread of fake news have been set up in many countries. In this book I attempt to discuss the hallmarks and markers of hybrid discourse from manipulation perspective and illustrate its mechanism and mis/use. Hybrid news is part of the most dangerous hybrid creation – the so-called hybrid war or warfare, which blends conventional warfare, irregular warfare and cyberwarfare.

5

But what, then, is the difference, if any, between a hybrid and a chimera? The idea of chimeras can be traced back to Antiquity. The mythical Chimera was a monstrous creature, composed of parts of multiple animals – an eagle, a serpent, a goat. In Greek mythology the Minotaur had a man's body and a bull's head, and Pan was half man, half

goat. Similarly, many Egyptian gods had a human body and a beast head, such as Sobek, Anubis, and Horus. However, the word “hybrid” was used synonymously to describe the same beings, so the two concepts came to merge. Subsequently, the concept of “chimera” has gone through a semantic shift, especially in natural sciences. Originally, “Chimera” was a proper noun designating a fabulous creature, whereas in modern medicine “chimera” describes a living organism that contains cells or tissues with different genotypes.

In biology the meaning of hybrid differs from that of chimera. Hybrids are animals which occur from the mating of two *different* species and their genome includes genetic components from both parents. For example, ligers and tigons are bred from different species of the same genus and display visible characteristics from both parents. A liger is the result of crossbreeding of a male lion and a female tiger, whereas a tigon is a different animal bred from a mating of a male tiger and a lioness. Since lions and tigers do not live in the same areas these hybrids do not occur in the wild.

On the other hand, chimera genetically refers to a single organism composed of cells from different zygotes, a combination of two DNA molecules from different individuals, or from different chromosomes of the same individual. This can result in male and female organs, two blood types, or subtle variations in form. Animal chimeras are produced by the merger of multiple fertilized eggs. A chimera in nature occurs only within a species.

However, there are variations of the meaning of these words depending on the field. In embryology, “chimera” refers to a combination of cells from different individuals. For example, in case of twins two embryos are carried in one womb at the same time. Conjoined twins are twins whose bodies become attached during development. A chimera results when two embryos merge at a very early stage and the two embryos develop as one being. The beautiful cats with eyes of different colours and multicoloured fur – ginger and blue eye and green eye and black fur – with 2 or 3 genomes combined in their organisms, are also known as chimeras.

Consequently, biologically, while there is no chance that you are a hybrid it is possible that you might very well be a chimera. Human chimeras are people with multiple sets of DNA. There have been reported cases of failed DNA tests because of the presence of a second set of DNA – from a twin absorbed by an individual during pre-natal development. Weirdly, Steven King is not far wrong in his bleak 1989 horror novel *The Dark Half*: You could be half you and half your twin.

Another way that chimerism can occur in animals is by organ transplantation. Consequently, chimera is an animal composed of cells with two different DNA sets; they form when two embryos merge and grow as one. Human/animal chimeras can offer insights into early human development and disease onset and provide a drug-testing platform. They may also someday provide a means of growing human cells, tissues, and organs for regenerative medicine. Indeed, scientists have already started to use stem cells to create human/pig chimera embryos. A step to the first custom-grown organ has been made.

(<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/.../170126132536.htm>)

At the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California, biologists Juan Carlos Izpisua Belmonte and Jun Wu injected different forms of adult human stem cells derived from skin or blood cells into pig embryos. In addition, they: 1) combined two large, distantly related species into one embryo. And 2) used organs from one species grown in another to treat disease. The same team also worked with mouse-rats. They managed to create mice without the ability to make a heart, a pancreas, or eyes. Then they introduced rat stem cells to see if they would fill those vacant organ niches. They were successful. (<https://www.wired.com/.../first-human-pig-chimera-step-toward>.)

In another pilot study of targeted organ generation mouse pancreases were grown in rats engineered to lack the organ thus swapping the animals' roles. The pancreases were able to regulate the rats' blood sugar levels, indicating they were functioning normally.

(<https://med.stanford.edu/nakauchilab/news.html>)

However, there is no consistent differentiation between a hybrid and a chimera in social sciences, in the media and in everyday discourse, even with reference to biological facts. See, for instance this description in the *Guardian*, where the same phenomenon is described both as a chimera and a hybrid:

Scientists have created a *human-pig hybrid* in a milestone study that raises the prospect of being able to grow human organs inside animals for use in transplants. It marks the first time that embryos combining two large, distantly-related species have been produced. The creation of *this so-called chimera* – named after the cross-species beast of Greek mythology – has been hailed as a significant first step towards generating human hearts, livers and kidneys from scratch. (First human-pig 'chimera' created in a milestone study. *Guardian* 26.01.2017)

Since this book makes no claim to reach out to the domain of natural sciences I will use the words *hybrids* and *chimeras* synonymously.

6

The folk etymology of the word “hybrid” implies that it is a positive phenomenon:

The first syllable of hybrid sounds like high, but the second syllable, with its shwa (ə) sound, is meaningless as part of any high-compounds. Many speakers accordingly convert it to bred, yielding high-bred – hybrid plants and animals are generally those bred up to a high degree of yield or perfection. (Bolinger 1990: 55)

At the same time, the consequences of hybridization may be negative: crossbreeds frequently suffer from birth defects and die young. On the other hand, there is a lot to be said for some biological hybrids. When a male camel is mixed with a female llama, their cama babies have all the wool-producing talents of their mother and the size and strength of their father. It is the same story for garden strawberries, which are a cross between North American and Chilean varieties, as they’re bigger and juicier than either of their parents. Meanwhile, the oddly named Toast of Botswana, a one-of-a-kind hybrid of a male goat and female sheep, was an exceptionally fast grower and extraordinarily resilient to disease. In other cases, though, hybrids such as GMOs are often believed to present a long-term danger for humanity. When we are eating strawberry, we may be totally unaware that it contains genes of salmon as a protection from pests and have no way of knowing the long-term effect and consequences of consuming this hybrid.

7

Even time and space cross over and blur borders in modern scientific theories creating a topsy-turvy world where time and space interchange. We live in a world of self-similarity, a world made up of similar patterns where everything is interconnected – be it in physics or poetry. Gregory Bateson points out this regularity in nature:

I picked up a vague mystical feeling that we must look for the same sort of processes in all fields of natural phenomena—that we might expect to find the same sort of laws at work in the structure of a crystal as in the structure of society, or that the segmentation of an earthworm might really be comparable to the process by which basalt pillars are formed. (Bateson 1979: 84)

Indeed, **everything connects**. In his groundbreaking work Nobel award winner Sudzumi Tonegava successfully learnt to manipulate the memory of mice using laser beams – the process known as optogenetics. Undoubtedly this is a stride in the direction of total mind control fiction. Researchers exercise control through the use of scientifically based brainwashing techniques. Thoughts will be decoded and memories will be manipulated at the will of scientists or those whose bidding they do. The existing cognitive mechanisms will undoubtedly offer no resistance.

Another important feature, which stresses the lack of linearity in processes, is the so-called self-fulfilling prediction, which explains many surprising social phenomena, for example, why sociologists and political analysts influence the outcome of the elections with polls and surveys predicting certain results. Self-fulfilling predictions are linked to the fundamental law of sociology, the so-called Thomas Theorem, which asserts that if men define situations as real they **are** real in their consequences. Subjective situations (family, education, and so on) and subjective impressions can be projected on to life and thereby become real to projectors. A connecting pattern may be pointed out from the realm of natural sciences. In chemistry this phenomenon is known as **autocatalysis**. A single chemical reaction is said to have undergone autocatalysis, or be autocatalytic, if the reaction product is itself the catalyst for that reaction. (<https://www.sciencedaily.com/terms/autocatalysis.htm>)

Hybrids have made humankind and they may break it. This book is about hybrids in different spheres of life and hybridization as a global development. It has a crosscutting focus and hence it is also about what hybrids stand for, about their importance for humanity and sometimes, about the devious routes taken by their creators.

It is a well-known fact that guns do not kill people. People kill people. And they may be killed by hybrids. Or saved by them. That is what humankind should strive after and hope for.

8

The book is made up of eight chapters but some sections in different chapters of the book may equally well belong to other chapters. This is one of the faults of the holistic approach: borders are difficult to delineate and set apart. In many cases they are purely provisional and fluid and would equally well apply to other categories. Depending on the perspective, the threads may be picked up from a different angle and sometimes the web is next to impossible to untangle. Such is the case, for example, when I am describing the boundaries of gender identity, which fits both in the chapter

on hybrid identity and in the chapter on lifestyle mixes. By the same token, the description of hybrid historical ethnicity of the characters claimed by different countries may equally well be part of the hybrid identity chapter or the chapter about socio-political hybrid practices. For this reason, the numbering of the chapters has a purely provisional nature. Consequently, it is a non-linear book and the sequential or non-sequential order of the reading is up to the reader.

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Binary is a false idol.

—Wachowsky Andy (Wachowsky Lilly)

I have realized that the past and future are real illusions, that they exist in the present, which is what there is and all there is.

—Alan Watts

Everything is there at any given moment. As Don Juan says, ‘Your death is always with you.’ Your death is always with you at all times and so then your future is with you at all times. See, I don’t believe in cause and effect, I believe in synchronicity. If things happen together it doesn’t mean that they’re causing each other but that one is a result of the other.

—William Burroughs (*Afterlife*. Interview in Toronto 1987)

CHAPTER ONE

LIFESTYLE, SCIENCE: HYBRIDS – INTERCHANGE

1. Introduction

It is a truism that we live in a “remix culture”. Today, many cultural and lifestyle arenas—music, fashion, design, art, web applications, user-created media, food, clothes—are governed by crossovers, remixes, fusions, blendings, collages, or mashups. We wear Jekyll and Hyde Apparel hybrid shorts and drive hybrid cars, which use two or more distinct types of power. Thus, the wearable technology is expanding its scope and embraces not just gadgets but the very clothes we put on. We read hybrid books – image-text novels where written text and graphic devices interject in order to hold a reader’s interest – adding interactiveness to the book and also giving the printed page a multidimensional visual surface. We watch hybrid documentaries weaving together traditional non-fiction filmmaking and fiction, often with incorporated animation and multi-media techniques.

Perhaps the most important hallmark of our age is a crossover into the virtual. Have you bought croissants at a brick-and-mortar bakery or online? Did you go to a brick-and-mortar university or do you have an online degree? Food, clothes, religion have crossed over to virtual reality or have become mashups. Brick-and-mortar bakeries and click bakeries compete for customers. Sometimes they are avatars of the same entity, but this is not always the case. And frequently, the click bakeries or other online entities win the battle because of their more attractive stream of images.

William Burroughs contended once that identities could be transplanted, just like organs. His claim seems to be proven by people’s relationship with smart phones and the fear and anxiety we feel when this indispensable device, which now seems so much an indelible part of us, is lost or stolen. In this situation, which for many is nothing short of life or death matter we feel that our very identity was appropriated by a

malevolent being. And identity fraud or theft is a frequent case now, just as cyberfraud in general.

Even the environment we live in is becoming increasingly hybrid: “If postmodernism defined 1980s, remix definitely dominates 2000s, and it will probably continue to rule the next decade as well.” (Manovich 2007)

Hence, there is no denying that our age is seeing a proliferation of mashups in every sphere. Crossovers of every kind have permeated our very existence. The two most important techniques in hybridization are blending and collage. But first I need to explain the terms.

2. Definitions

Mashup

Mashups combine elements from two or more sources – cooking, dress, music, and so on. The term originated from computers and has turned into a symbol of hybridity in different spheres of social life. **Computer mashups** – web application hybrids – combine content from more than one source in a single graphical interface. In music mashup is a song or composition created by blending two or more pre-recording songs. A mash-up book is fiction combining pre-existing literature with other genres to create a single narrative.

The increasingly popular term **augmented reality** is the mother of all mixes:

Augmented reality (AR) is a variation of **virtual reality**, **virtual environments** (VE), or **Presence**. The latter is defined as the subjective experience of being in one place or *environment*, even when one is physically situated in another. VE technologies completely immerse a user inside a synthetic environment. While immersed, the user cannot see the real world around him. In contrast, AR allows the user to see the real world, with virtual objects superimposed upon or composited with the real world. Ideally, it would appear to the user that the virtual and real objects coexisted in the same space. (Azuma 1997)

Thus, “virtual reality” creates a completely computer-generated environment, “augmented reality” uses an existing, real-life environment, and adds computer-generated information (virtual objects) thereto, “diminished reality” filters the environment (that is, it alters real objects, replaces them with virtual ones, or renders them imperceptible)

(*Introduction to Mediated Reality*. Available from:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/220302442_Introduction_to_Mediated_Reality [accessed May 26 2018])