

# Creature Discomforts

**Lipschitz, Forbes**

The Ohio State University, [lipschitz.4@osu.edu](mailto:lipschitz.4@osu.edu)

## 1 ABSTRACT

*We seldom think about where our meat comes from. This is no oversight—it is designed. The remote siting and placeless design of livestock production and processing allow society to avoid confronting the unsettling nature of slaughter. Hidden from public view, the ecologically and socially damaging nature of slaughter will remain unchallenged. Though design has facilitated the paradigm of industrial obscurity, it can also help to change it. If the realities of the system were rendered visible, society would be compelled to advocate for a more transparent, local, sustainable and humane model of meat production. This system need not be defined by society's collective nostalgia for a pastoral past and historic barnyard vernacular. Rather, design could define new models for contemporary animal agriculture that acknowledge the industry's importance in developing a sustainable and healthy food system that supports the world's ever growing population. To this end, this paper explores the role of representation and design speculation in rethinking contemporary livestock production and processing systems.*

### 1.1 Keywords

Livestock production and processing, critical representation, design as research