

CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN SOCIETY AND CULTURE



SENSING THE ANTHROPOCENE

Yollocalli Arts Reach/Amanda Gutierrez /// 2017

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In a time of unprecedented climate catastrophe and ecological genocide we are in desperate need of robust and creative responses to global warming. In addition to technological innovation and political and economic reorganization, social and cultural shifts are needed that help us move beyond our toxic ways of doing life under petro-capitalism. This lecture series argues that artistic practices and forms have a role to play in achieving these goals. Art seeds the critical and speculative imaginations needed to trouble our current ways of living and dying. What art contributes at this critical historical moment is skill in creating aesthetic and affective spaces within which we not only reflect on what is so but to work on imagining and modelling things otherwise in ways that are both integrative, in terms of transforming the materiality of daily life, and excessive, in terms of reaching beyond what we currently know to be possible.

BIO

Natalie S. Loveless is an associate professor at the University of Alberta, where she teaches in the History of Art, Design and Visual Culture and directs the Research-Creation and Social Justice CoLABoratory (researchcreation.ca). Loveless currently co-leads an interdisciplinary project called Speculative Energy Futures (justpowers.ca) and is a 2018-19 visiting scholar in the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC), where she is developing a new project, *Sensing the Anthropocene: Aesthetic Attunement in an age of Urgency*.

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CISSC HAPPENING
concordia.ca/cissc

Thursday,
January 17, 2019
2 – 4 p.m.
Hall Building, H-1120

TALK 3: LISTENING AS ETHIC; WALKING AS METHOD: DAILY PRACTICE AND ART/LIFE INTERVENTION

Generally understood to have emerged in the 1960s under the auspices of Fluxus, the instruction piece or score is a form with a (now) long history in contemporary art. With the instruction score, the frame of art is mobilized to reorient habitual modes of being, to invite unexpected encounters, and, in its feminist mode, to bring attention to the maintenance labour that sustains our every day, at every scale of existence. The art/life form of “daily practice” adapts the traditional instruction score by insisting that an instruction be performed daily and for an extended period of time. This daily-practice orientation does something that the one-off score does not. While the booklet or the exhibition of scores works to seed the critical creative imagination in unexpected ways, the daily practice instruction or event score insists on the value of dailyness, of the quotidian. Grounded in a history of debate on art/life and the everyday, this talk frames listening and walking as modes of daily attunement with ethical and methodological implications for art and/in the Anthropocene.

Talks in this series are co-sponsored by Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture and the Centre for Sensory Studies. Dr. Loveless will also be available during her time at Concordia to meet with graduate students working on theoretical theses on art and the Anthropocene or developing research-creation projects on any theme.

Co-sponsored by the Centre for Sensory Studies