

***Text, Image, Sound, Space (TBLR). Norwegian Researcher Training School –
Analysis, Interpretation, and the Exchange of Theories and Ideas***

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology, The University of Agder, The University of Bergen, The University of Oslo, The University of Stavanger, Nord University, and The University of Tromsø.

Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris, CUNP, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 54
Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris, France

Call for papers

Heterochronias

PhD-Seminar, November 23-25, 2021

Text, Image, Sound, Space, Norwegian Researcher School in the Humanities

“Time is out of joint”. Non-human time is the order of the day, be it the fatal geological time of the Anthropocene or the nanoseconds of the algorithms informing our mediated realities. Beset by temporalities beyond the sensorial and cognitive registers of homo sapiens, the challenges facing the work of culture today echo those of Swift’s proverbial hero – latter-day Gullivers, we are forced to cope with being too fast or too slow, too big or too small.

Cultures, inextricably linked to such notions as borders and growth, are recognized by the way they shape the spaces and the temporal horizons by which they exist – this is the building of life worlds and communities and the raw material of artistic creation and investigation. In the final account the work of culture is the production and maintenance of shared forms of space-time continuums – contemporaneity. Literature and the arts provide privileged meta-spaces where tools can be developed to map, navigate, explore and invent the chronotopes of culture.

While the protocols of space and time have always been a matter of conflicting interests and even strife – maps and clocks are technologies for producing and imposing spatial and temporal regimes – the present predicament seems to be characterized by the pressing reality of processes beyond the human scale: Emerging at the point of convergence of the slow telluric time of anthropogenic geomorphology and the microtemporalities of algorithmic governmentality, is the question– and politics – of scale and the increasingly pressing concern of managing human time.

Literature and art explore, map and experiment with the space in which we move and the time in which we exist. If anything, contemporary art practices bear witness to the polytemporality of the present, the increasing heterogeneity of the timescapes, chronotopes, we inhabit.

This provides the backdrop for our seminar as a possible analytical framework for capturing the specificities of the aesthetic experience of late modernity and identifying the matters of concern that mark contemporary art and literature. With these perspectives as a starting point, participants are invited to reflect on notions of the historical complexities of temporal and spatial form and how these pertain to their dissertation subjects empirically, analytically or epistemologically.

PhD students from TBLR member universities are invited to attend and present their work. In addition, the course will be open to a limited number of students from other universities.

Due to the precautions necessitated by the COVID-pandemic, the MSH will not allow the audience of our rooms to exceed 20 (this includes staff). Should the number of applications exceed the places available, a minimum of one place will be reserved for each of the TBLR member universities. Further priorities will be made based on relevance, previous participation in the TBLR program, and status of PhD training. Early applications will also be prioritized.

Key-note speakers:

Jean-Baptiste Fressoz, Chargé de recherche CNRS, Author (with C. Bonneuil) of *The Shock of the Anthropocene. The Earth, History and Us*, London, Verso, 2016. Title to be announced.

Frederik Tygstrup, prof. comparative literature, University of Copenhagen, “Money is time”

Application Process: Those who would like to attend should fill in the application form and submit a short draft of their paper by the 1st of October latest (roughly 300 words).

Program: The program will consist of plenary key-note lectures (60-minute presentation, 30-minute discussion) and group work. Participant papers will be presented in a conventional conference setting (15-minute presentation, 15-minute discussion). In addition, there will be text reading sessions. Participants can choose between presenting their own work or a theoretical text from the reading list for a text session.

Working language: English.

Credits: 2/5 ECTS. Participation and presentation will result in 2 ECTS, working over and submitting an edited version of the presentation (10-12 pages) after the seminar, will yield an additional 3 ECTS. Signed and authorized course diplomas will upon request be bestowed upon each PhD student participant having completed the course.

Hotel: Hotel reservations will be made by the participants themselves. Up to four nights will be reimbursed (up to 100 euro per night) for students from the institutions participating in TBLR.

Meals: Lunch every day and dinner Wednesday night (Tuesday night, participants on their own).

Travel: PhD students are expected to cover their own travel expenses.

Texts: Reading materials will be made available to the participants by Dropbox one month before the seminar. A reading list (that might be supplemented) is found on the application form.

NB! Applicants are warned that due to the current pandemic, French Authorities currently require tourist to show an EU-valid Corona-pass to enter the country. Participants are most urgently advised to closely follow status and updates on the quarantine policies.

Deadline for application: 1. October.

Applicants should submit form available on: <https://www.ntnu.no/tblr>