



# The Anthro(s)cene

Guest Lecture by

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**40901 (SR 9), Innrain 52d (GEIWI-Turm, 9th floor)**

In August 2016 the International Geological Congress was advised to declare that the Earth is now in a new geological epoch; the Anthropocene. This epoch recognizes human impact upon the planet, whereby traces of activities such as the Industrial Revolution and nuclear bomb-testing will be evident in the biosphere for future generations. Various scholars in the humanities have drawn on the idea of the Anthropocene to examine humanity's relationship to its environment;

media and cultural studies have been largely absent in such endeavours.

In this paper I outline screen media's roles in offering representations of the non-human that legitimise an anthropocentric ethics. The devastation wrought by what the Anthropocene represents is enabled by screen media's depictions of other species, and the prioritisation of the human above all else. As such, I argue, we should see such media as functioning as an Anthroposcene.