

## THEORIES OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Course Workload		Assessment form (examination/ graded test/ ungraded test)
ECTS	Hours	
3	108	Ungraded test / Prototype of an art project

The course presents an overview of the main artistic trends and philosophical theories that influence the development of the latest world contemporary art. Among them are new materialism, gender studies, object-oriented ontology, science technology studies and other areas that consider the problem of what it means to be a human being in the conditions of technoscience, climate change, late capitalism and other new states that mark the erasure of the differences between science fiction and scientific fact. The course dives into these and other issues, including ethics and subjectivity in contemporary art and philosophy.

### Course structure:

#### 1. PREDECESSORS: GENEALOGIES OF MODERN ARTISTIC THOUGHT

- 1.1. Object-oriented ontology and hyperobjects: reassembling the relationships of people and things.
- 1.2. The Ends of Man: the subject in contemporary art and philosophy.
- 1.3. Seminar 1. The boundaries of the human in the text of J. Derrida "The Animal that I am therefore".
- 1.4. Seminar 2. Human and non-human in the art of traditional media.

#### 2. PHYSICALITY AND MATERIALITY OF THE NON-HUMAN IN SCIENCE AND ART

- 2.1. Critical Posthumanism in the art and theories of Gary Wolfe, Rosie Braidotti and Catherine Hales.
- 2.2. New Materialism in science, theory and art (Karen Barbat, Vicky Kirby).
- 2.3. Seminar 1. Ray Brasier's circle of ideas in the article "Human".
- 2.4. Seminar 2. What is posthumanism and posthuman: theory, science, art.

#### 3. FEMINIST CANINE ETHNOGRAPHY

- 3.1. Donna Haraway and her companion species.
- 3.2. Seminar 1. Artistic appropriations of the "Manifesto of Companion Species" Donna Haraway.

#### 4. THE PLANT TURN IN HUMANITARIANISM

- 4.1. Plant turn: from plant studios to artistic experiments with plants.
- 4.2. Seminar 1. Artistic practices with/in/between plants.

## 5. LIVELY MACHINES

5.1. Art between human, animal and machine.

5.2. Seminar 1. Women's and machine (Sadie Plant, Irina Aristarkhova, Donna Haraway).

## 6. ANTHROPOCENE AND EXTINCTION STUDIES

6.1. Anthropocene and other "cenes" in the circle of environmental problems.

6.2. Ethics and aesthetics of the extinction era.

6.3. Seminar 1. Antonio Stoppani and his "anthropozoic" era.

6.4. Seminar 2. "Staying with the Trouble" in Philosophy and Art (book by D. Haraway and film by F. Terranova's "Donna Haraway: Story Telling for Earthly Survival" (2016)).