



ADRIAN IVAKHIV

From the Age of the World Motion Picture to the Archive, the Cloud, and the Commons

This talk will skirt across the history of cinema to locate its essence as movement, animation, and transformation. With the aid of the process-relational metaphysics of C. S. Peirce and A. N. Whitehead, we will probe beneath the cinema of eco-trauma—from eco-docs like *An Inconvenient Truth* to epic fables like *Avatar*—into the materiality of the medium itself, with its dependence on sunlight, fossil fuels, and their photochemical derivatives.

Is there a cinematic art that acknowledges this relationship between light, image, matter, and form?

Amidst the slippery, morphing images of digital media, can we find the beginnings of a post-carbon cinema practice? In the accumulating archive of images and data—whose materiality is wished away in the nebulous “cloud,” even as it relies on massive server farms, transoceanic cable networks, mountains of e-waste, and growing oceanic garbage patches—where is there a space for the reimagining of a trans-human commons, an aesthetic and ethical practice for a post-carbon “posthumanity”?

3:00 pm, Thursday, May 1, Olsen 53A



Adrian Ivakhiv is Professor of Environmental Thought and Culture at the University of Vermont. His books include *Ecologies of the Moving Image: Cinema, Affect, Nature* (2013) and *Claiming Sacred Ground: Pilgrims and Politics at Glastonbury and Sedona* (2001). He blogs at *Immanence: Ecoculture, Geophilosophy, Mediapolitics*.

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