

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

On

VISUAL CULTURES IN CONTEXTS: AFFECT, SUBVERSION AND RESISTANCE

Department of Media Studies, CHRIST deemed to be UNIVERSITY

19 & 20 February 2020

Contemporary approaches to visual cultural practices has turned out to be a much debated, contested and conflicting terrain as their ramifications are too vivid that incorporate digressive and derivative modalities of locales, regions, spaces, sub-spaces and other niches of many micro-histories. In this context, contemporary visual cultural studies have a whole gamut of deliberations on cultural spaces/ places/practices/expressions/extinctions/delineations, which day by day urge us to rethink a set of standard of cultural collocations. Visual cultures, therefore, are products of certain sense of legitimization and control – that is, something that is recognized through a sense of making the idea of ‘vision’ a monolithic entity. At the same time, the deep rooted divisions – both geographically and politically constituted, have created these visual cultures a product of doubts, suspicions and something that constantly offers a critique of identities and other related discourses. How then can one contextualize and theorize visual cultures? What can be the probable parameters by which one can look at the varied and dissipated modes of visual cultures? Upon what grounds can one situate the aesthetics of visuality and challenge certain hegemonic notions of culture? How does this visual culture differ from other cultural practices and relations from across of the globe?

The proposed conference on Visual Cultures fundamentally will try to open up a set of discourses connected to levels and platforms of visuality in tandem with the recent debates of visual cultures. People increasingly confront a number of visual modes as the contemporary times try to situate a set of particular visual culture to the fore in connection with art, religion, ritual, politics, film and mass media. However, a number of other visual fields connected to ethnography, anthropology, narratives, environment, ecology, academia, technology, cyber world, music and sub-sections of the peripheral, in such a context, are definitely occluded. It is the aim of this conference to reconfigure the textures and visualities of such cultures – in other words, those that go ‘invisible’ from the dominant representation of the visible spaces. More than creating a set of binaries to constitute one particular methodology of practices, spaces, expressions and approaches, this conference will open up its platform for the ways and methods of developing the counter-currents/discourses of the hegemonic and the privileged/authentic/legitimized. The past and present history of hermeneutics of visual cultures constitute our imagination and everyday life in ways which are neither fully neutral nor solely technical, but as suggested by Arjun Appadurai “shot through with affect and sensation”. Affect seems to be one of the most important philosophical and theoretical dimensions of visual in life in South Asia as it is inextricably blended with ideas, desire, paradigms, expressions and systemic production of ideas. However, in close relation to this, there are problems deeply connected to interpretation as some of these issues challenge the level of perceiving the visual cultures time and again. It is immensely significant to explore the complex and conflictual terrain of visuality, vision, visual cultures and visibility in our time. The proposed conference envisages to theorize and problematize the domains of seeing, subjectivity and desire.

As contemporary visual cultures operate across numerous levels and layers, inviting response from people from all disciplines, professions and vocations, this conference will be inclusively interdisciplinary in nature and will open space for a dialogue and wrestle with questions that cross the boundaries of the intellectual, emotional and personal.

Proposals are invited for presentations, papers, panels and performances. Some of the major suggestive areas we look forward are the following:

- Cinema and Visual Cultures
- History of moving images
- Bollywood and regional cinemas
- Performing arts in South Asia.
- Visualizing Border crossings, Diaspora and transnationalism
- Urban space, Metro images, City
- Visual Cultures and South Asian Aboriginal/native/Dalit survival-identity
- Sexuality, Gender and body in South Asia
- Museums and archiving
- Media/Popular culture/mass mediational Studies and approaches
- Visual Cultures of Domination, Political Intervention and Military
- Cartography, Geography and Nation/state
- Politics/Practice of political subjectivity
- South Asian Expressions in the Cyber Age
- Visuality and Jurisprudence, penal and legal systems
- Religion/ Festivals/rituals
- Theater, Philosophy of performance and stage
- Dance, choreography, dance histories.
- Village, images, narratives and visual cultures.



Keynote Speaker: Laura Mulvey

Renowned film theorist and Feminist, Laura Mulvey is currently the Professor of film and media studies at Birkbeck, University of London. Prof. Mulvey was the Mary Cornille Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Humanities at Wellesley College in 2008 and she has three honorary doctoral degrees: Doctor of Letters from the University of East Anglia; Doctor of Law from Concordia University; Doctor of Literature from University College Dublin. She has been with the British Film Institute for many years. Widely acknowledged for her theory of 'Male gaze' and the essay entitled "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema" Prof. Mulvey is a seminal figure in the realm of psychoanalytic film theory with Jean-Louis Baudry and Christian Metz. She is well known for her avant-garde films co-wrote and co-directed with Peter Wollen such as *Penthesilea: Queen of the Amazons* (1974), *Riddles of the Sphinx* (1977), *AMY!* (1980), *Crystal Gazing* (1982), *Frida Kahlo and Tina Modotti* (1982), and *The Bad Sister* (1982).

Registration details of Visual Cultures in Contexts Conference 2020

Special features:

- Plenary sessions, Panel discussions and Workshops
- Scholars from across the country
- Student-friendly environment to receive feedback on your work
- Opportunity to network with industry and professionals

Abstract Submission

Submit Abstract in 250 words, together with a brief biographical note. The abstract file should be named in the following format "Name of the author _ Abstract". Presenters are allowed to submit more than one abstract but only one will be selected for final presentation. Abstracts with late submission/ incomplete registration form/ absence of registration form will not be accepted.

Submit abstracts to conference@cpraxis.org and mulvey.conference@christ.in

Full Paper Submission Guidelines

Maximum word limit: 5000 words formatted in APA/MLA style sheet (Recent edition). Full papers that do not follow the format shall be rejected. Plagiarized and unacknowledged copyrighted information shall not be accepted. Previously published work should not be submitted. The file should be sent in the following format. "Paper Code (given by us) _Name of the Author"

Publication

The selected papers of the seminar will be published.

Important Dates

Abstracts Invitation: 15 September 2019

Submission of Abstract: 20 December 2019

Confirmation of Abstract: Within 7 working days

Full Papers: 30 January 2020

Conference Fee for paper presenters and participants

Academics and professional from India: INR 3000

Research Scholars: INR 2000

Participating Students: INR 500

Overseas Presenters: USD 100

Submit abstracts to <conference@cpracsis.org> and to the conference link in the Christ University Website <christuniversity.in>

Accommodation Details (on first come first serve basis)

- Accommodation will be made available either within or around the campus.
- Details about the number of male and female participants, accompanying faculty members, the number of days and contact details must be provided.
- Accommodation will be given on a first-come-first-serve basis. Early confirmation will be appreciated.

Cost for Accommodation (Per Person per Night)

Single room: INR 1000

Twin-share: INR 800

4-6 Share: INR 300

The payment may be sent in the form of Demand Draft addressed to Christ University, Bengaluru.

As an alternative, net banking is available. If you prefer to use this option, these are the bank details required in order to complete the payment.

DETAILS OF BANK ACCOUNT	
NAME OF THE INSTITUTION	CHRIST UNIVERSITY
NAME OF THE BANK	THE SOUTH INDIAN BANK LTD.
BRANCH	CHRIST UNIVERSITY BRANCH
ADDRESS	CHRIST UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, HOSUR ROAD, BANGLORE - 560029
TYPE OF ACCOUNT	SAVINGS
ACCOUNT NUMBER	396053000015000
MICR CODE	560059010
IFSC	SIBL0000396
SWIFT CODE	SOININ55

Conference Co-ordinators:

Dr. Biju K.C., Head, Department of Meida Studies, Christ University, Bangaluru

Dr.C.S.Biju, Director, Center for Performance Reseach and Cultural Studies in South Asia

CHRIST Deemed to be University

CHRIST(Deemed to be University), formerly Christ College (Autonomous), was born out of the educational vision of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara, an educationalist and a social reformer of the nineteenth century. He founded the first indigenous congregation, Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI). Established in July 1969, Christ College became the most preferred educational institution in the city of Bengaluru within the first three decades. From 1990, it initiated path breaking reforms in higher education with the introduction of innovative and modern curricula, insistence on academic discipline, imparting of Holistic Education through the support of creative and dedicated staff. Today Christ University is rated among the top ten educational institutions of the country. The UGC conferred Autonomy to Christ College (No. F.13-1/2004) on 7 October 2004 and identified it as an Institution with Potential for Excellence in 2006. On 22 July, 2008 under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, the Ministry of Human Resources Development of the Union Government of India, vide Notification No. F. 9-34/2007-U.3 (A), declared it as Deemed to be University, in the name and style of CHRIST. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) awarded the grade A+, which is one of the highest according to their grading system.

CPRACCSIS

The Centre for Performance Research and Cultural Studies in South Asia [C PRACCSIS /si:praksiz/, cpracsis.org] is a non-profit organization dedicated to research and innovations in visual media, culture and performance, located in India, and supported by an international academic community. Promotion of academic understanding and research cooperation among researchers, scholars and professionals in the Social Sciences, Visual Cultural Studies, Performance Studies and Visual Arts is one of the most spectacular features of this initiative.

CPRACCSIS Conferences

CPRACCSIS academic conferences are designed as a seminal intellectual activity which brings together academics, researchers and practitioners in a wide variety of disciplines and transdisciplines such as performance, visual culture, media, philosophy, technology, art and cultural studies. The annual international conference programme was launched in 2008 and the conferences feature renowned academics and intellectuals as speakers. For details of previous conferences, visit <http://cpracsis.org/conf.php>

Department of Media Studies

The Department of Media Studies has a rich history dating back to the year 1991, when it was founded. With more than 28 years of standing in Media Education, the Department of Media Studies at CHRIST has continued to be ranked as one of the top schools of mass communication in the country. With a vision to create an open and collaborative environment that embraces innovation and integrity in media education, the Department ensures that students attain academic excellence and holistic development. The department offers BA in Media and Communication (CEP), BA in Journalism (JPE), MA in Media and Communication Studies (with specialization options in Multimedia Journalism, and Advertising and Corporate Communications), M.Phil and PhD in Media and Communication Studies. With a team of qualified and motivated faculty, the Department works towards producing professionally competent, socially sensitive and ethically rigorous media practitioners.