

Critical Cinema Lab, Aalto University (Masters course)

19 October 2020

10h00-12h00 (Finnish time)

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<https://www.gu.se/en/about/find-staff/jyotimistry>

Experimental Modes in Film Practice

Experiments with the medium of film is congruous with the history of cinema itself but cinematic conventions are firmly entrenched through certain forms of story, narrative structures and character archetypes. Furthermore, these conventions are ideologically grounded and have affirmed political, social and cultural stereotypes that have not been rigorously interrogated because they have too often been taught, discussed and positioned as “universalisms” that are outside of the political criticism of how these universalisms have historically been constructed.

This seminar uses as the starting point, the proposition of artistic research as a mode of enquiry in film that allows for experiments with cinematic forms and structures. I will draw strategically from both my own practice that is anchored in an exploration of political identities to show how alternative forms in cinema may come closer to experiences of race, gender and sexuality rather than representational politics of film. Practice in film is at the centre of this seminar and, invites students to consider how experimentation can be developed towards working with the all aspects of film art and its craft.

The readings offer an entry into some ideas of how aesthetic practices are connected to ethical concerns of representations and discussions on the intersectional aspects of identity.

Readings:

Places of Play (Jyoti Mistry, 2017)

https://www.ahk.nl/fileadmin/download/ahk/Lectoraten/AIR/ISSUU_places_to_play_ZICHT.pdf

Decolonial options and artistic/aestheSic entanglements: An interview with Walter Mignolo
by: Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto)

in: ***Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society***, Vol. 3, No. 1, 2014, pp. 196-212

Speaking Nearby: A conversation with Trinh T. Minh-ha

by: Nancy N. Chen

in: *Visual Anthropology Review* Volume 8 Number 1 Spring 1992

- PLEASE NOTE: students are expected to have done the readings in preparation for the seminar meeting.