**Pre-assignments for 11/1/2024**

1) Please view the beginning of *The Ister*(2004), a film directed by David Barison and Daniel Ross, for which I have provided the links below.

It’s a long film (3 hrs 9mins) and I have included links for the whole film in two separate files/links.

You are welcome to watch the whole film, but **at least watch the first hour and 14 mins** **of** ***The Ister Part 1***(until 1:13:43 when you see the title: “2. Here we wish to build”). It’s a good idea to take notes of things that you find interesting or puzzling. It will help in the discussion. (And please do not share the link beyond this class.)

The Ister Part 1:

<https://aalto.cloud.panopto.eu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=d9a546f6-3eb9-418a-884d-acaa007056b0>

The Ister Part 2:

<https://aalto.cloud.panopto.eu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=5deb1422-7bc0-48b0-a1b6-acaa0072c4ec>

2) Take a look at the two short texts attached – Jean Baudrillard’s “Why Theory” and the recent opinions article from New York Times on AI and photography. The texts (and the film) will serve as prompts for us in our discussion next week about photography theory, what it is, and possible ways to approach it.

3) Take a moment to think about what “photography theory” means **to you**and **initial ideas** about what you would like to focus on in this course. You do not need to prepare any presentation about this, but just be ready to mention your initial views and hopes in the introductory round and discussion.