



November 28-30

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... geophilosophy, geopolitics, geoaesthetics, geomedia, geoculture ...

The development of new conceptual formations and cultural practices articulated with, by or through the prefix 'geo-' suggests a shift in the location or function of 'the Earth' in contemporary knowledge.

What status is accorded the Earth, for instance, in debates over the emergence of the 'anthropocene' as a (contested) geological epoch? Does the rising interest in 'geophilosophy' or 'geoaesthetics' signal a displacement of the worldly or the global in favour of the earthly? Is there a place in 'the earth sciences' for philosophical thought and cultural practice?

Or again: what role do geomeditation processes (mapping, climate modelling, geoimaging, GPS navigation systems) play in the construction of the Earth as site, object or producer of knowledge? Do the technical and communicative potentials of geocoding and geolocation necessitate a reimagining of the interplay between the virtual and the physical, the ideal and the material? More generally still, how might reflection on media, technology and communication develop to address conditions and effects of the geophysical as much as the geopolitical kind?

Ctrl-Z's geo- is a 2-and-a-half day symposium (Nov 28-30), bringing together a select number of established and emerging scholars who are, in different ways, leading reflection on the significance or the problem of the Earth for understanding posthumanity, culture and technology. In its explorations of the cultural and conceptual dimensions to our planetary condition, *geo-* will test the capacity for humanities-based inquiry to stake a place within not only ecology and environmentalism, but perhaps also within the earth sciences more generally.

geo- is organised by Robert Briggs, Matthew Chrulew, Janice Baker and Francis Russell. Proceedings of the event will appear as a special issue of *Ctrl-Z: New Media Philosophy* scheduled for publication in 2017.

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www.ctrl-z.net.au/events/latest/geo/

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Nigel Clark is Chair of Social Sustainability at the Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University. He is the author of *Inhuman Nature: Sociable Life on a Dynamic Planet* (2011) and co-editor of *Material Geographies* (2008) and *Extending Hospitality* (2009). His current research interests include the Anthropocene, pyrotechnology and the politics of strata.

Sean Cubitt is Professor of Film and Television at Goldsmiths University of London. He is author of [Finite Media: Environmental Implications of Digital Technologies](#) (2016) and co-editor of [Ecomedia: Key Issues](#) (2016), in addition to almost a dozen monographs and edited collections in the fields of digital media, art and culture.

Thom van Dooren is Senior Lecturer in the School of Humanities & Languages at University of New South Wales, and Founding co-editor of the international open-access journal [Environmental Humanities](#). He is author of *Flight Ways: Life and Loss at the Edge of Extinction* (Columbia UP, 2014) and *Vulture* (Reaktion, 2012). His current work is rooted in an approach that draws the humanities into conversation with ecology, biology, ethology and ethnographic work with communities whose lives are entangled with disappearing species in a range of different ways.

Matthew Kearnes is an ARC Future Fellow and member of the [Environmental Humanities](#) group, in the School of Humanities & Languages at University of New South Wales. He is co-editor, with Jason Chilvers, of *Remaking Participation: Science, Environment and Emergent Publics* (Routledge, 2016), and his current work is focused on the social and political dimensions of nanotechnology and synthetic biology, climate change and society, and the social and political dimensions of climate modification and geoengineering.

Peta Mitchell is Vice Chancellor's Research Fellow in the Creative Industries Faculty and Chief Investigator in Queensland University of Technology's [Digital Media Research Centre](#). She is author of two major works on metaphor—[Cartographic Strategies of Postmodernity](#) (Routledge, 2008) and [Contagious Metaphor](#) (Continuum, 2012)—and numerous publications spanning media and cultural studies, literary studies, cultural geography, and human-computer interaction. She is also co-founder of the [Cultural Atlas of Australia](#), which explores Australian locations as they are represented in and through films, novels, and plays, and co-author of the related book [Imagined Landscapes: Geovisualizing Australian Spatial Narratives](#) (Indiana UP, 2016).

Stephen Muecke is Professor of Ethnography at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, where he is part of the [Environmental Humanities](#) programme. He has written extensively on Indigenous Australia, especially in the Kimberley, and on the Indian Ocean. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and a Faculty member, Global Center for Advanced Studies, Switzerland. He is the author, editor or translator of 19 books, and 31 refereed articles since 2000.

Chris Russill is Associate Professor in the School of Journalism and Communication at Carleton University (Canada), and editor of [Earth-Observing Media](#) (2013), a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Communication*. His research focuses on how we observe, know, and govern imperceptible environmental processes through media that register, record, and process otherwise undetectable environmental changes.

Isabelle Stengers Professor of philosophy at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. She is trained as a chemist and philosopher, and has authored and co-authored many books on the philosophy of science. In 1993 she received the grand prize for philosophy from the Académie Française. She is the author of books on Chaos Theory, with Ilya Prigogine, the Russian-Belgian physical chemist and Nobel Laureate (*Order out of Chaos*, 1984; and *The End of Certainty: Time, Chaos and the New Laws of Nature*, 1987), and *A History of Chemistry* (with B. Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent, 1996). Other works translated into English include *Power and Invention* (1997), *The Invention of Modern Science* (2000), and more recently *Cosmopolitics I* (2009) and *Cosmopolitics II* (2010). Her most recent book, [In Catastrophic Times: Resisting the Coming Barbarism](#) (2015), is published as part of Open Humanities Press' Critical Climate Change series.

Etienne Turpin is a philosopher studying knowledge infrastructure, data, and their sociospatial consequences. He is a Research Scientist with the MIT Urban Risk Lab, where he coordinates the Humanitarian Infrastructures Group; he is also founding coordinator of the Urban Lab Network Asia, and founding director of [anexact office](#), his design research practice based in Jakarta, Indonesia. He is the editor of *Architecture in the Anthropocene* (Open Humanities Press, 2013) and co-editor of *Art in the Anthropocene* (Open Humanities Press, 2015), and *Jakarta: Architecture + Adaptation* (Universitas Indonesia Press, 2013).