

Dear all,

welcome to the workshop *Posthumanism: Challenges for the Humanities*, on the 25th of September 2015 from 13.15 to 16.45.

The workshop aims to discuss what Posthumanism is, how we understand and use it, what consequences it may have for different disciplines, research topics and for the Humanities in general.

The day will be arranged within the frames of the *Mind and Nature*-node at Uppsala University (<http://www.arkeologi.uu.se/Research/Projects/mind-nature/?languageId=1>) in collaboration with the *HumAnimal Group* at the Centre for gender research.

Participants will be prepared by reading Cary Wolfe, *What is Posthumanism?* Introduction (xi–xxxiv), Karen Barad, “Posthumanist Performativity” and (optional) short texts by Donna Haraway, Michel Serres and Stefan Herbrechter, specified below. The texts by Barad, Serres and Haraway are available in Swedish translations in Åsberg, Hultman & Lee (eds.), *Posthumanistiska nyckeltexter*. We also recommend the introductory chapters in *Posthumanistiska nyckeltexter*. Participants are encouraged to add relevant titles to the list of references.

The workshop will be followed by a *post-seminar with a book launch* where two recently published monographs will be launched.

Date: 25 September 2015

Time: 13.15–16.45. Post seminar with book launch 17.00–19.30

Place: Karin Westman-Berg room, Centre for Gender research, Botanical garden, Uppsala (or Engelska Parken 2K-1024).

Language: English and/or Swedish, depending on participants

Refreshments will be provided

For attendance please contact anna.samuelsson@gender.uu.se no later than the 4th of September. There will be a limited number of seats.

Program (a final version will be sent out before the workshop):

13.15-13.30 Coffee and Introduction

13.30-14.00 Key note, Manuela Rossini: What is posthumanism? Challenges beyond postmodernism

Break: Coffee and tea

14.30-16.00 Discussion/group discussions with reflections relating to the themes and questions below

- The concept posthumanism and different perspectives/approaches within the field.
- Disciplinarity and the (post)Humanities? Uses and consequences.
- What questions can be told through the lenses of posthumanism, a) in relation to current debates/discourses/paradigms in society and culture, and b) in relation to your specific research project(s)?

As part of this workshop we would finally like the participants to contribute to the list of Reference literature that relate to posthumanist theory and method (see below)

16-16.45 Joint discussion and concluding remarks.

17.00 Post-seminar and *Book launch*:

The afternoon ends with a post-seminar during which two recently published monographs will be launched, both written by researchers at Uppsala University: Tora Holmberg's *Urban Animals. Crowding into Zoocities*, and Ann-Sofie Lönngren's *Following the Animal. Power, Agency and Human-Animal Transformations in Modern, Northern European Literature*.

Welcome,

Anna Samuelsson

Mari Granath Lagercrantz

Literature (*=required reading)

Wolfe, Cary (2010) *What is posthumanism?* Minneapolis, Minn.: University of Minnesota Press (also available as digital resource), Introduction, xi–xxxiv (24 p)*

Barad, Karen (2003) "Posthumanist Performativity: Toward an Understanding of How Matter Comes to Matter". University of Chicago Press. (<http://humweb.ucsc.edu/feministstudies/faculty/barad/barad-posthumanist.pdf>.) Also available in Swedish translation in *Posthumanistiska nyckeltexter*.*

Haraway, Donna (2008) "Companion Species" In, *When Species Meet*, pp. 15-27. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. Also available in Swedish translation with comments by Cecilia Åsberg in *Posthumanistiska nyckeltexter*.

Herbrechter, Stefan, Introduction from *Posthumanism. A Critical Analysis* (electronically available. For an informative interview with H., see http://criticalposthumanism.net/?page_id=228).

Serres, Michel (2007) Theory of the Quasi-Object, in *The Parasite* . (http://dedale10.ocular-witness.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/20090811_serres_quasi_object1.pdf . Also available in Swedish translation with comments by Martin Hultman in *Posthumanistiska nyckeltexter*.

Reference literature

Bennett, Jane (2010) *Vibrant matter: a political ecology of things*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press (also available as digital resource)

Bolt, Barbara & Barrett, Estelle (eds.) (2012) *Carnal Knowledge: Towards a New Materialism through the Arts*. I.B. Tauris & Co. Ltd.

Braidotti, Rosi (2013) *The posthuman*. Cambridge: Polity (also available as digital resource)

Castree N, Nash C, Badmington N, Braun B, Murdoch J, Whatmore S (2004) "Mapping posthumanism: an exchange" *Environment and Planning A* **36**(8) 1341 – 1363

Chen, Cecilia, MacLeod, Janine & Neimanis, Astrida (eds.) (2013) *Thinking with Water*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press

Dirke, Karin (2014) "Vid sidan av det mänskliga. På jakt efter en posthumanistisk idéhistoria". I: *Upplysningskritik*, red. Anders Burman och Inga Sanner. Stockholm/Höör. Symposion Brutus Östlings bokförlag. Pp 205-220

Hultman, Martin (2015) *Den inställda omställningen: svensk energi- och miljöpolitik i möjligheternas tid 1980-1991*. Möklinta: Gidlund

Kirby, Vicki (1997) *Telling flesh: the substance of the corporeal*. New York: Routledge

Latour, Bruno (2004) "Why has Critique Run Out of Steam? From Matters of Fact to Matters of Concerns, *Critical Inquiry - Special issue on the Future of Critique*." Vol 30 n° 2 pp.25-248, Winter 2004

Roden, David (2015) *Posthuman life: philosophy at the edge of the human*.

Tuana, Nancy (2008) Viscous Porosity: Witnessing Katrina, Chap 6 in *Material Feminisms* edited by Stacy Alaimo and Susan Hekman.

Åsberg, Cecilia, Hultman, Martin & Lee, Francis (red.) (2012) *Posthumanistiska nyckeltexter*. 1. uppl. Lund: Studentlitteratur, with texts by Donna Haraway, Karen Barad, Rosi Braidotti, Michel Callon, Gilles Deleuze, Félix Guattari, Michel Serres och Annemarie Mol.

You might also want to have a look at publications by the Critical Posthumanism Network:

www.criticalposthumanism.net