CULTURES OF CAPITALISM

CULTURAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA 2017 CONFERENCE

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MASSEY UNIVERSITY

WELLINGTON

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The 2017 Cultural Studies Association of Australasia conference focusses on the work that cultures do in constructing, contesting, and constituting capitalism. We seek to critically examine the role of culture in both enabling and articulating new capitalist formations. While culture has been situated as the opiate through which economic dominance is propagated (for instance in the culture industries critique), new capitalist formations indicate the multiple and heterogeneous ways in which culture/s can mediate contemporary economic conditions. In doing so, we seek to return to one of the key concerns of early cultural studies: to make sense of the mutually-determining relation between culture and its capitalist context.

If, following Stuart Hall, we understand 'culture' as the production of meaning through language and representation, what are the modes of communication through which capitalism/s are created? How are capitalism/s materialised in different spaces? How is it embodied in different identities and communities? What is the role of economy in shaping the possibilities for culture? What is the role of Cultural Studies as critical praxis in the present economic time?

If you are interested in presenting at the conference, please send a 250 word abstract with your name, e-mail address and affiliation to csaa2017@massey.ac.nz by August 1 2017. Any other enquires regarding the event should also be addressed to csaa2017@massey.ac.nz.

Organising Committee:
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