

Dr Ania Krajewska

Senior Lecturer in the Department of Art and Music at University of South Africa

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Qualifications

- PhD in Art History (University of South Africa, 2014)

2010-2013 PhD studies in Art History at the University of South Africa.

Title of Thesis: *Bioculturalism, simulation and satire: the case of S1mOne.*

The study contributes to the idea that a cultural object/text operates as a rapid mechanism for propagation of cognition. Cognition is understood as that series of mental processes which include attention, memory, learning (through imitation as well as other forms), problem solving, ratiocination, and making decisions. Interpersonal and social propagation of cognition is achieved through references to other cultural artefacts recalling a variety of similar ideas used in film and other visual creations. When a film, artwork, poem, or novel is analysed, then such object becomes a *vehicle of* and *for* propagating cognition. In other words, making art and analysing it, evolves us.

- Master's degree in Fine Arts (University of Pretoria, 2001; Cum laude)

1998 – 2001 Master of Arts Degree in Fine Art at the University of Pretoria.

The title of the dissertation: *Icarus revalorized: popular cinematography interpreted as an opportunity for transformation.*

Publications (accredited)

- The science-fiction film *Gattaca* interpreted as an Icarian flight towards liberation. *De Arte* 73. 2006. pp.3-17.
- The Anthropocene Shifts in Visual Arts: A Case against Anthropocentrism. *De Arte* 52, Issue 2-3. 2017. Pp 29-53.

Projects and exhibitions

- *Transmigrations: Rituals and Items*. Traveling group exhibition. JHB Civic Gallery, 1999. Galleries in Los Angeles, Tijuana, Mexico City, Guadalajara and Oaxaca, Germany. 1999-2001.
- *Mediators* – solo exhibition. Market Theatre. 1998.
- *Ask the Audience* – (MA FA) solo exhibition. Millennium Gallery. 2000.
- Sasol New Signatures (1996, 1997, 1998).
- Ekurhuleni Art Exhibition (1999).
- Unisa Staff exhibition (2013 and 2016).

- Numerous adjudications for Sasol New Signatures.
- Art in Process: An Interdisciplinary Staff Exhibition (2019, Unisa Art Gallery) – *The Anthropocene Book of Trees and Fossils*.

Fields of specialisation:

- The Anthropocene and Ecocriticism
- Biocultural critique of art objects and texts
- Simulation and embodiment
- Systems of knowledge propagation
- Cinematography, video art and science fiction genre
- Cognitive turn in Humanities

Research interests

- Critical posthumanism
- Neuroscientific interpretations of cultural texts and objects
- Ecological feminisms
- Information, technology, and social media in artmaking
- Mythologies, narratives, and belief systems
- Speculative fiction

Professional positions, fellowships & awards

- Coordinator of Honours level for Visual Arts
- Member of SAVAH
- Member of the Unisa Gallery Board