

World of Change Conference

sponsored by department of communication

ALL that Melts into AiR Is Solid

1-3 OCTOBER 2025 (Wed.-Fri.)

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Email: Change-Conf-Madrid@slu.edu for info & program

-PROGRAM-

ALL THAT MELTS INTO AIR IS SOLID

MADRID. 1-3 OCTOBER 2025.

ALL that Melts into AiR Is Solid

RADHA S. HEGDE (NEW YORK UNIVERSITY):
“Aspiring Subjects and the Grammar of Globalization”

CAMERON MCCARTHY (UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS):
“Thinking Through Art and the Postcolonial Imagination in a World of Contradiction”

ANGHARAD N. VALDIVIA (UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS):
“Emilia Pérez: The Dystopic Dimensions of Aiming for a Utopian Space”

WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 5:45-7:15 PM:
-- San Ignacio Hall Auditorium --

Pre-conference featured panel:
“World of Change”

WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER

5:45-7:15 PM: Pre-Conference Featured Panel: “World.of.Change” (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium)

Panel Chair: Jack Z. Bratich (Rutgers University)

Radha S. Hegde (New York University): “Aspiring Subjects and the Grammar of Globalization”

Cameron McCarthy (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign):
“Thinking Through Art and the Postcolonial Imagination in a World of Contradiction”

Angharad N. Valdivia (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign): “*Emilia Pérez*: The Dystopic Dimensions of Aiming for a Utopian Space”

THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER

9:30-10:00 AM: Registration (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium Foyer)

10:00-10:15: Welcome to the Campus & the Event (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium): Rector William P. Johnson

10:15-11:15: Keynote address N°1 (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium)

Introduction: Brian Michael Goss (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus)

Christopher A. Chávez (University of Oregon): “Things Fall Apart: Business, Politics and the Dismantling of Public Media in the U.S.”

11:15-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30 AM-12:45 PM: Panel N°1: Technology & Disaster (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium)

Panel Chair: Javier Sauras (Saint Louis University—Madrid, Spain Campus)

Grant Burgess (University of Oregon): “Cultural Laundering: How AI music generators erase artists from their sampled work”

Ruth Palmer & Vincent Doyle (IE University, Spain): “Folk theories of journalistic authority on TikTok: Spanish citizens critique mainstream news coverage of 2024 Valencia floods”

Subin Paul (IE University, Spain): “Telling the Monsoon: Journalistic Vernaculars in Weather Reporting”

Reed Van Schenck (IE University, Spain): “Web Abolition”

12:45 PM-2:00 PM: Lunch Break (San Ignacio Hall cafeteria or nearby restaurants)

2:00-3:15: Panel N°2: Europe & Film (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium)

Panel Chair: Brian Michael Goss (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus)

Luis Cemillan Casis (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid): “The Cannibalistic Woman and her Metaphorical Power: Mediating Crisis in Contemporary Audiovisual Narratives”

Christopher Meir (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid) (co-authored with Eduard Cuelenaere, University of Ghent): “More Genre Films, but Less Cultural Diversity: Changes and Continuity in European Cinema During the Streaming Era”

Fernando Ramos Arenas (Universidad Complutense de Madrid / REBOOT project) (co-authored with Daniel Biltereyst, University of Ghent): “The Return of the Past: On the growing importance of film heritage for contemporary European film culture”

Rosana Vivar (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus): “Location, commemoration and social frameworks of memory in rural Galicia: The case of Festival de Cans”

3:15-3:30: Coffee Break

3:30-4:45: Panel N°3: Identities & the Officialdom of State (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium)

Panel Chair: Ruth Palmer (IE University, Spain)

Brian Michael Goss (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus): “Immigrant Song: Imagining the Nation in *Manual de Preparación de la Prueba de Conocimientos Constitucionales y Socioculturales de España (CCSE)* (Instituto Cervantes, 2025) and *Life in the United Kingdom* (Home Office, 2025)”

Neville Li (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus): “From monetary to moral bankruptcy: The end of an era for United States Agency for Global Media (USAGM) and Radio Free Asia (RFA) Cantonese”

Marcia P. Neeley (Arizona State University): “International Whiplash: Shifting Russia-Ukraine War Policies and the NATO-Ukraine Dilemma”

Javier Sauras (Saint Louis University—Madrid, Spain Campus): “*Granma*, tell us the story of Cuba's connection to the Internet”

FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER

10:00-11:00: Keynote address N°2 (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium)

Introduction: Brian Michael Goss (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus)

Jack Z. Bratich (Rutgers University): “Fascism as Neo-archaism: Manosphere as Mediated Fratriarchy”

11:00-11:15: Coffee Break

11:15 AM-12:30 PM: Panel N°4: Work, Neoliberalism & Extremism (San Ignacio Hall Auditorium)

Panel Chair: Christopher Meir (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)

Vander Casaqui (Universidade Paulista, São Paulo, Brazil & National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq, Brazil)): “Predictions of the Future, Concerns of the Present: Ideology and Imaginary in Ted Talk Narratives about the Future of Work”

Marcia A. Dawkins (Daniel J. Smith, PhD. Center for Creative Leadership): “Succession Stories: Navigating Real and Represented Crises in Leadership Transitions”

Anne Dewey (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus): “Innocents, Inflamed Politics, and Sorcerer’s Apprentices: The Rhetoric of Affect in Legal Textualism”

Bradley Mollmann (Saint Louis University--Madrid Campus) (co-author Michael Rodgers, University of Louisiana at Lafayette): “Witch Hunts, QAnon, and the Anatomy of Conspiratorial Thinking: A Comparative Study”

12:30 PM-2:00 PM: Lunch Break (San Ignacio Hall cafeteria or nearby restaurants)

2:00-3:15: Panel N°5-A: Maps & Territory (San Ignacio Hall 303)

Panel Chair: Simona Rentea (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus)

Olena Leipnik (Sam Houston State University): “Territorial, Temporal, and Narrative Mechanisms of Community Cohesion in the Digital Era”

Barah Mikail (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus): “Unsettling the Order: MENA at the Heart of Global Power Change?”

Deniz Özalpman (University of Vienna): “Reassessing Change in Media and Society Through Digital Humanism Approach”

Nour Yengui (CIS International School of Tunis): “Simulacra of the South, Spectacle of Defeat: The Lost Cause, the Stab-in-the-Back Myth, and the Rebranding of Historical Crisis”

2:00-3:15: Panel N°5-B: Youth, Activism & Sociality (San Ignacio Hall 306)

Panel Chair: Christopher A. Chávez (University of Oregon)

Victoria Balan (Erasmus University Rotterdam): “Representations of change: exploring digital activism in youth culture / campus life TV series”

Delia Dumitrica (Erasmus University Rotterdam): “Sharing, connecting, educating: How Instagram vernaculars are reconfiguring activism”

Isabel Ermida (University of Minho, Braga, Portugal): “Language Change and Teen Speech: Media Representations of Language Crisis”

Beatriz Jordá (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus & Carlos III University of Madrid) (co-authored with Manuel Goyanes (Carlos III University of Madrid)): “Filtering out the Opposition: How Cross-cutting Discussions Increase Unfriending Through Political Corrections and Insults in Spain and Germany”

3:15-3:30: Coffee Break

3:30-4:45: Panel N°6-A: Culture & Identity (San Ignacio Hall 303)

Panel Chair: Delia Dumitrica (Erasmus University Rotterdam)

Isabel Molina Guzmán (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign):

“#Blaxican and Contemporary Discourses of Ethnoracial Differences”

Clara Ng (University College London): Fugitive Forms: Black Experimental Autofiction and the Politics of Refusal

Josep Pedro (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid): “Black Music, Place and Identity in Austin, Texas: from Jim Crow to Gentrification”

Liesbeth Wiering (University of California, San Diego): “Positioning children in the Dutch Blackface debate”

3:30-4:45: Panel N°6-B: Representation On-Screen & Beyond (San Ignacio Hall 306)

Panel Chair: Rosana Vivar (Saint Louis University—Madrid Campus):

Beatriz Bartolomé Herrera (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid): “From Dinosaurs to Disney: Neoliberal Logics at London’s Natural History Museum”

Justine Pignato (University of Montreal): “Impact documentary: a new model of production and distribution for political documentary?”

Hongying Wang (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid): “Root or Route: Nostalgia and the Imagination of Identity among Chinese American Community”

Jing “Stella” Zhang (University of Oregon): “Disney’s Mulan: Reframing a Chinese Legend through Western Storytelling”