

Short Bio:

Reinaldo Sabgini is a filmmaker and lecturer at the Film and Audiovisual program at the Universidad del Magdalena, Colombia. He has studied anthropology at the University of Hamburg and film at the Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg and is active in film production in both Colombia and Germany. His most recently completed long film „Die Reise des Akkordeons“ explores the history of the use of this German instrument in Colombian folk music. Prof. Sabgini is an anthropologist and directs inter- and transdisciplinary team work that addresses with the social complexity associated with the ecological wealth and serious environmental damage found in Colombia. His main current project is "Lemuria," an audiovisual project on invisible contamination, which is in production in both Colombia and Germany. This semester he is in Germany filming European segments of Lemuria and is also working with WINS as a Visiting Scholar.

Abstract

Structured systematic study of environmental contexts and creative expression of human interpretations of these contexts, and of human relationships to them, has been a basic element of human consciousness for thousands, if not millions of years. It is the material with which cosmologies are constructed and the product of cosmological construction; both processes are shaped by and serving to shape the social institutions of societies. Today, the speed and complexity of global environmental change, brought about by industrialisation, globalisation and the digitalisation of daily life, has revolutionized, from Bangalore to Berlin, the social-institutional contexts within which this work of cosmological construction is carried out. The evolutionary basis of human thought raises the possibility that simply comprehending the implications of the Anthropocene will require the elaboration of new cosmological constructs and ways of thinking collectively. Combining approaches from experimental film with methodological insights from the post-normal science discourse, we are developing an interactive website that employs a dramaturgical narrative as the basis for structuring the presentation of underdetermined scientific information relating to selected Wicked Problems of the Anthropocene. In this way, we engage the methodological question of how strengths and limitations of experimental film and mainstream science, two basic elements of euro-descendent cosmology construction, can be navigated in harmony, to address the contemporary neurocognitive needs and capacities of the euro-descendent human population and those impacted by its choices and actions. The work is a contribution toward "Lemuria," an audiovisual project on invisible contamination, which is in production in both Colombia and Germany. "Lemuria" is an Epos concerning the invisible contamination caused by the deranged character of contemporary industrialization and its direct implications for human well-being. It is a musical and cinematographic realization of the fiction genre, based on our own reality, which proposes a new way of producing art using science and new technologies. The Seminar intervention will combine audio-visual presentations, lecture and dialogue.