

CYBER-MARXISM IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

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GREGORY HALL 319

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ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Nick Dyer-Witheford is Associate Professor and Associate Dean of the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at University of Western Ontario. He is author of *Cyber-Marx: Cycles and Circuits of*

Struggle in High-Technology Capitalism (University of Illinois, 1999), and co-author, with Stephen Kline and Greig de Peuter of *Digital Play: The Interaction of Technology, Culture, and Marketing* (McGill-Queen's, 2003), and with Greig de Peuter of *Games of Empire: Global Capitalism and Video Games* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009).

ABOUT THE LECTURE:

Capital today faces an equality problem (the 1% versus the 99%), an ecology problem (chaotic climate change) and an entity problem (the emergence via AI, bio- and nano-tech of new forms of life). These three problems are interrelated. Digital information is implicated in all of them, but especially in the third.

Cyber-Marxism analyzes how informational capitalism in its relentless search for surplus value is reworking the very foundations of human species-being; how this process is refracted by class division of the planet factory; and how the resulting contradictions and conflicts open both towards unprecedented catastrophes and towards new possibilities of social organization.