

THE ANTHROPOCENE: ARCHITECTURE, CITIES, POLITICS, LAW, AS GEOLOGICAL AGENTS

FABE / SSH Panel Discussion
25 November 2014, 5 – 7pm
+ drinks reception
Venue: Fyvie Hall, Regent Street

The Anthropocene has been posited as a new geologic epoch, defined by unprecedented human disturbance of the earth's ecosystems. Buildings and cities, politics and law come into view as geological agents mobilising earth materials, minerals and energies, with unintended consequences. Recent philosophical tendencies, including new materialism, realist ontologies, object orientated ontologies and post-humanist theories try to come to terms with the new reality: they argue that geology, anthropology, nature and culture, animate and inanimate earth systems can no longer be seen as categorically distinct. For some, this signals the final enclosure of politics and culture within ecology; for others it calls for more planning and management; for others, the unitary human of the anthropocene hides political difference and elevates a particular kind of consumer into a motor of history.

In this, the first of a series of panel discussions between FABE and SSH aiming to open up novel and trans-disciplinary conversations between scholars in different fields working on matters of common concern, these issues will be debated.

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Chair: Roland Dannreuther, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Humanities

PANEL MEMBERS

FABE

Jon Goodbun, Senior Lecturer in Architecture
Some Notes on the Anthropocene

Tony Lloyd Jones, Reader in International Planning and Sustainable Development
The Anthropocene: An Urban Question?

SSH

Lucy Bond, Lecturer in English Literature
Memory and the Anthropocene

David Chandler, Professor of International Relations
Posthuman and the Anthropocene

Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos, Professor of Law and Theory
Responsibility and the Anthropocene

Discussant: Lindsay Bremner, Professor of Architecture and Director of Architectural Research