Liverpool Film Seminar
2010 – 2011 series

Every year, Liverpool Film Seminar invites experts to deliver a series of talks. Topics vary greatly and the series does not focus on a specific aspect of film. Instead, a range of genres and approaches are celebrated, from historical reach to the internet’s impact on cinematic material.

Professor Sean Cubitt
(University of Southampton, Winchester School of Art)

Order, coherence, codecs and vectors: Time in the moving image

This seminar looks at the central ways that time enters the moving image: succession, scan, latency and vector prediction. It argues that contemporary chip design has opened up an extraordinary new mode of time inside the individual frame, from capture to release. At the same time however, the compression-decompression algorithms used universally in storage and transmission betraying the most fundamental tool of the potential liberation of time, the vector, by using it as a means to control the effervescence of the new temporality. The paper includes clips from a number of digital videos and feature films which work at the dialectical edge between these struggles over the meaning and nature of system and structure, field and frame.

Biography:

Sean Cubitt is Professor of Global Media and Communication and director of the Research Centre in Global Art and Culture at Winchester School of Art (University of Southampton).

He is an editor of *Cultural Politics* and serves on the editorial boards of a dozen journals including *Screen, Third Text, Visual Communication, Futures* and *The International Journal of Cultural Studies.*