

# Liverpool Film Seminar

2010 – 2011 series

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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).

His publications include *Timeshift: On Video Culture* (Comedia/Routledge, 1991), *Videography: Video Media as Art and Culture* (Macmillans/St Martins Press, 1993), *Digital Aesthetics* (Theory, Culture and Society/Sage, 1998), *Simulation and Social Theory* (Theory, Culture and Society/ Sage, 2001), *The Cinema Effect* (MIT Press, 2004) and *EcoMedia* (Rodopi, 2005). He was the coeditor of *Aliens R Us: Postcolonial Science Fiction* with Ziauddin Sardar (Pluto Press 2002) and *The Third Text Reader* with Rasheed Araeen and Ziauddin Sardar (Athlone/Continuum 2002) and *How to Study the Event Film: The Lord of the Rings* (Manchester University Press, 2008).

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*.