Workshop with Professor Cecilia Asberg, Linköping University

- Mapping Posthumanities Across Feminist Arts and Sciences

On Thursday the 30th of October 2025, Professor Cecilia Åsberg will hold a workshop for PhD-students and early-career researchers at the Department of Theory of Science, Gothenburg University.

Cecilia Åsberg is Professor in Gender Studies (and chair of Gender, Nature, Culture) at Linköping University and its interdisciplinary TEMA department. Her thing is bringing art and science to the *very* interdisciplinary humanities, and transformative insights to people. She has pioneered gender studies and relational posthumanism, environmental humanities, and posthumanities in practice in Sweden from her starting points in STS, cultural studies, and feminist new materialist philosophy. Åsberg is the founder and director of the research group The Posthumanities HUB since 2008, and 2013-2017 she was the founding director of the Seed Box, the Swedish national Environmental Humanities research programme (MISTRA-FORMAS). Presently Åsberg co-researches how we are eating the world (Formas Explore); multispecies oceans and coasts, technoecologies of AI (VR); cultures of waste and waste futures (Oxford UP); ecological grief (FORMAS) and forests in the crisis imaginaries of public science.

The theme of the workshop is intentionally broad to accommodate for the diverse research interests of PhD-students/early-career researchers from different departments. In the workshop, we map fields of research that are moving us in critical posthumanist and feminist relational directions, such as STS, cultural studies, gender studies, critical ocean studies, multispecies and environmental humanities. We do this in order to situate knowledges, and to create our own itineraries and historiographies of previous research that enables the work we do today. Åsberg will present bodies of research, foremothers and ancestors to the feminist posthumanities that she puts to practice, and invite you to map your own critical and co-creative cartographies across disciplines.

Register by sending an e-mail to allan.lidstrom@gu.se. The workshop is free, and it is open to anyone who is a PhD-student or early-career researcher with an interest in Science and Technology Studies (STS). As spaces are limited, you are however required to register to be able to attend.

On Friday the 31st of October Åsberg will give an additional open talk for the joint GU/Chalmers STS seminar series (VäSTS):

Storying exposure and feminist posthumanities

In an all too humanized world, environmental storytelling finds itself in desperate times but also in times of opportunity. In this talk I weave together feminist science studies, posthumanities, and environmental storytelling in a way that foregrounds the ethical, ontological and epistemological stakes of narrative itself. It matters what stories tell stories, stated Marilyn Strathern (1992:10), a feminist anthropologist of science already in the 1990s.

Building on that embrace of storytelling, Donna J Haraway (2016 a:12), famously continued: "It matters what matters we use to think other matters with; it matters what stories we tell to tell other stories with; it matters /.../, what thoughts think thoughts, what descriptions describe descriptions [...]. It matters what stories make worlds; what worlds make stories." Put simply, wording is a conduit of worlding. Listening in to the multispecies, cyborgian, artistic and scientific choirs of today's world appear key, and to contribute gently. In this very interdisciplinary scenario, all kinds of story-telling matters. From various perspectives to responsive posthumanities that I bring together in this talk, I wish here to give some theoretical and empirical examples of the practices I have come to term storying exposure. It resonates with Haraway's call to "stay with the trouble", and with the idea that storytelling is not just representational but performative and relational. Storying exposure suggests a practice of making visible—perhaps even vulnerable—the entanglements, injustices, and possibilities that emerge when we listen across disciplinary, species, and humanist boundaries.

Time and location: The workshop will be held in room C201A on the 30th of October at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Gothenburg. Coffee will be served from 8.30 so that we have time to gather and get to know each other and the seminar will start at 9.00 and end at 12.00. For those who wish to join we then go for lunch together. The seminar on the following day (Friday 31st of October) will be held in room C312 between 13.15 and 15.00. As Åsberg will be here in person, these events will not be available online.

Welcome,

The GU Chalmers STS Seminar Committee