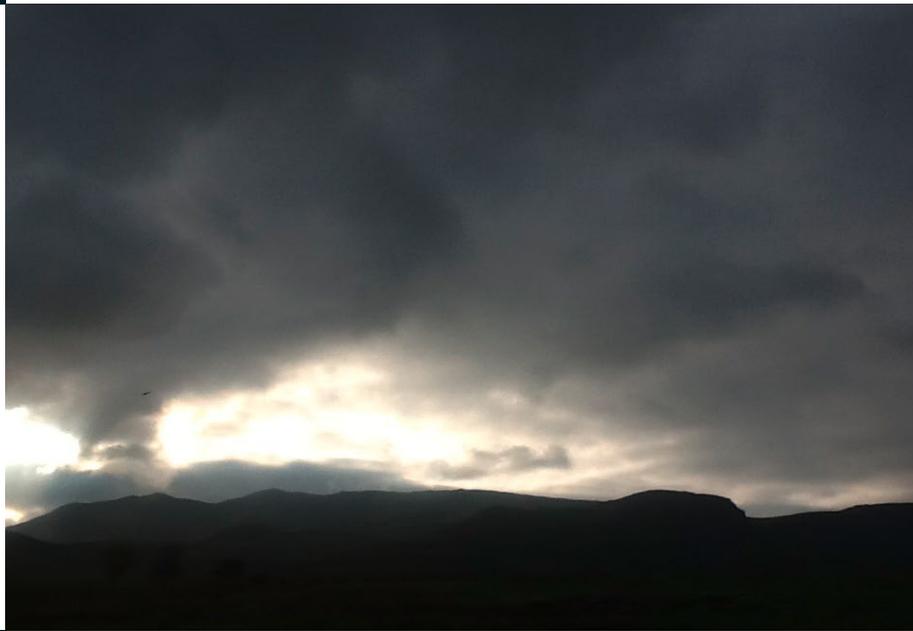


# *Problematising reality — Encounters between art and philosophy 2023–2024*



The seminar confronts materials that have always been around but which accrue new significances. These are materials bound into new technological environments – ones shaped by and in relation to cloud computing, touchscreens, CGI animation, Networks of Things, sub-perceptual visualising systems. Between these matters and these technologies is the human, but that is a fantasy – the human is shot through – made of and with – these matters and these technologies. In the context of the matter, from which emanates ideological and poetic significance, and the technologies, which are also idealist constructions,

it is possible to produce an environment in which political aesthetics can seize the stage in the interests of critical analysis, unlike the hostile that seeps across the world, a toxically political atmosphere. The sessions range across substances or matter and their uses, histories, representations, in order to produce an understanding of the digitally saturated presence. The substances are fog, froth, foam, liquid crystal, touchscreen glass, and we may consider the history and genealogy of the device.

Seminar:

**Esther Leslie**

## **TURBID MEDIA**

**19.–21.06.2024**

**11h–13h, 14h–17h**

Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian  
Sala 3, Zona de Congressos  
Av. de Berna, 45 A  
1067-001 Lisbon

Registration is free but limited to the number of seats available. Please send an email with a short CV to [info@problematisingreality.com](mailto:info@problematisingreality.com) by 12.06.2024. Confirmation of registration will be sent by email. The seminar will be in English.

For further information, please contact:

**Tel + 351 21 352 11 55**

[info@problematisingreality.com](mailto:info@problematisingreality.com)

[www.problematisingreality.com](http://www.problematisingreality.com)

[www.facebook.com/ProblematisingReality](https://www.facebook.com/ProblematisingReality)

**Esther Leslie** is Professor of Political Aesthetics at Birkbeck, University of London. Her books include various studies of Walter Benjamin, *The Rise and Fall of Imperial Chemical Industries: Synthetics, Sensism and the Environment* (2023); *Liquid Crystals: The Science and Art of a Fluid Form* (2016); *Derelicts* (2014); *Synthetic Worlds: Nature, Art and the Chemical Industry* (2005) and *Hollywood Flatlands: Animation, Critical Theory and the Avant Garde* (2002). Work on the biopolitical economy of dairy, with Melanie Jackson, includes *Deeper in the Pyramid* (2018/2023). A study of anti-fascist radio pioneer Ernst Schoen (written with Sam Dolbear) appeared in 2023, titled *Dissonant Waves: Ernst Schoen and Experimental Sound in the Twentieth Century*.

Partnership:



Support: