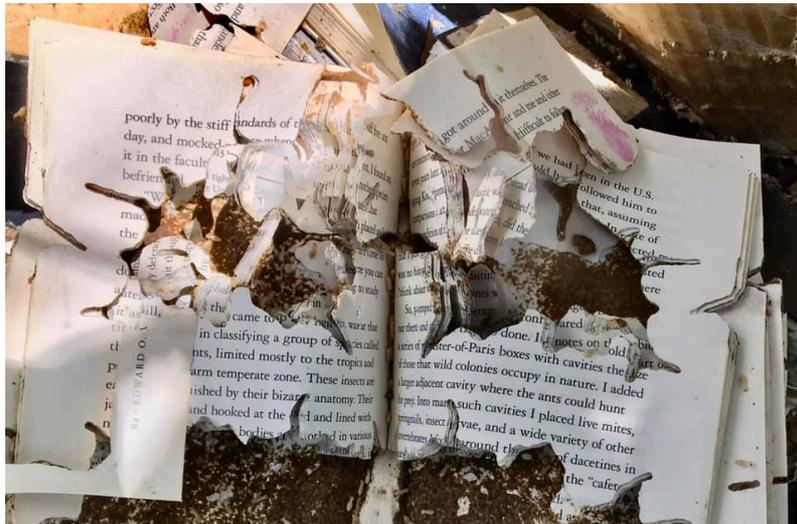


*“The word Creativity expresses the notion that each event is a process issuing in novelty”.*  
(Whitehead, 1933/1967, p. 236).



**Posthuman Creativities Reading Group**  
**Creative Agency (Bldg 6, Level 4, office 04) –**

**or in the meantime on TEAMS MTG**

**Every other MONDAY, 4-6pm, beginning May 18 2020**

**Co-organised by David Rousell, Anne Harris, Kelly Chan, and Julia Vagg**

This fortnightly reading group will be an adventure into posthumanist and non-anthropocentric conceptions of creativity. Readings will focus on works in process philosophy, affect studies, and the posthumanities which engage creativity within more-than-human worlds of experience. The work of Alfred North Whitehead (1861-1947) provides a significant entry point for this reading group. For Whitehead, creativity is not a particular quality of human being or consciousness but a principle of novelty that animates all events, experiences, feelings, and relations. Nearly a century later, Whitehead’s speculative conception of creativity retains a prescient relevance for posthumanist engagements with multi-species agency, artificial intelligence, ecological thinking, and the transformative potentials of the arts, design, education, and activism.

Along with readings that engage creativity through a Whiteheadian orientation, the group will explore further implications and entanglements of creativity in the works of 20<sup>th</sup> century and contemporary posthumanist thinkers, considering the works of Henri Bergson (1911); Suzanne Langer (1954), Deleuze and Guattari (1987; 1994), Rosi Braidotti (2013; 2019), Brian Massumi (2011; 2019), Erin Manning (2013; 2016), and Isabelle Stengers (2011). We invite postgraduate students, researchers, and creative practitioners from across Creative Agency, the university and beyond, to join us on Microsoft Teams. The initial reading list is below, and PDF’s of each week’s reading will be circulated via email. The list is also subject to change according to the collective “appetition” of the group as it takes shape over the coming months. We look forward to seeing you here! For questions, contact [Anne.Harris@mit.edu.au](mailto:Anne.Harris@mit.edu.au)

## Reading List

Week 1: Massumi, B. (2011). *Semblance and Event: Activist Philosophy and the Occurrent Arts* (Introduction, pp. 1-28). Cambridge: MIT Press.

Week 2: Manning, E. (2013). *Always more than one: Individuation's dance* ("Coda: Another Regard", pp. 204-221).

Week 3: Whitehead, A.N. (1967). *Adventures of Ideas*. ("Objects and subjects", pp. 175-190). New York: The Free Press.

Week 4: Stengers, I. (2011). *Thinking with Whitehead: A Free and Wild Creation of Concepts*. ("Thinking under the constraints of creativity", pp. 254-276). Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Week 5: Deleuze, G., & Guattari, F. (1994). *What is philosophy?* ("Percept, affect, and concept," pp. 163-199). New York: Columbia University Press.

Week 6: Langer, S. (1954). *Feeling and Form: A theory of art*. ("Semblance", pp. 45-68). New York: Scribener's.

Week 7: Braidotti, R. (2019). *Posthuman knowledge*. ("Posthuman knowledge production", pp. 75-100). Cambridge: Polity.

Week 8: Bergson, H. (1911/1998). *Creative Evolution*. New York: Dover.