

Department Talk

The Department of HSS is pleased to host a talk on 4 April (Thursday) and a film screening followed by a discussion on 5 April (Friday) by Professor Satish Poduval (The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad).

Please find the talk and film screening/discussion details below:

Talk Title - **Vectors of Disruption: Digital Archives and Neoliberal Subjectivity**
Speaker: **Prof Satish Poduval** (Professor, Department of Cultural Studies, The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad)
Date: **4 April 2019 (Thursday)**
Venue: **L-8, LHC**
Time: **3 P.M.**

Film screening and discussion:

Film: ***Cache*** (French), dir. Michael Haneke (2006)
Date: **5 April 2019 (Friday)**
Venue: **L-8, LHC**
Time: **3:30 P.M.**

Abstract: Today an archive is not merely viewed as an official repository of documents about the past; it is also understood as actively creating new ways of thinking about how we access our individual and collective experiences. The sites for the preservation and activation of historical memory have undergone a foundational shift in recent years. This is in equal measure due to (i) the tendencies of intensification *and* dispersal characteristic of new digital media technologies, and (ii) the neoliberal prioritization of private interests in response to democratic demands for public welfare. Concerns about media monopoly/meekness and fake news in a “post-Truth” world are undoubtedly valid, but it is also important to attend to other media networks and practices today which might be effectively constructing bridges, or by-passes, to a different future.

In this presentation, I seek to explore some of the historical ambivalences that shadow the neoliberal project, and to acquaint you with two specific instances—one from India, one from Egypt—of the newer kinds of digital media archives that seek to transform the ways in which the world might be known, remembered, and acted upon.