

Co-presented by **The Graduate Program in Cinema and Media Studies**,
Norman Jewison Series, Department of Film, and
Sensorium: Centre for Digital Media and Technology Research, Faculty
of Fine Arts

2014 SUMMER INSTITUTE IN FILM

ARCHIVE_MEMORY_DATABASE

(Future Cinema I FILM 6245/CMCT 6507)

May 1 – June 5

Tues-Thurs 2:30-5:30 CFT 137B

Course Director: Janine Marchessault

Visiting Scholar: William Uricchio, MIT Comparative Lab

Lectures: May 12-13-14

The 2014 Summer Institute in Film is devoted to thinking about archival cultures in relation to what some have called “the data base imaginary” (Vesna, Dietz, 2007). This intensive summer course will investigate the epistemological and phenomenological boundaries of post-representational and database cultures: from traditional information management platforms developed for museums to the complex interfaces in popular games like GTA 5, to big data analytics and the promises of Web 3.0. The course will engage with different approaches to interactive documentaries, the “algorithmic turn” (Uricchio, 2011) and diverse kinds of play and distributed spectatorship. Students will be encouraged to develop different methodologies (research creation productions, speculative essays, media archaeologies, databases) to explore the impact of these forms on notions of history, memory and the concept of the archive.

2014 Summer Institute Visiting Scholar William Uricchio

William Uricchio is Professor of Comparative Media Studies and Principal Investigator of the MIT Open Documentary Lab and the MIT Game Lab. He is also Professor of Comparative Media History at Utrecht University and a fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study (Lichtenberg-Kolleg) at Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. He has been awarded Humboldt, Guggenheim and Fulbright fellowships, and most recently, the Berlin Prize. His research interests include revisiting the histories of old media when they were new; algorithmic enablements of participatory cultural forms; the history and future of television; cultural identities and the question of “Americanization” in the 20th and 21st centuries. His publications include *Reframing Culture, We Europeans? Media, Representations, Identities* (Chicago/Intellect, 2008), *Media Cultures* (Heidelberg, 2006). He is currently completing books on the deep history of television; on history-based games; the playing of history and historiography after post-structuralism; and editing a collection of essays for the British Film Institute entitled *Many More Lives of the Batman*.