

MEDIA THEORIST

Themes: Media & human destiny • trajectories of civilization in art, film, technology, and culture • experimental theory.
Method: My projects embrace an “arts and sciences” approach to creatively and critically theorize the intersection of media, philosophy, culture, and technology, all of which shape human destiny around the world.

EDUCATION

Doctorate of Philosophy The University of Texas at Austin — 1995

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

20+ years experience; wide variety of theory; strong teaching evaluations; courses popular with students; class sizes from 10 – 240.

2002—Present TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, Philadelphia

2011—Present Associate Professor, Klein College of Media and Communication, Dept. of Media Studies and Production.
2002—2011 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Broadcasting, Telecommunications, & Mass Media (old department name)

1994-2001 SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, Dallas

Assistant Professor, Meadows School for the Arts

GRADUATE COURSES

Post-Millennial Media & Culture

21st Century Media: Now and the Future

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Media and Society

Utopia in Media and Culture

Media, Culture, and the End of the World

Intro to Media Theory

DIRECTOR • ARCOSANTI STUDY AWAY PROGRAM, 2017-

- Temple students study media, technology, ecological theory at the famed eco-city in Arizona. Program began in 2017..

SELECT PROJECTS • BOOKS, ESSAYS, FILM**EDITOR • TEXT ANTHOLOGY**

Media Environments, 3rd Edition, San Diego, Cognella Publishing, Fall 2018 or Spring 2019

- This text anthology combines movies with texts to critique media and society. Used for “Media and Society” courses.
- Contributors include: Stephen Hawking, Carl Sagan, Naomi Wolf, Rebecca MacKinnon, Neil Postman, Douglas Rushkoff, Julian Assange, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Jan Fernback, Douglas Kellner, and many others.

CO-EDITOR: ANTHOLOGY

Black Mirror and Critical Media Theory [Lexington Books, 2018]. Co-editor: Angela Cirucci.

- anthology that critiques the ideas and meaning of the TV series; international list of contributors.

AUTHOR • BOOK OF CRITICAL CULTURAL THEORY

Specter of the Monolith: Nihilism, the Sublime, and Human Destiny in Space—From Apollo and Hubble to 2001, Star Trek, and Interstellar, Philadelphia, The Center for Media and Destiny, 2017.

- a radically original critique of how humans have confronted the majesty of the vast universe—via art, media, science, pop culture, space exploration, and the greatest space films.

AUTHOR • TOPICAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Space Junk and the Second Event: The Cosmic Meaning of the Zombie Apocalypse” — in *The Thinking Dead: What the Zombie Apocalypse Means*, ed. Murali Balaji, Roman & Littlefield/Lexington Books, 2013.
- “Yearning to be the Center of Everything, When We are the Center of Nothing” — in *Telematics and Informatics*, special edition on Facebook, 2013.

AUTHOR • TEXT FOR ART/PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK

Peter Granser, *Signs* [Stuttgart: Hatje Cantz & Chicago Museum of Contemporary Photography, 2008]

Photography by Peter Granser, Text by Barry Vacker, Forward by Karen Irvine.

- Featured in numerous exhibitions, including sites in Chicago, Hamburg, Houston, Lianzhou, Stuttgart, New York City.

DIRECTOR AND WRITER • EXPERIMENTAL DOCUMENTARY FILM

Space Times Square (2007) spacetimesquare.net

International Award: 2010 John Culkin Award for Outstanding Praxis in the Field of Media Ecology, Media Ecology Assoc.

- The film played in many festivals in cities around the world: Brussels, Paris, Hamburg, Beijing, New York, Dallas, Philadelphia, etc.

INTERVIEWED BY ANDERSON COOPER, CNN

2003: 6-minute interview about the meaning of the hit film, *The Matrix*.