

VISUAL STUDIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

RSVP to vsri@usc.edu. See dornsife.usc.edu/vsri/upcoming-events/ for updated information.

FALL 2022 EVENTS

Images Out of Time Seminar



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
12:30-2pm PST
Zoom

BOOK TALK:
*Transfixed by Prehistory:
An Inquiry into Modern Art and Time*

MARIA STAVRINAKI
Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne

Readings and links for Images Out of Time events will be made available when you RSVP to vsri@usc.edu.

Prehistory is an invention of the late nineteenth century. In that moment of technological progress and acceleration of production and circulation, three major Western narratives about time took shape. One after another, these new fields of inquiry delved into the obscure immensity of the past: first, to surmise the age of the Earth; second, to find the point of emergence of human beings; and third, to ponder the age of art. Maria Stavriniaki asks what a history of modernity and its art would look like if considered through these three interwoven inventions of the *longue durée*. Rather than an inevitable march of progress leading up to the Anthropocene, this is a history of stupor, defamiliarization, regressive acceleration, and incessant invention, since the “new” was also found in the deep sediments of the Earth. Composed of as much speed as slowness, as much change as deep time, as much confidence as skepticism and doubt, modernity is a complex phenomenon that needs to be rethought.

Maria Stavriniaki teaches art history and theory at the Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne. She is the author of *Dada Presentism: An Essay on Art and History* and *Contraindre à la liberté: Carl Einstein, les avant-gardes, l'histoire*.

Open to all interested participants.

RSVP
to
vsri@usc.edu for
more information
or to be added to
our Slack channel.

