

# Transnational Afrofuturisms

Edward King  
Senior Lecturer in  
Portuguese and Latin  
American Studies

Global Transfer  
Programme

University of Bristol  
Guest Lecture Series

Join us for our Guest Lecture Series to experience teaching at the University of Bristol with a lecture from one of our leading academics.

## Transnational Afrofuturisms

This session will focus on the use of Afrofuturist aesthetics by artists in Brazil, Europe and the US to produce what Ruha Benjamin (2019) describes as 'subversive countercodings' of the dominant practices of racialization in contemporary digital cultures. Over the last ten years, artists working in various media have adapted a science fiction aesthetic developed in the 1960s and 1970s US by musicians such as Sun Ra and George Clinton to challenge the normalised disparity between black culture and science and technology. Through analysis of a number of case studies, we will explore how artists contest what André Brock, Jr. (2020) identifies as the conflation of online identity with whiteness, 'even as whiteness is itself signified as a universal, raceless, technocultural identity' and, in the process, propose alternative conceptions of the human as intimately imbricated with computer systems that do not repeat modernity's pseudo-universal versions of modernity that are predicated on anti-Blackness.

**Date: 05/05/2021**

**Time: 10:00 am UK Time  
5:00 pm China Time**

**Register here:**

[https://bristol-ac-uk.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_v21kSbJMQoq04rp\\_IQJ7Uw](https://bristol-ac-uk.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_v21kSbJMQoq04rp_IQJ7Uw)

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## Transnational Afrofuturisms Workshop

### What to expect from the workshop:

Attendance at the workshop will be allocated on a first-come-first served basis. You will spend time in small break out rooms with other students from Bristol and our other partner institutions from across the world, discussing various topics covered in the webinar and then a wider open discussion will take place in the main Zoom room. You will be expected to participate in English for the duration of the workshop and will be actively encouraged to partake in discussions.

**Date: 05/05/2021**

**Time: 11:00 am UK Time**

**6:00 pm China Time**

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