

Liverpool Film Seminar

2014 - 2015

Every year, Liverpool Film Seminar invites six experts to deliver a series of talks. Topics vary greatly and the series does not focus on a specific aspect of film. Instead, a range of genres and approaches are celebrated, from historical reach to the internet's impact on cinematic material.

Professor Will Brooker (Kingston University)

Batman: 75 Years as a Transmedia Text

This talk surveys Batman's development across multiple media platforms since his inception in 1939. Convergence and cross-platform characters are assumed to be a recent phenomenon, but Batman was adapted into newspaper strips and film serials very shortly after his first appearance, and subsequently crossed over into television, toys, animated series, video games and fan-made culture. Using Batman as its case study, the seminar explores the way in which cultural icons operate in a 'matrix' of influence, with one form influencing and borrowing from the other.

Biography:



Will Brooker is Professor of Film and Cultural Studies at Kingston University, London. He is editor of *Cinema Journal* and author of numerous books on popular culture and audience, including *Batman Unmasked: Analysing A Cultural Icon* (Continuum, 2001), *Using the Force: Creativity, Community and "Star Wars" Fans* (Continuum, 2002), *Star Wars* (BFI, 2009) and *Hunting the Dark Knight: Twenty First Century Batman* (I.B.Tauris, 2012). He has also edited the collection *The Blade Runner Experience: The Legacy of A Science Fiction Classic* (Wallflower Press, 2006) and co-edited the collections *The Audience Studies Reader* (Routledge, 2002) and *Postmodern After-images: A Reader in Film, Video and Television* (Hodder, 1997).