

# GUEST LECTURE IN AUSTRALIAN STUDIES

## LECTURE SERIES ON IMMERSIVE PERFORMANCES

PROF. PAUL ARTHUR  
(EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY,  
PERTH, AUSTRALIA)



Immersed in Data: The Impacts of  
Big Data in Society and for Research

We are in the midst of a data revolution that is influencing the daily life of much of the world's population so rapidly and profoundly that it is impossible to grasp the extent of its effects. While instant access to proliferating stores of information is helping us better understand our world, it is also shaping us as human beings. Aggregated 'big' data is having a growing impact in practically every area of our lives. In the first part of this lecture I will give an overview of the impact of digital transformations in society on a global scale. I will then discuss how research in the humanities are benefiting from the very same principle of increased data linkage that we see in society generally, but applied in a research context.

Paul Arthur is Chair in Digital Humanities and Social Sciences, and Director of the Edith Cowan Centre for Global Issues, in the School of Arts and Humanities at Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia. Professor Arthur speaks and publishes widely on major challenges and changes facing 21st-century society, from the global impacts of technology on culture and identity to migration and human rights. A Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he has over fifty publications including ten books. His latest book is *Border Crossings: Essays in Identity and Belonging* (ed. 2019, with Leena Kurvet-Käosaar, Routledge).

**THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2019**  
**4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**  
**LECTURE HALL XVIII, MAIN BUILDING**  
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