

Current Issues

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Lecture Series | Winter Term 2015-2016

**NORTH
AMERICAN
STUDIES
PROGRAM**

Ian Robinson, Ph.D.

North American Studies Program



“Toronto on Screen: Cinema and Politics of Place since the 1980s”

Tuesday, November 24, 2015 | 6:00–8:00 pm
Room A, IAAK, Regina-Pacis-Weg 5



In May 2015, prominent sections of downtown Toronto were closed for the shooting of Warner Brothers' *Suicide Squad* (see above), one of Hollywood's most anticipated blockbusters of 2016. Toronto's most recent transformation into an apocalyptic comic book world inhabited by superhero villains raises familiar debates around the film industry's role in the production of generic spatiality and its evocation of a local sense of place. In his talk, Dr. Robinson traces competing representational practices in the Toronto film industry since the 1980s. In the past three and a half decades Toronto has constructed a complex cultural identity in relation to the movies, with ubiquitous production sets on city streets and vibrant festivals and exhibition scenes. Yet despite its moniker as 'Hollywood North,' Toronto has remained all but invisible on screen.

Ian Robinson is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Canadian Studies in the North American Studies Program. He received his Ph.D. from York University and was a postdoctoral research fellow at McGill University. His research focuses on the global film industry, local film cultures and film festivals in Toronto and Montreal.