

(Failed) Encounters with the Planetary?

Thinking Urban Space and the Social in Post-Fukushima Japan

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"Todos Somos Japon" has been the rallying call to relocalize the March 2011 catastrophe on a planetary urban scale. For the spectacular event has been in many ways a missed encounter with a planetary urban reality. 3.11 is analogically aligned with 9.11. It captures and freezes the event into a national trauma, a "post-" inaugurating a chronological rupture that really only reconfirms a subsumption into and subjection to neo-liberalism and war. Yet nobody is Fukushima, which still preserves its promise of resisting its complete capture by discourses of national identity and security. It has thus become necessary to discuss this event as both a global spectacle and a local situation. By addressing issues of the spectacular, the planetary and the social, in relation to current strategies of urban redevelopment and social life, this workshop aims at establishing an initial discursive framework from which to ask what has changed, and begin to think the event of Fukushima.

English and Japanese | Free Admission | No Registration Required
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