



CENTRE FOR SOCIETY AND POLICY

Presents

Andrew's Love and Will's Garden: Exploring the Lives and Minds of Humans and Machines

A Discussion on Two Sci-Fi Movies that Straddles the Identity, Love and Intelligence Discourses

One of the most exciting questions for science in this century and perhaps for the next too – is why we have a subjective and Self-side of consciousness? Where did this Self come from? – asks science. Where will the Self go to? – asks philosophy. How securely and together is it placed? – ask psychology and psychiatry. “Transcendence” and “Bi-centennial Man”, the two Sc-Fi movies which have epitomised the discourses on intelligence, love, identity and freedom question our simplistic notions of theory of mind which we consider is important for an artificial system to come closer to be a human mind. In these movies, “Andrew” and “Will”, long for what is transhuman – which is unconditional love and freedom. And they both actualise what is preserved and extolled as essentially human, even if it is through mortality.



Sangeetha Menon is Professor and Head of the NIAS Consciousness Studies Programme, and the Dean of the School of Humanities at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS). She works on the interdisciplinary problems of mind, consciousness and the Self, and believes that apart from science, philosophy and psychology, an active engagement with Sc-Fi movies can extend our imagination to create untold narratives of the human mind and its possibilities.

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7 Feb 2020, Friday @4 PM



CSP Seminar Hall



Refreshments @ 3:30 PM