



## **Indians Thinking: Imagining Indigenous Futurisms** with Grace Dillon



Recent discussions of Canadian science fiction and fantasy point to Native and Indian and Inuit peoples' stories as a major source of Canadian speculative literature and cinema. Speculative genres like "slipstream" and "magical realism" are typically used to describe First Nations thinking, but we rarely if ever associate Native authors and artists with "science fiction." But speculative and science fictions often rely on "cautionary tales" to depict dystopic worlds where the slavish embracing of advancing western technologies leads to environmental decay. And, increasingly,

tellers of cautionary tales are juxtaposing the technologically compromised natural order with First Nations traditions. This talk juxtaposes western science with what I call "indigenous scientific literacies" (known elsewhere by terms such as Traditional Ecological Knowledge or TEK and Aboriginal Resource Management) to show how First Nations sustainable practices and complementary studies such as quantum mechanics constitute a science, and to highlight the emerging movement of First Nations filmmakers and writers who are embracing "science fiction" as their allegory of choice.

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 23RD**

**1400-1500**

**On Portland State's campus: SMU 298**

**\*SMU Smith Memorial Student Union 1825 SW Broadway**