

# Transformation in the changing world

A public *HAT* research symposium for arts and sciences on change and complex systems

Friday the 12th of December, 2025 at 10:00-17:00

Koroinen Living Culture House, Turku (Koroistentie 2)

Sign up by December 10 to secure your spot: [blogs.helsinki.fi/hatresearch](https://blogs.helsinki.fi/hatresearch)

*Why do ideas and art styles evolve, new strains of microbes emerge, ecosystems collapse and reassemble, industries rise and decline, civilisations arise, prosper, and go extinct?*

*We are living in an era of instability. Our climate, ecosystems, societies, and cultures are constantly changing. Yet, this is not always easy to perceive. To understand change, we look at it through the lens of transformation. How do systems become? How do they adapt? How do they vanish?*

*The symposium gathers together researchers and practitioners, as well as artists and community builders, to discuss patterns of change in complex systems - nature, cultures, and societies - and to foster long-term thinking on sustainable futures.*

## PROGRAM

Open circle & coffee from 10 am

- *Welcome to the HAT research project*, Leo Lahti, Turku
- *Modeling complex living systems*, Indrė Žliobaitė, Helsinki
- *Transformation in economies: Renewal and changing composition*, Mirva Peltoniemi, Tampere

Research keynote: Amir Vudka, Amsterdam

- ***Anomalous Intelligence: AI at the Threshold of Myth and Magic.***

Lunch & tour at **Koroinen Living Culture House** after the noon

HAT Research talks:

- *No cycling renaissance, no sustainability transition in transport?* Carlos Lamuela-Orta, Helsinki
- *Memory, Language, and Change.* Donald Killian, Helsinki
- *Queer Death Ecology - transforming systems through creative dying across scales.* Aura Raulo, Oxford.

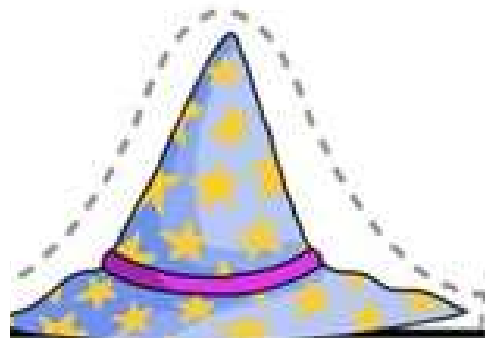
Arts keynote: Alvar Gullichsen, Artist.

- ***Reflections on art and transformation.***

Panel & discussion:

- ***Is the future predictable?***

Circle closing by 5 pm





### “Future”

Alvar Gullichsen 2011, Acrylic on canvas, 100 x 116 cm - Photo: Chikako Harada

## Anomalous Intelligence: AI at the Threshold of Myth and Magic

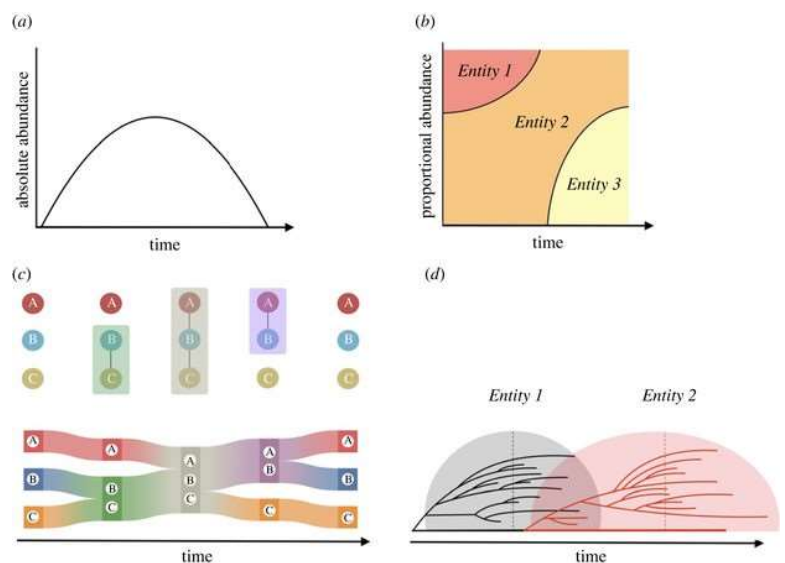
Keynote by Assistant Prof. *Amir Vudka*, University of Amsterdam

This lecture argues that contemporary AI cannot be understood solely through technical or sociopolitical analysis; it must also be situated within the mythic, magical, and mystical imaginaries that have long shaped moments of transformation in human–nonhuman relations. I examine how AI revives ancient archetypes and how these symbolic frameworks continue to guide public discourse, technological ambition, and our collective hopes and fears. From the Golem and Pandora to *The Matrix* and *Ghost in the Shell*, AI inherits a dense mythotechnical lineage that intersects with ancient wisdom traditions, cybernetics, singularity theology, transhumanist eschatology, and modern occult revivals. These imaginaries matter: they shape how we interpret the transformative power of AI and determine which forms of nonhuman intelligence we are prepared to recognize. AI is not merely computation but a site where mythic patterns and suppressed traditions resurface in coded form, structuring our expectations of technological transformation. Re-engaging these imaginaries critically is essential for imagining alternative - and better - futures.

### Alternative methods for visualizing patterns of rise and decline in complex systems.

To be discussed at the seminar.  
Source: “What are patterns of rise and decline?” Raulo et al. (2023), *Royal Society Open Science*.

**HAT project** is a multidisciplinary research initiative funded by the Kone Foundation. We organize events bringing together artists and scientists to build an in-depth understanding of the shape, nature, and meaning of *change* in complex systems. For more information, see: [blogs.helsinki.fi/hatresearch/about](https://blogs.helsinki.fi/hatresearch/about)



The event will take place at the premises of the **Koroinen Living Culture association**, which organises open events, workshops, and community activities on sustainability and culture. More info: <https://www.koroinen.info>