

ABENDVORTRAG

UNCERTAIN FUTURES AND THE ROLE OF IMAGINATION AND NARRATIVES IN ECONOMICS

Richard Bronk

(European Institute of the London School
of Economics and Political Science)

MI, 13. März 2019 | 18:00 h

SZ 15.22, RESOWI-Zentrum, Bauteil G, 2.OG

Universitätsstraße 15, 8010 Graz

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Richard Bronk will discuss the contribution that analytical imagination and literary theory can make to the discipline of economics; and he will explain the importance of narratives and imaginaries in structuring the expectations and behaviour of economic agents in conditions of uncertainty. Richard will champion a new form of narrative economics to explain the role played by contingent imaginaries and social narratives in determining economic outcomes; and he will demonstrate how an interdisciplinary approach can help us not only understand the nature of fictional expectations but also avoid the research and policy dangers of analytical monocultures.

Richard Bronk is a Visiting Fellow at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). He is author of *The Romantic Economist: Imagination in Economics*, Cambridge University Press (2009), and co-editor with Jens Beckert of *Uncertain Futures: Imaginaries, Narratives, and Calculation in the Economy*, Oxford University Press (2018). Educated at Merton College, Oxford, in *Literae Humaniores*, Richard worked for seventeen years in the City of London – in the Bank of England and as a senior equity fund manager – before returning to academia. From 2000-2007, he taught European political economy at LSE. His approach to philosophy of economics is grounded in a history of ideas perspective and in his practical experience in markets and economic policy.

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Organisiert im Rahmen des FWF Projektes „Law, Literature and Economics. A New Interdisciplinary Approach.“



Impressum: f.d.l.v.: Zentrum für Kulturwissenschaften © 2019

Veranstalter: Zentrum für Kulturwissenschaften | Konzept und Organisation: Dr. phil. Doris Pichler

Artwork: Roman Klug, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz | Bearbeitung: Mag. Julia Riedl