

Liverpool Film Seminar

2011 – 2012 series

Every year, Liverpool Film Seminar invites six experts to deliver a series of talks. Topics vary greatly and the series does not focus on a specific aspect of film. Instead, a range of genres and approaches are celebrated, from historical reach to the internet's impact on cinematic material.

Dr Frank Krutnik (University of Sussex)

Killers on the Kilocycles: Radio Noir and the Movie Adaptation Series

Fed by the ongoing fascination with *film noir* as well as old time radio (OTR) connoisseurship, the concept of radio noir has been gaining an increasingly high profile in recent years. This research seminar examines one of the key forms of US radio noir, the popular movie adaptation series of the 1940s and 1950s. I will explore the range of such programs, the institutional negotiations they involved between broadcasters, the film industry and advertisers, and the problems that beset the attempt to translate Hollywood films into an exclusively audio medium, focussing in particular on several adaptations of the 1944 film *Laura*.

Biography:

Frank Krutnik is Reader in Film Studies at the University of Sussex and is the author of *In a Lonely Street: Film Noir, Genre, Masculinity* (1991), *Inventing Jerry Lewis* (2000) and, with Steve Neale, *Popular Film and Television Comedy* (1990), as well as numerous articles in critical anthologies and leading screen studies journals. He is editor of *Hollywood Comedian Comedy: the Film Reader* (2004) and co-editor of *Un-American Hollywood: Politics and Film in the Blacklist Era* (2007). He is currently working on a monograph on radio noir.