

Presents

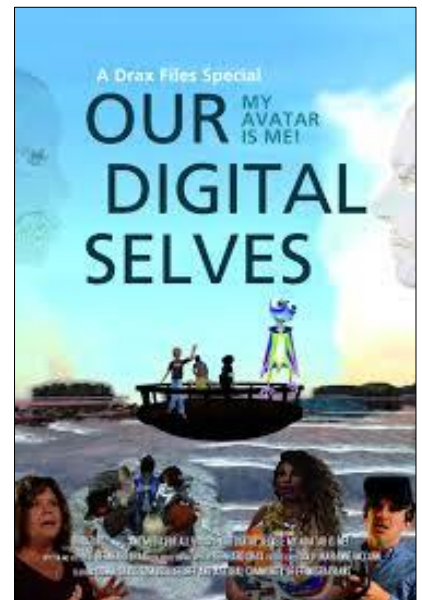
# PARAETHNOGRAPHIC FILM

By

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This talk previews material from a book in progress, *Tales from Ethnographia Island: Disability Futures of Digital Culture*. I use experiences with the film *Our Digital Selves: My Avatar is Me*, a documentary by Bernhard Drax, to explore multimodality as more than translation or dissemination of anthropological knowledge would otherwise appear in textual form. In the case of *Our Digital Selves*, the filmmaker's work included meeting interlocutors in the physical world that the researchers met only online, as well as crafting a narrative about disability and virtual embodiment that comments on rather than replicates the scholarly narrative. In turn, participation in the film shaped my own substantive conclusions and theoretical interventions. Key concepts to be discussed from this work will be (1) "virtual enactment"; (2) "ethnographic machinima"; and (3) "paraethnographic film." Parts of the documentary will be shown, but I encourage you to watch the entire documentary beforehand at <https://youtu.be/GQw02-me0W4>.



**Thursday, March 21, 2019**

**3:30 pm - 5:00 pm**

**SBSH 1321**