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Geopolitics and Contemporary Art of the Polar Regions

The Arctic and Antarctic have re-emerged as sites of renewed rivalry among the old colonial powers. But new players, like Russia, India and China also want access to newly opened shipping routes and potential oil resources. Are there new and potential geographies good for postcolonial nations, once crowded out of power? Will indigenous peoples living in the arctic profit? Or will old powers and new corporations control the reconfigured poles? The geopolitics of climate change represents not only a political challenge but also an intellectual one, particularly for postcolonial and feminist critique. This panel promotes crucial aspects of feminist and environmentalist art and scholarship of the polar regions, connecting gender to nationalism, the politics of imperialism, science, science fiction, utopia and dystopia.