This talk will provide an introduction to a broad range of critical aesthetic responses to the catastrophe of 3.11. Focusing primarily on the visual and performing arts, it starts by questioning the idea of "catastrophe" and its relationship to memory (and rememoration), specifically as it relates to 3.11 and its aftermath. The talk will pay particular attention to artistic engagements with the nuclear disaster at Fukushima and the uncertain and shifting status of "radiation" as an object of aesthetico-political critique.

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