

Fictions of Politics

# Campaigns as Political Drama: The West Wing



Political power itself is invisible. In order to appear it relies on fictions: the powerful politician or the will of the « people » is staged in political ceremonies. The event series « Fictions of Politics » shows how feature and documentary films as well as TV series mirror and restage these political fictions and provide deeper insights into the world of politics.

- » **The Liberal Imagination – Aaron Sorkin's *The West Wing* (1999-2007)** Par Prof. Dr. Thomas Morsch (junior professor of Film Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin, director of the research project « The Television Series as Aesthetic Form ») Ciné-conférence ponctuée d'extraits de la série | en langue anglaise | durée : 45'

*The West Wing* can be understood as a unique attempt at a « popular » model of political aesthetics, confronting the political reality of Washington with an idealized version of itself. The lecture will focus on the numerous overlaps between reality and fiction that characterize the series and the discourses surrounding it, and will also discuss the phantasies fueling Sorkin's liberal re-writing of political history.

- » **The West Wing (un épisode)**

USA 1999-2006 | série télévisée créée par Aaron Sorkin | voangstang | 42' | Avec : Martin Sheen, Stockard Channing, Charlie Young

*The West Wing* is an American TV series that portrays the fictitious and ideal United States Presidency of Jed Bartlet (Martin Sheen). The episodes follow the Bartlet administration through their policymaking processes: from negotiating with Congress members to campaigning for reelection.



En collaboration avec le projet « ATTRACT – Ästhetische Figuretionen des Politischen » de l'Université du Luxembourg

Lu 05 | 11 à 20h30



Thomas Morsch

Cinémathèque de la Ville de Luxembourg  
17 pl. du Théâtre,  
2613 Luxembourg