

JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ



## Immersion in Video Games Online Speaker Series

# Games and the Art of Agency

9 December 2021; 16 - 17h (CET)

*Join us on Zoom*

Meeting ID: 859 2676 1956

Passcode: 910570



## Abstract

Games are a distinctive form of art – and very different from many traditional arts. Games work in the medium of agency. Game designers don't just tell stories or create environments. They tell us what our abilities will be in the game. They set our motivations, by setting the scoring system and specifying the win-conditions. Game designers sculpt temporary agencies for us to occupy. And when we play games, we adopt these designed agencies, submerging ourselves in them, and taking on their specified ends for a while.

## About

C. Thi Nguyen is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the University of Utah. He writes about trust, art, games, and communities and is interested in the ways that our social structures and technologies shape how we think and what we value. He also used to be a food writer. His first book is *Games: Agency as Art*. It's about how games are the art form that work in the medium of agency.

