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## Deep History, Compulsive Hoarding, and the Brain: When does history begin? What characterizes it? What drives human history?

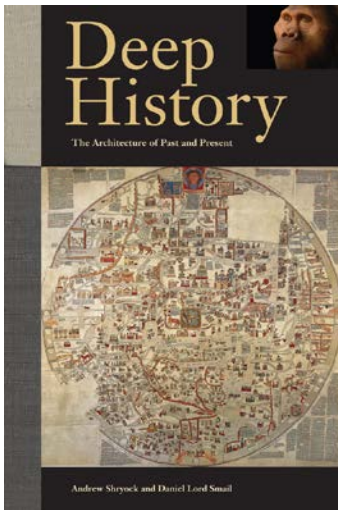
Thursday 6 June 2013, 5pm

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Professor Daniel Lord Smail, Harvard University

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Arthur Hamblly Lecture Theatre, Building 34 ANU



According to Daniel Lord Smail it is our compulsions that drive history rather than great men and women or 'progress' and 'modernisation'. The manipulation of human chemistry by the substances we consume, and the activities we engage in willingly or which are imposed on us against our will are at the heart of history.

Daniel Lord Smail is professor of history at Harvard University and author of *On Deep History and the Brain* (2008) and *Deep History: The Architecture of Past and Present* (2011). In recent years Professor Smail has been developing a new kind of history, drawing on recent work in neuroscience and paleohistory to connect the micro and the macro, the deep past with the recent past and tackle histories of vast stretches of time, long before the invention of writing.

Presented by

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ANU College of  
Arts & Social  
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