

Work, Leisure, Culture



For more information:

tristan.burke@
manchester.ac.uk

www.alc.manchester.
ac.uk/cidral/

twitter.com/cidral_uom

School of Arts,
Languages and Cultures

CIDRAL

The Centre for
Interdisciplinary
Research in the
Arts and Languages



Karl Polanyi

CIDRAL Key Ideas Seminar

Led by Pat Devine (University of Manchester)

Wednesday 13 February, 1-3 P.M.

Room A215, Samuel Alexander Building

The economic historian, Karl Polanyi (1886-1964), wrote powerfully against neoliberal thinkers – primarily Friedrich Hayek - in his book, *The Great Transformation* (1944). Indeed, his thesis that the self-regulating market (capitalism) is destructive of human and non-human nature has become increasingly important in the neoliberal period, influencing contemporary figures such as David Harvey. In this seminar, I shall give a brief summary of his life, and an account of his central thesis, pointing out ambiguities and blind spots in his argument, before going on to outline controversies over different interpretations of his concept of the 'double movement'. I shall also attempt to link all this to CIDRAL's theme of work, leisure, culture.

There is a preparatory reading available at <https://bit.ly/2sJLMZ2> or via the CIDRAL website.