



WEDNESDAY
APRIL 25, 2018
5:00 PM—7:00 PM PT

SIEPR/GUNN BUILDING
366 GALVEZ STREET
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

The Digital Civil Society Lab Presents

THE ACTIVE CITIZEN IN THE DIGITAL AGE: THE ELITE CHARADE OF CHANGING THE WORLD

ABOUT THE EVENT

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The Elite Charade of Changing the World – a Conversation with Anand Giridharadas, Rob Reich, and Hilary Cohen

Democracy depends on citizens coming together to make change. Yet as more leaders than ever aspire publicly to “change the world,” profound hypocrisies lurk behind these aspirations.

The global elite, including many here in Silicon Valley, has co-opted the idea of “changing the world,” driving change without confronting their role in creating and perpetuating the very problems they purport to solve. The new barons of technology claim to be building the infrastructure of a new digital age, operating in service of civilization itself and improving lives at unprecedented scale. In doing so, they are promoting a fantasy that the world is best changed privately, through technology and innovation, not democratically, through political reform.

Are we ready to hand over our future to the elite, one supposedly world-changing initiative or startup at a time? Or is meaningful democracy, in which we all potentially have a voice, worth fighting for?

DETAILS

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5:00—6:30 PM Panel discussion with Anand Giridharadas and Hilary Cohen moderated by Rob Reich

6:30—7:00 PM Reception
Hors d’oeuvres and light refreshments

FEATURED SPEAKERS

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Anand Giridharadas - Writer and Author of the Forthcoming Book “Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World”

Hilary Cohen - Pre-doctoral Research Fellow at Stanford University

Moderated by Rob Reich - Professor of Political Science at Stanford, faculty codirector for Stanford PACS, and faculty director of the Digital Civil Society Lab, faculty director for Center in Ethics and Society

ABOUT THE ORGANIZER

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This event is presented by the Digital Civil Society Lab at Stanford PACS.

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