The Centre for Sensory Studies is pleased to present

**THE SPRING SEMESTER SENSORY STUDIES RESEARCH SEMINAR**

**Gaia Visions: Re/presenting Disability through the Portal of Science Fantasy**

**Speaker: Naomi Foyle, University of Chichester**

Speaking about and reading from *The Gaia Chronicles*, a quartet set in a post-fossil fuel Mesopotamia, author Naomi Foyle discusses how science fantasy became for her a portal through which to explore contemporary attitudes toward disability; revise literary representations of people with physical, learning and sensory impairments; and challenge the materialist, visualist claim that the physical senses, and in particular sight, are our only source of real knowledge about the world. Through its disabled characters, the series presents a view of human consciousness as the subtle interplay of the physical senses, rationality, emotion and the as yet little-studied sense of intuition.

**Naomi Foyle** is the author of four SFF novels, including the first three volumes of *The Gaia Chronicles: Astra, Rook Song* and the forthcoming *The Blood of the Hoopoe*, all published by Quercus imprint Jo Fletcher Books. A Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Chichester, Naomi is also an award-winning poet.

**When:** Tuesday, April 26, 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
**Where:** Room H-1120, Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve W. (Metro Guy-Concordia)

Open to the public. Bring your lunch!

[www.centreforsensorystudies.org](http://www.centreforsensorystudies.org)