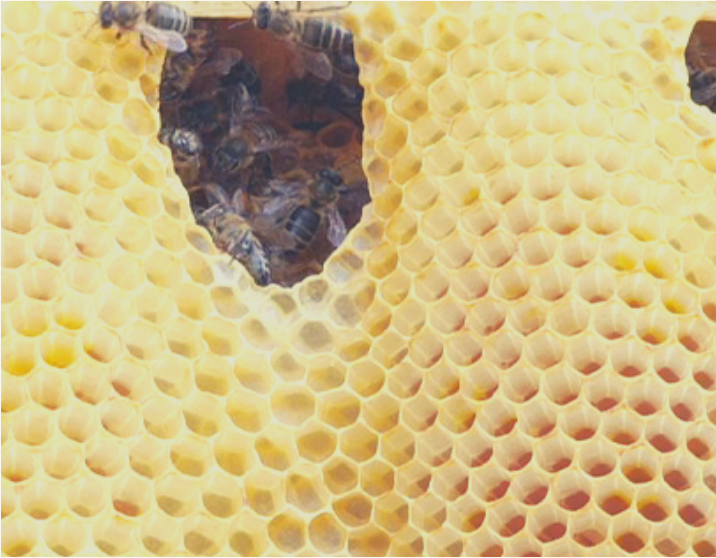


# HUMANITIES ON THE BRINK

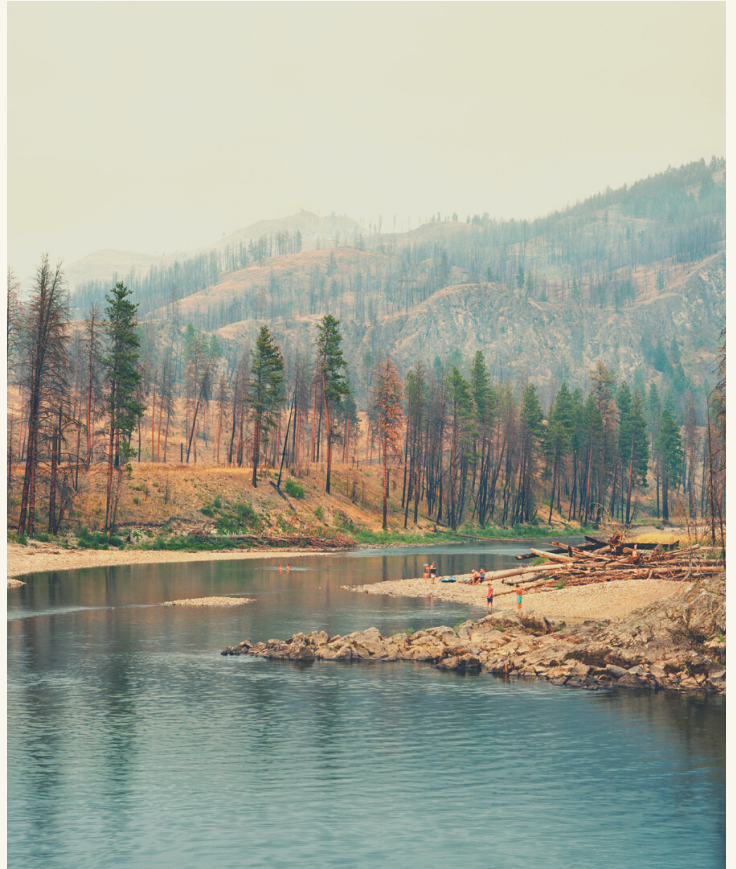


## HUMANITIES ON THE BRINK: ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, EMERGENCY

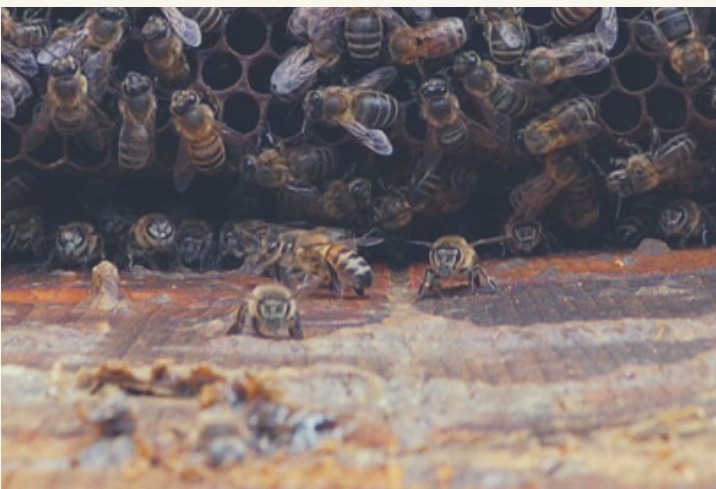
AN ASLE-SPONSORED NCN  
SYMPOSIUM HOSTED BY  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
SANTA BARBARA

**JULY 10-30, 2020**

Organized by Jacob Goessling, Jordan B.  
Kinder, & Bart Welling



**#ASLE2020virtual**  
**#OntheBrink**





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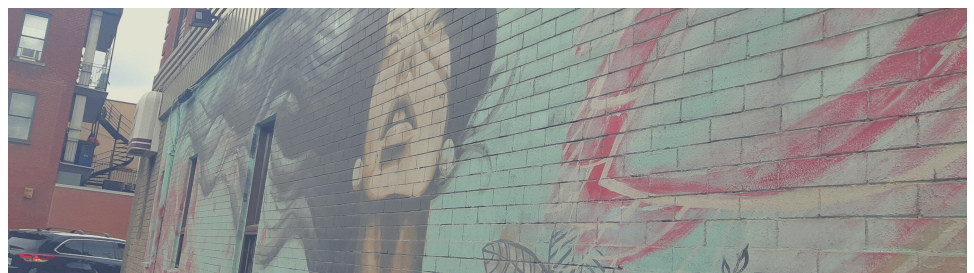
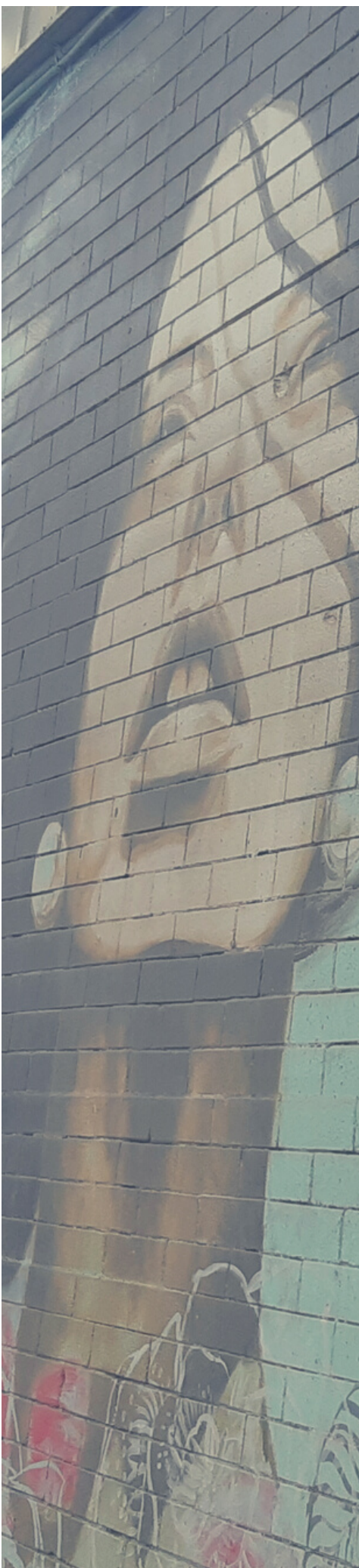
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# SPECIAL SESSIONS

## ARCHITECTURE AND THE RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY: BLACK LIVES MATTER AND THE MEADOWS OF FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED

**ELAINE SCARRY**

Available July 10 onwards

## INVASION WATCH-PARTY

**July 18 | 10AM PST/1PM EST/5PM UTC**

A collective screening of *INVASION*, a documentary about the Unist'ot'en Camp, Gidimt'en checkpoint and the larger Wet'suwet'en Nation standing up to the Canadian government and corporations who continue colonial violence against Indigenous people. See [here](#) for more information and how to support. Introduction and discussion will be moderated by Jordan B. Kinder.

## BEYOND THE LIFE/DEATH BINARY: A FEMINIST- INDIGENOUS READING OF SETTLER APOCALYPSE 2020

**KIM TALLBEAR**

**July 23 | 9AM PST/12PM EST/4PM UTC**

A plenary session with Kim TallBear, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta, and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Peoples, Technoscience & Environment/Canada Research Chair. A recorded talk will be available on July 16, followed by a live Q&A open to participants on July 23.

## A CONVERSATION WITH JENNIFER WENZEL & STEPHANIE LEMENAGER

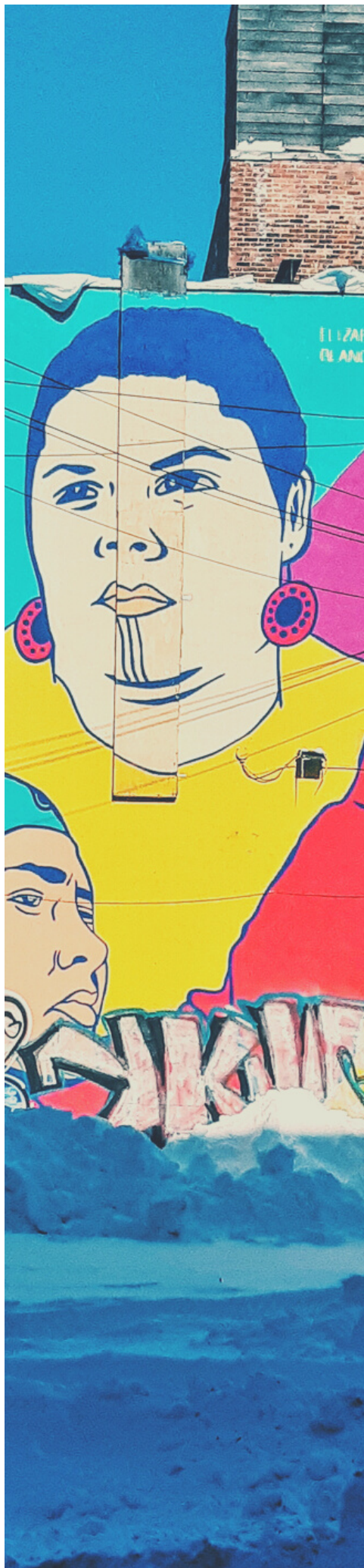
**July 28 | 10AM PST/1PM EST/5PM**

A conversation between Jennifer Wenzel and Stephanie LeMenager in response to the video gallery submissions from other scholars.

## CLOSING SOCIAL

**July 30 | 3pm PST/6pm EST/10pm UTC**

A virtual Happy Hour sponsored by the ASLE Energy Humanities Interest Group.





# PANELS

## 1. THE EMERGENCY HUMANITIES

### 1.1 READING ON THE BRINK

- Lydia Nixon (Angelo State University), "The Ship of This World on Its Voyage to Eternity": Allegories of Ecological Apocalypse in Katherine Anne Porter's *Ship of Fools*"
- Katie Reschenhofer (University of Vienna), "Re-thinking Home in Refugee Picturebooks and Graphic Novels"
- Octavia Cade (Massey University), "Observation and Conversation: Post-Apocalyptic Literature and the Young Adult Audience"
- Beatriz Revelles-Benavente (University of Granada), "Contemporary Literature: The Politics of Aesthetics in *The Handmaid's Tale*"

### 1.2 MEDIA ON THE BRINK

- Caren Irr (Brandeis University), "The Eco-fascist Emergency: An Examination of Godfrey Reggio's *Qatsi* Trilogy"
- Olusegun Stephen Titus (Obafemi Awolowo University), "Sounding the Environmental Benefits of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Nigeria"
- Seon-Myung Yoo (Texas A & M University), "Hermeneutics of the Anthropocene in *Parasite* (2019): Class, Society, and Climate Change"
- Eric Dean Wilson (CUNY Graduate Center), "'This Place Is a Mess': Atlanta's 'Woods' and the Everyday Surrealism of Petro-Capitalist America"

### 1.3 DISASTER RESPONSES

- Danielle Crawford (University of California, Santa Cruz), "The Implications of Aid in Times of Emergency: Destructive Storms, Climate Change, and Disaster Militarism"
- Christine Daigle (Brock University), "The Posthumanities as a Way to Tackle 'Emergency'"
- Trang Dang (Nottingham Trent University), "Attunement as a Response to Climate Emergency"
- Jessica Holmes (University of Washington), "(Mis)Reading at High Tide: Emergent Unreadability in an Age of Emergency"
- Davy Knittle (University of Pennsylvania), "The Climate of AIDS: Gentrification, Urgency, and Loss at the End of Nature"

### 1.4 AUGURIES OF THE ANTHROPOCENE

- Ryan Lawrence (Cornell University), "Chaucer's Corrupt Air: Atmosphere, Mood, Ecological Crisis"
- Alan Marshall (Mahidol University), "Was a Climate Change Catastrophe Really Responsible for *Frankenstein*?"
- Sara Torres (University of Virginia), "Pastoral Access, Activism, and the Plague Archive"
- Kathryn Dolan (Missouri University of Science and Technology), "Farming Stories: Robin Wall Kimmerer's Three Sisters and Honorable Cultivation"

### 1.5 ANTIPODEAN ENVIRONMENTAL LITERARY STUDIES ON THE BRINK

- Jennifer Hamilton (University of New England (Australia)), "The Future of Housework: Feelings about Domestic Labour in *All the Beginnings and Indelible Ink*"
- Sue Hall Pyke (University of Melbourne), "Snaking from Old to New Pathways: A Lyrical Critique"
- Rachel Fetherston (Deakin University), "'Part of Their Story': Nonhuman Narratives in Australian Habitat Stories"
- Jessica White (University of Queensland), "Australian Botany on the Brink"





## 2. RESEARCH ON THE BRINK

### 2.1 MODELS OF SUSTAINABILITY

- Emily Roehl, Anne Pasek, Caleb Wellum (University of Alberta), "Virtual Conferences on the Brink: Critical Reflections on Research-Creation and Digital Collaboration in Times of Crisis"
- Dan Platt (Graceland University), "Sustainability Studies and the Unsustainable University: A View from the Brink"
- Heather Christenson, Eleanor Koehl, and Graham Dethmers (HathiTrust), "Against the Day: HathiTrust, Arks, and the Emergency of the Present"

### 2.2 WRITING THE FUTURE

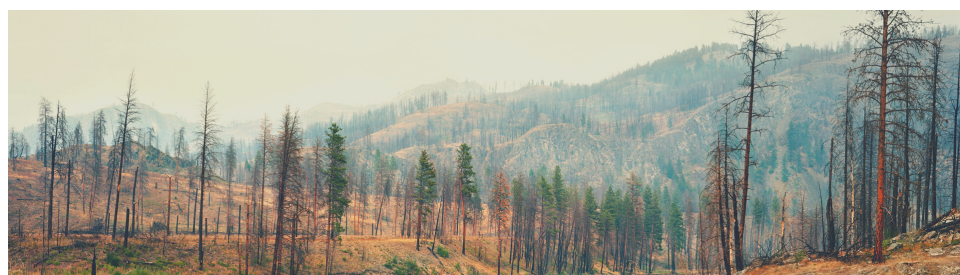
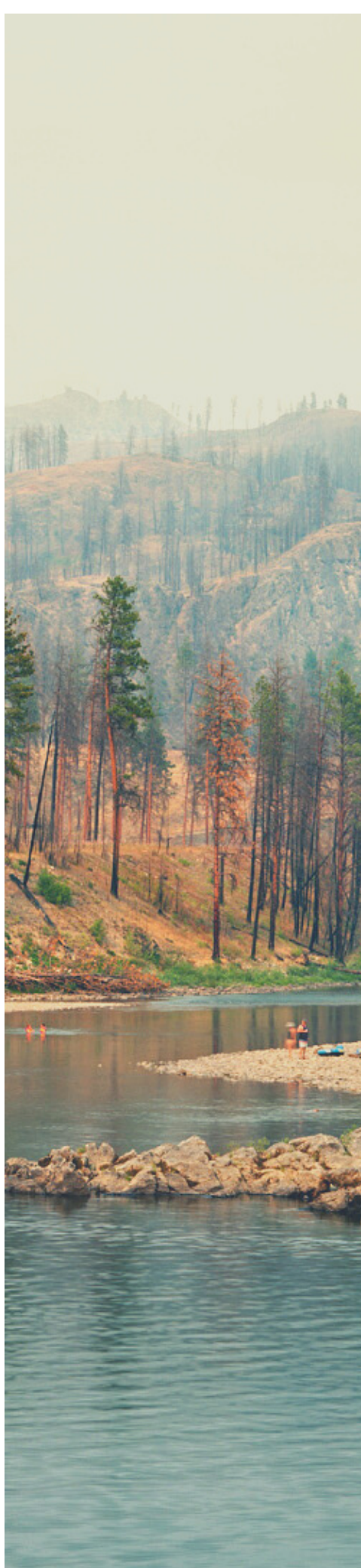
- Petra Kuppers (University of Michigan) and DJ Lee (Washington State University), "Practices of Hope: Building Creative Community in Eco-poetic Literary Production"
- Alexandra Nikoleris, Johannes Stripple, Paul Tenngart, and Ludwig Bengtsson-Sonesson (Lund University), "Making Sense of Climate Change: Stories From the *AnthropoScenes* Competition"
- Jennifer Browdy (Bard College at Simon's Rock), "Purposeful Memoir as a Path to a Thriving Future: The Worldwrights Lead the Way"

### 2.3 CLIMATE JUSTICE IN THE CLASSROOM

- Kimberly Skye Richards (University of Fraser Valley), "We Are in Crisis, and the Importance of a Petro-Politicized Classroom"
- Kyhl Lyndgaard (College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University), "Climate Storytelling and Active Learning in Rural America"
- Sarah Nolan (University of Colorado Boulder), "Teaching Environmental Justice with Ana Castillo"
- Judith Wakeman (Independent Scholar), "Using Cli-Fi to Help Reframe Young People's Responses to Climate Change"

### 2.4 THE (POST)HUMANITIES

- Massih Zekavat and Tabea Scheel (Europa-Universität Flensburg), "Interdisciplinary Environmental Interventions through Humor and Satire"
- Laura Barbas-Rhoden (Wofford College), "Participatory Inclusion in Knowledge Creation in Public Posthumanities Research"
- Thomas Asmuth (University of West Florida) and Sara Gevurtz (Auburn University), "Eco-Art and Sciences in an Age of Cynicism"
- Irina Belyakova and Elena Plakhina (University of Tyumen), "Environmental Knowledge Production: A Case Study of Journalism Students at the University of Tyumen"





### 3. ENERGY CULTURES IN CRISIS

#### 3.1 ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURES, MARKETS, & ENDLESS FUTURES

- Nicole Stahl (West Virginia University), "Environmentalism Un-Earthed: Estranging the Energy Narrative from the Human Experience"
- Gabe Eckhouse (University of California, Berkeley), "Carbon Purgatory and the Never Ending End of Oil"
- Kameron Sanzo (University of California, Riverside), "Hacking the Loop: Energy Politics in Market-Mediated Recycling"
- Mary Le Rouge (Kent State University), "How Literate Responses to Technical Communication Can Promote Practical Responses to Environmental Change"
- N. A. J. Taylor, (University of British Columbia and University of New South Wales), "'Marking' the Australian Nuclear Fuel Cycle as Future Cultural and Environmental Heritage"

#### 3.2 LITERATURES & POETICS OF ENERGY

- Connor Weightman (Charles Sturt University), "Crudely Written: A Petro-Poetry Survey"
- Hannah Klaubert (Stockholm University and Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen), "Nuclear Storyworlds: Writing (Radio)Toxic Wilderness in Mary Mycio's *Wormwood Forest: A Natural History of Chernobyl* (2005)"
- Melanie Dennis Unrau (Columbia University and University of Manitoba), "Rig Talk as Disidentification in Peter Christensen's *Rig Talk* and Mathew Henderson's *The Lease*"
- Lisa Schantl (University of Graz), "Humanizing the Non-Human: Aesthetic Reflections of the Anthropocene in Contemporary Petrofiction"

#### 3.3 CULTURES OF EXTRACTION IN U.S. FILM & VIDEO GAMES

- Sarah Stanford-McIntyre (University of Colorado Boulder), "Selling the American 'Oil Frontier': *Tulsa*, *Giant*, and American Resource Politics during the Early Cold War"
- Matthew S. Henry (University of Wyoming), "Red Dead Extraction: Reading Red Dead Redemption 2 as a Critique of Extractive Capital"
- Brian James Leech and George Boone (Augustana College), "Leveling Up by Digging Down: The Portrayal of Mining and Sustainability in Video Game Genres"
- José Sebastián Terneus (Miami Dade College), "'Y'all Sitting Up Here Comfortable:' Extracting the Afrofuturist Myth from Ryan Coogler's *Black Panther*"

#### 3.4 INFRASTRUCTURALISMS OF BRUTALISM, JUSTICE, & ANARCHY

- Michael Truscello (Mount Royal University), "The Death Train Narrative and Infrastructural Brutalism in *Snowpiercer* and *Train to Busan*"
- Delia Byrnes (Allegheny College), "Black Infrastructures of Environmental Justice in Attica Locke's *Houston*"
- Kelly MacPhail (University of Minnesota Duluth), "'Got to Hate Fences!': Infrastructure and Anarchy in *Lonely Are the Brave* (1962)"





## 4. ECOMEDIATIONS

### 4.1 MULTI-MEDIATIONS

- Kristen Brown (Dixie State University), "Of Sound Mind and Body: Lessons in Listening to the Jingle Dress Dance"
- Robert Geal (University of Wolverhampton), "Surviving Environmental Apocalypse in Film 'Lifeboats': Cinema, Psychoanalysis, and the Formal Structure of the 'Stories We Live By'"
- Christopher D. Foley (University of Southern Mississippi), "From Cultural Hero to Zero (Emissions): The Ecofeminist Critique of Maui's Resource Extraction in Disney's Moana"

### 4.2 TOXIC MEDIATIONS

- Orchid Tierney (Kenyon University), "'Destruction Is a Real Hidden Investment': Waste's Modernity in the Urban Pastoral"
- Nicolai Skiveren (Aarhus University), "Cinematic Wasthetics: An Empirical Eco-critique of Slow Violence and Plastic Pollution"
- Ruby de Vos (University of Groningen), "On (De)Familiarizing Toxicity: Getting Intimate with Polluted Soil"

### 4.3 SITUATED KNOWLEDGES

- Giulia Lepori and Michal Krawczyk (Griffith University), "Regenerative Dwelling in the Age of Collapse: A Story"
- Bethany Williams (University of California, Davis), "Embodied Ecocriticism: Action and Agriculture as Environmental Texts"
- Andreas Rutkauskas (University of British Columbia Okanagan), "Wildfire in an Uncertain Time: Photography and Regeneration"

## 5. WHOSE EMERGENCIES? ANTI- & DECOLONIAL THINKING

### 5.1 AGAINST CLIMATE COLONIALISM

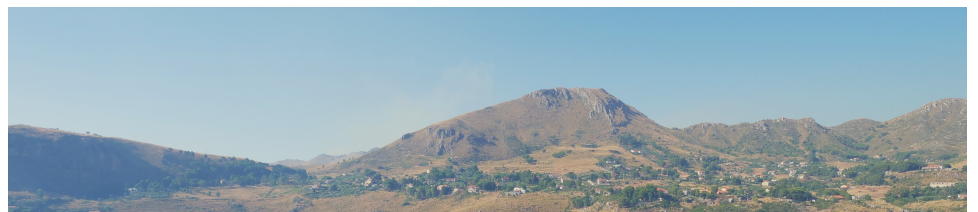
- Paula Wiczorek (University of Rzeszów), "Imagining Anthropocene Future: Indigenous Communities, Extractive Industries and the City in Zainab Amadahy's *Resistance* (2013)"
- Tori Bush (Louisiana State University), "We Are Not Beasts: Deconstructing and Challenging Representations of Climate Displacement"
- Muhammad Manzoor Alam (West Virginia University), "Reading South Asian Ecofiction as Counternarratives to Climate Denialism"

### 5.2 UNSETTLING ALTERITY, UNSETTLING ENVIRONMENTS

- Lucien Darjeun Meadows (University of Denver), "The Soul, The Snake, The White Road: Adelaide Crapsey's Translations of Cherokee Incantations"
- K. Abilasha (Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College), "The non-existent other in Deepak Dalal's *Andaman Adventure The Jarawa* and *Andaman Adventure Barren Island*"
- Karen Siu (Rice University), "Naming Asian American Environmental Literature in an Era of Environmental Crisis"

### 5.3 THEORIZING URGENCY FROM THE SOUTH

- Brooke Stanley (University of Delaware), "Urgencies of the Dry City: Cape Town in the Global Imagination"
- Akua Banful (Columbia University), "Scientists and Fishermen: Environmental Theory, Myth, and Practice in Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide*"
- Rebecca S. Oh (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), "Postcolonial Apocalypse and Pessimistic Aesthetics"





## 6. EMERGENCY ETHICS & POETICS

### 6.1 EXCAVATING URGENCY: SLOW VIOLENCE, FAST DISASTER, AND WHAT LIES IN WAIT

- Stacey Balkun (University of Mississippi), "Post-Apocalyptic Latency Poetics and Living 'Here'"
- Elijah Ohrt (University of Mississippi), "'Shit Happens': Excavating Excrement in Contemporary(ish) Ecopoetics"
- Ann Fisher-Wirth (University of Mississippi), "Toward a Corona Journal"
- Regina Young (University of Mississippi), "Carbon Glow"

### 6.2 EMBODYING EMERGENCY

- Arlene Plevin (Olympic College), "Which Portal Will We Go Through? Environmental Humanities and Activism in a Time of Distant Bodies"
- Agata Kowalewska (Warsaw University), "A Speculative Mythology for a Future of Practicing Kinship and Distance"
- Dominic Wilkins (Syracuse University), Bearing Witness in the Environmental Humanities?

### 6.3 ANTHROPOCENE ETHICS, ANTHROPOCENE MATERIALISMS

- Dong Yang (University of Georgia), "Affectsphere as an Ecosphere: Thoreau, von Üexkull, and the Anthropocene of Care"
- Nathan Schmidt (Indiana University Bloomington), "Nihilism and Bravery"
- Fazila Derya Agis (Independent Scholar), "Teaching Environmental Ethics with *Fünf Freunde* [Five Friends] and *Five on Kirrin Island Again*"
- Sean Collins (University of Utah), "'There's No More Nature': Beckett and New Materialisms"

### 6.4 ANTHROPOCENE POETICS

- Becca Hamilton (University of Cambridge), "'Things of Each Possible Relation Hashing Against Each Other': Juliana Spahr's Climate Crisis Entanglement"
- Matthew Ellis (Brock University), "Listing Atrocity: Queering the Epic with Ecopoetics in Dionne Brand's *Inventory*"
- Emily Simon (Brown University),
- "Different Daylight: Crises of Visuality and Futurity in Sueyeun Juliette Lee's Post-Fluorescent Poetics"





## 7. MORE THAN HUMAN ECOLOGIES 8

### 7.1 FROM EMERGENCY TO EMERGENT -CENES

- Cara Judea Alhadeff (Independent Scholar), "Climate Justice Now: Transforming the Anthropocene into the Ecozoic Era"
- Chantelle Mitchell (Independent Scholar) and Jaxon Waterhouse (University of Tasmania), "Ecological Gyre Theory: Vortextual Thinking After the Ecologic Turn"
- Dee Horne (University of Northern British Columbia), "New Imaginaries in the Anthropocene"
- Jacqueline Dillion (Pepperdine University), "'Ancient Permanence': Thomas Hardy and the Anthropocene"

### 7.2 NONHUMAN ENCOUNTERS, ENTANGLEMENTS, AND AGENCIES I

- Meg Perret (Harvard University), "'Chemical Castration': White Genocide and Male Extinction in Rhetoric of Endocrine Disruption"
- Rebecca A. Durham (University of Montana), "Biophony in the Anthropocene: Changes to the Avian Soundscape Since Thoreau's Time at Walden Pond" and "Bird Count: Avian Reverence/Violence Since Thoreau's Walden"
- Brian Glaser (Chapman University), "Saltwater Wetlands"

### 7.3 NONHUMAN ENCOUNTERS, ENTANGLEMENTS, AND AGENCIES II

- John Charles Ryan (Southern Cross University), "Literary Ethnobotany as a Site of Possibility? Poetry and Traditional Knowledge of Vegetal Life in the Planthropocene"
- Timothy S. Miller (Florida Atlantic University), "Fantasy and Urgency: Climate Change and Rewilding the Imagination in Richard Powers's *The Overstory*"
- Dixon Bynum (University of Mississippi), "A Nest of Cottonmouths: Snake Lore and White Anxiety in Southern Literature"
- Velina Dinkova (University of Colorado Boulder), "Challenging Humanity: Silence, Loss, and Resilience in the Contemporary French Eco Novel"

### 7.4 \*TOPIAS

- Lawrence Coates (Bowling Green State University), "Always Coming Home: Ursula K. Le Guin's Utopian Aesthetic"
- Sheryl M. Medlicott (Independent Scholar), "The Way to Utopia in an Environmental Crisis"
- David Latour (Université de Clermont-Ferrand), "Solarpunk: Imagining a Political and Ecological Aesthetics for the Future"
- Ariel Kroon (University of Alberta), "Solarpunking the Impasse of the Anthropocene"

### 7.5 QUEER ECOLOGIES AND ECOSEXUALITIES

- Eva Hoffmann (Whitman College), "Queer Zombies and the Apocalypse of Man: Ecocriticism, Post-Feminism and Queer Theory in Recent German Literature and Film"
- Sabine LeBel (University of New Brunswick, Fredericton), "Queer Environmental Futures"
- Nicholas Tyler Reich (Vanderbilt University), "Can Truck Sluts Be Environmentalist?"

### 7.6 STRANGE FUTURES

- Matthew Morgenstern (Purdue University), "Nobody Knows Anything for Sure: Uncertainty as Monstrosity in Louise Erdrich's *Future Home of the Living God*"
- Jemma Deer (Harvard University), "Quick: Life and Speed in an Era of Extinction"
- Siobhan Angus (Yale University) and Samantha Spady (University of Alberta), "2020 Vision: Futurity and Climate Crisis"
- Rachel Hill (Independent Scholar), "'Kindling Suns': Decolonial Spaceflight Imaginaries"
- Jessica Hurley (George Mason University), "Apocalypse: A Manifesto for the Futureless"





# ASLE

# Bridgitte Barclay







L: Michal Krawczyk, Inside a top-bar hive in the natural apiary at Thar do Ling  
R, Top: Andreas Rutkauskas, Kettle River Recreation AreaR, Bottom: Andreas Rutkauskas, Aftermath of the Kenow Fire, Waterton Lakes National Park

Jordan B. Kinder, Mural  
in St-Henri, Montréal,  
QC, Canada

Jordan B. Kinder, Mural  
by Elizabeth Blancas,  
Montréal, QC, Canada

Michal Krawczyki, Inside  
a top-bar hive in the  
natural apiary at Thar do  
Ling

Andreas Rutkauskas,  
Kettle River  
Recreation Area

Jordan B. Kinder, Oil  
Cars, Sacramento,  
CA, USA

Michal Krawczyk, Dump  
view from the main road  
that leads to Thar do  
Ling

Jordan B. Kinder, Mural  
in St-Henri, Montréal,  
QC, Canada

Jacqueline L. Scott, Mural by  
Young Jarus, Girl With Bird

