Cross
Multi
Inter
Trans

The Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, U.K. and Ireland in association with LAND2, a landscape, place and visual arts research network
Welcome

Welcome to Sheffield and to the CROSS MULTI INTER TRANS conference and associated In the Open exhibition, the biennial of ASLE-UKI working with LAND2. Here colleagues from the creative arts join with writers and critics interested in place, landscape and environment to present their work in the form of academic-creative panels, exhibitions and performances. We also take field trips around this richly diverse area so, aptly, we know where we are. We hope that this conference will allow participants to fully engage with “the challenge of the environmental humanities as a transdisciplinary matrix” (Heise) and to deepen their analysis of what it is to work across disciplines, bringing critical and aesthetic enquiry into dialogue to explore how creative practice not only informs critical analysis, but is also a critical tool in itself. The conference committee have endeavoured to create panels that encourage CROSS MULTI INTER TRANS thinking. Full abstracts and biographies appear online on the conference website and on paper at the registration desk.

The conference will take place in the Cantor Building at Sheffield Hallam University and the exhibition is in Sheffield Hallam’s SIA Galley (also in the Cantor Building) and at Bank Street Arts, an independent arts organisation in Sheffield’s Georgian Legal Quarter. We will also host a Blackwell’s Bookshop stall on Wednesday and Friday where you can find publications by our participants. On Wednesday night we have an exhibition launch including performances at the SIA gallery and a poetry evening at Bank Street, as well as our unique eco oracle. On Thursday afternoon our field trips allow you to explore the area. On Friday, we hold our conference dinner at Kelham Island Museum, a striking Victorian building standing on a 900 year old man-made island: here you will have a chance to see many of the exhibits and explore Sheffield’s industrial history.

Finally, we should like to thank Sheffield Hallam University Humanities Research Centre, the School of Design, University of Leeds, the School of English, University of Sheffield and the Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures for their generous support and the following publishers for sponsoring our events: Routledge, Palgrave, Manchester University Press, University of Wales Press and Peter Lang. Thanks also to Alexander Refsum Jensenius for permission to use his diagram of INTRA CROSS MULTI INTER TRANS thinking for our logo. Thanks to Paul Wilson for design work.

We wish you an exciting and thought-provoking conference.

Harriet Tarlo, Judith Tucker, John Miller, Joanna Dobson, Daniel Eltringham, Veronica Fibisan, Andrew Jeffrey and Filippa Dobson (The Conference Committee)
In the Open, Sheffield:

an exhibition of collaborative artworks around place, landscape and environment

6th – 28th September 2017

This two-venue exhibition brings together works by those who practice collaboratively and variously as artists, writers, performers, curators and academics. The exhibition has been conceived to work in counterpoint to the conference and to show the results of CROSS MULTI INTER TRANS collaborative practices. All work has been made by at least two collaborators across disciplines to explore, through research and practice, ideas around landscape, place, ecology and environment. Some contributors work from long-standing collaborative relationships, but special thanks should go to the collaborative pairs who contacted us a year ago to be match-made with fellow-artists to work especially for this exhibition. The work reflects artists’ pre-occupation with and experimentation with space on the wall, on screen and within the book-space and the exhibition consists of artworks in a variety of media, including artists’ books, texts, images, films, paintings and objects. Exhibiting these works in conversation with each other offers an enriched perspective of our relationship to landscape place and environment and expand notions of collaboration.

The exhibition runs from 6th – 28th September. The main venues are Sheffield Institute of Arts Gallery, Cantor Building, Sheffield Hallam University 153 Arundel St, Sheffield S1 2NU, 10am–5:00pm daily, including weekends and until 8pm Wednesdays and Bank Street Arts 32-40 Bank Street, Sheffield, S1 2DS 11am - 4pm Wednesdays to Saturdays. We have also populated the cabinets running through the glass atrium in the centre of Charles Street Building, Sheffield Hallam (almost opposite Cantor Building).

Artists
Kim Anno, Steve Baker, Christine Baeumler, Iain Biggs, Emma Bolland, Trevor Borg, Irinia Boukla, John Bowers, Elizabeth-Jane Burnett, Anthony Catania, Clare Charnley, Luce Choules, Thomas A. Clark, Anne-Marie Creamer, Martin Cromie, Barbara Cumbers, Amy Cutler, Clare Davies, Gail Dickerson, Filippa Dobson, Laura Donkers, Dan Eltringham, Adrian Evans, Katy Ewing, Ann Fisher-Wirth, Deborah Gardner, Abigail Goodman, Gordian Projects, Kevin Greenfield, Lucy Sam Haighton, Steven Hitchins, Gillian Hobson, Rachel Hosein Nisbet, Barbara Howey, Diane Howse, Bethan Hughes, Linda Ingham, E. Jackson, Peter Jaeger, Andrew Jeffrey, Natalie Joelle, Jan Johnson, Jane Le Besque, Brian Lewis, Longbarrow Press, Anna Mace, Christine Mackey, Sean Martin, Peter Matthews, Gavin Maughfling, Mary Modeen, Moschatel Press, Sheila Mullen, Camilla Nelson, Ruth O’Callaghan, Martina O’Brien, Evelyn O’Malley, Mark Pajak, Inge Panneels, Kayla Parker, David Power, James Quinn, Anna Robinson, Anna Marie Savage, Beth Savage, Joshua Scammell, Alan Smith, Barry Snaith, Jem Southam, Judith Steward, Caitlin Stobie, Laura-Gray Street, Harriet Tarlo, Chris Taylor, Andrea Thoma, Rebecca Thomas, Min-Wei Ting, Nick Triplow, Judith Tucker, Veronica Vickery, David Walker Barker, Carole Webster, Wild Pansy Press, Louise K. Wilson, Paul Wilson, Lucie Winterson, Jon Wrigley, Harriette Yarrington.
Order of Events

All plenaries and panels take place in Cantor Building; all breaks/lunches in Cantor atrium.

Wednesday 6 September

9.00am-9.50am  Arrival, Registration, Tea and Coffee

9.50am-10.00am  Welcomes from Conference Organisers; Richard Calvert, Chief Operating Officer, Sheffield Hallam University; Brycchan Carey, Chair of ASLE-UKI; Mary Modeen, Co-Convenor, LAND2

10.00am-11.15am  Ine Gevers plenary - A-Whereness As Prerequisite For Living

Cantor 9130  CHAIR: Judith Tucker

The Dutch Niet Normaal Foundation is a cross podium platform for major international exhibitions at the intersection of art, science and society. The first exhibition, called Niet Normaal · Difference on Display, Amsterdam, 2010, aimed at uncovering normalization strategies in western society and its various technologies. Followed by Yes Naturally · How Art Saves the World, The Hague, 2013, which counterbalanced the notion of the Anthropocene, bringing into focus the interdependence in relations between human and non-human species. With this exhibition we started to uncover a new sense of ‘a-whereness’ as an extension of the more common awareness of human subjects. Hacking Habitat · Art of Control, Utrecht, 2016, advocated the development of ‘a-whereness’ now that digital and analogue realities have merged. A-whereness as prerequisite to reclaim our lives in the age of digital and institutional dominance (hack our habitat). The talk touches upon these main goals of the Niet Normaal Foundation: how inclusive, relational and situated approaches can help us to question dominant myths and create new pathways into our not-too-far-away future.

Ine Gevers inegevers.net is curator, writer and activist. Among the exhibitions and publications are: Place, Position, Presentation, Public, Maastricht, 1992; Cultural Identity: Fiction or Necessity, Maastricht, 1990; Ik + de Ander. Art and the Human Condition, Amsterdam 1994; Beyond Ethics and Aesthetics, SUN, 1997; Encountering the Culture of the Norm, Amsterdam, 2000; Niet Normaal · Difference on Display, Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam, 2010 nietnormaalexhibition.nl (Berlin, 2011, Liverpool,2012); Yes Naturally. How art saves the world, Gemeentemuseum, The Hague, 2013, proposing non-anthropocentric worldview in order to become ecologically intelligent. ja-natuurlijk.com. Recently the large scale international exhibition Hacking Habitat · Art of Control displayed in the former prison of the city Utrecht, contributed to a new sense of ‘a-where ness’ as precondition to algorithmic resistance and active digital citizenship. hackinghabitat.com. Currently she is preparing and doing research for ROBOT LOVE, due in Eindhoven 2018. robotlove.nlIne Gevers www.nietnormaal.nl
11.30am-1.00pm  Parallel panels session A

Panel 1: Cantor 9024  *Inter-genre Inter-national: Artists in Collaboration*
CHAIR: Judith Tucker
Anne-Marie Creamer and Laura-Gray Street - Longdendale Lights: Perspectives (I) and Longdendale Lights: Perspectives (II).
Ann Fisher-Wirth and Barbara Howey - Damage Poison Beauty Ooze: a poet and a painter respond to contemporary landscapes

Panel 2: Cantor 9025  *‘Managed’ spaces*
CHAIR: Brycchan Carey
William Welstead - Interpreting Natural Heritage: Collaboration between science and the humanities
Rachel Dowse - The Streams Run Both Ways: Sense of place in a man-made natural landscape
Paul Wilson - ‘Not-yet’: raising the book, re-writing voices of Utopia

Panel 3: Cantor 9128  *Writing meat: flesh-eating and literature since 1900*
CHAIR: Joanna Dobson
Rachael Allen - ‘A Grain of Brain’: Poetically Resurrecting the Cow
Sean McCorry - ‘Soylent Green is People!’: Anthropophagy and Population Ecology
John Miller - The Literary Invention of In Vitro Meat

Panel 4: Cantor 9129  *Digital imagination*
CHAIR: David Ingram
Lykke Guanio-Uluru - Digital media, artist and plant: James Cameron’s Avatar – a cure for plant blindness?
Bronwin Patrickson - Mobilising the Environmental Imagination in Hybrid Landscapes
Bradon Smith - Breaking the Grid: computer games as sites of ecological reflection

Panel 5: Cantor 9137  *Aquapelagic poetics*
CHAIR: Andrew Jeffrey
Ros Ambler-Alderman - ‘Things of Each Possible Relation Hashing Against One Another’: Juliana Spahr and the poetry of erosion
Pippa Marland - Archipelagic Refraction: reading the Docklands through the Western Isles in Stephen Watts’ Republic of Dogs / Republic of Birds
Mandy Bloomfield - Oceanic Poetics: All at sea with Charles Olson

1.00pm-2.00pm  Lunch

The ASLE Executive Committee will meet during lunch (Cantor 9024)
1.15pm-1.45pm  FILM SCREENING  Cantor 9130

Hold. Test. Empty. Remove. Repeat: a short collaborative film produced by Ciara Healy and Adam Stead. The film looks at our relationship with agriculture and place and is the result of a two-year correspondence. Adam’s concerns are with the socio-political impacts of increased industrialisation and consumerism on agriculture within rural communities in Britain and Ireland. He reflects upon his relationship with the farm he grew up on and its future. Ciara draws attention to the mythologies, histories and ecologies of place and the impact they have on our sense of belonging. Their correspondence is compiled as a visual dialogue documenting how they attend to the widening gap between the urban, the suburban and the rural, using diverse ecological, agricultural and environmental ways of knowing.

2.00pm-4.00pm  Parallel panels session B

Panel 1: Cantor 9024  Landscapes: perceptions and (mis)entanglements
CHAIR: Chris Jones
Helen List - A Dud Metaphor – Page onto Land
Andrew Jeffrey – Moss Valley Entanglements
Joanne Lee and Rosemary Shirley – Six Stories about Litter includes curator/artist led walk into the city and return for final discussion

Panel 2: Cantor 9025  Chartered waters
CHAIR: Iain Biggs
Simon Read – Diverse communities, familiar territory: Conflict and congruency over natural resource management
Judith Tucker and Harriet Tarlo - “cut banks out”: working on unnavigable waters
Zoe Skoulding - Hidden rivers: collaborations with the Adda (Bangor) and the Bièvre (Paris)
Janette Kerr and Jo Millett – Confusing shadow with substance

Panel 3: Cantor 9129  Pastorals: landscapes of transhumance
CHAIR: Terry Gifford
Paolo Palladino and Annalisa Colombino - Centaurs and Transhumance: On movement and modes of being together
Julia Tanner - Post-humanising the Pastoral: Sweetgrass’s swarming sheep
Dan Eltringham - ‘Breeze, or Bird, or fleece of Sheep’: Pastoral propagation and traditional ecological knowledge in Wordsworth’s Cumbria
Carol Watts - Occupations of Pastoral

Panel 4: Cantor 9137  World Processing
CHAIR: Filippa Dobson
Luce Choules - Guide 74: A mountain recording activity
Samantha Walton - Cultures of Nature and Wellbeing: Narratives of sustainability and green healthcare
Edwina Fitzpatrick - The witnessed and mediated ‘natural’ environment in remote regions
Camilla Nelson - World Processing: human and other-than-human language production as a mode of perception in Translating the Coal Forests
Panel 1: Cantor 9024  *Artists’ books and mapping*
CHAIR: Harriet Tarlo
Laura Donkers and Jan Johnson - The Mutable Book: Intra-Leaving & Sewing Wildflowers
Elizabeth-Jane Burnett and Rebecca Thomas – Performative Collaboration in Southern England

Panel 2: Cantor 9025  *Deluge*
CHAIR: Brycchan Carey
Tara Gulwell - A Hurricane Named Katrina: Reimagining Nature in a Deconstructed Cityscape
Justin Sausman - Reservoir noir and drowned villages: Ladybower Reservoir and Berlie Doherty’s Deep Secret
Astrid Bracke - The ethics of the Anthropocene: Characterisation and narrative perspective in postmillennial British flood novel

Panel 3: Cantor 9128  *Eco-mystic poetics*
CHAIR: Franca Bellarsi
Jonathan Butler - Geopoetic Musings on the Phenomenological Trail: Stone Age thinking in the poetry of Don McKay
Chad Weidner - Magnifying the Mystery: Denise Levertov and the mystical ecopoetics of nature
Marianne Reskeland - Picturing Nature in Poems by Tor Ulven

Panel 4: Cantor 9129  *Eco-fiction*
CHAIR: John Miller
Louise Squires - Worms, crows and a murder of men in Claudia Casper’s The Mercy Journals
Jenny Bavidge - David Almond’s Wildernesses
Koichiro Ito - The Posthumanist Vision of the City in Jose Rivera’s *Marisol*

Panel 5: Cantor 9137  *Unbounded*
CHAIR: Veronica Fibisan
Lucy Collins - Moving Landscapes: Nature unbound in the work of Willie Doherty and Seamus Heaney
Ann Carragher - Landscape, Liminality and Lament
Exhibition Private View and Conference Grand Opening featuring performance, poetry and your first chance to look around the Open exhibitions 6.00pm-9.00pm

The conference’s opening event and exhibition private view will be taking place between Sheffield Institute of Arts Gallery (SIA), Cantor Building and Bank Street Arts, from 6.00-9.00pm. The evening will start at SIA for drinks & canapes, before crossing the city centre for further drinks, poetry & eco-mysticism at Bank Street Arts. We invite you to move between the two venues to see all exhibits and performances…

At Sheffield Institute of Arts Gallery (SIA), Cantor Building
drinks and canapés kindly sponsored by Routledge and Manchester University Press.

6.00-6.15pm   Welcome & thanks from Judith Tucker and Ian Biggs (LAND2)
Presentation of ASLE-UKI Postgraduate Prize by Brycchan Carey

6.15-8.00pm: **Dead-time: a physical performance in poetry**
Lucy Burnett, Kate Hannah Papi and Oliviero Papi performance run on a half-hourly loop

‘Dead-time’ is the instant after an event before any system is able to record a further event. Rather than viewing this instant as a ‘void’, instead this collaborative performance of poetry and physical theatre views it as a condition of abstracted energy and potential, from which the world emerges – a state replete with the possibility of change, in environmental and other contexts. ‘Dead-time’ draws on three intensive periods of collaborative research by poet Lucy Burnett, Kate Hannah Papi (director) and Oliviero Papi (lead performer), of OBRA theatre company, into developing improvisatory methodologies for co-writing poetry for physical performance. See conference website for full biographies.

The playful performance for the opening night of ASLE UKI will run on a half-hourly loop, combining fragments of work-in-progress with a demonstration of the underpinning techniques and methodologies, and an opportunity for discussion and questions. How does one enact the emoto-intellectual-physicality of *becoming other* with the world, through movement and words as contiguous and inseparable processes? And how might performances such as this help us reconsider our ‘own’ place in a changing world?
At Bank Street Arts
drinks kindly sponsored by the School of Design, University of Leeds

7.00-8.30pm, Gallery 1: Electric Arc Furnace ecopoetry special edition, featuring short readings by poets speaking at the conference (see biographical notes on the conference website):

7.30pm:
Helen Moore
Anne Elvey
Camilla Nelson
Linus Slug Insect Librarian
Laura-Gray Street

INTERVAL 1: 7.30pm – 7.50pm

7.50-8.10pm:
Ann Fisher-Wirth
Carol Watts
Samantha Walton
Frances Presley

INTERVAL 2: 8.10pm – 8.30pm

8.30-9pm:
Elizabeth-Jane Burnett
Zoë Skoulding
Agi Lehoczky
Jonathan Skinner

7.30-9.00pm Atrium: artist Christine Baeumler, Eco Oracle, offers Mystic Truths Revealed:

We live in UNPREDICTABLE times threatened by global climate CHANGE, international conflict, diminishing habitat, the pollution of the water we drink and the air we breathe. Our FUTURE lies in the balance of these conflicting FORCES. LUCKILY, we still have the CHANCE to align our values with our actions to influence future outcomes. We have the POWER to make different decisions about what we eat, how we transport ourselves, how we treat each others and how we live MINDFULLY on our planet.

The ECO-ORACLE deck is a decision-making tool meant to assist you in recognizing current conditions, reflecting on challenges and drawing upon your strengths and resources to make wise decisions that influence others and impact the world. These thirty-three cards, featuring images from the Weisman Art Museum’s extraordinary art collection, provide a SYMBOLIC guide for an approach to seeing the world and choosing more sustainable habits.
Thursday 7 September

9.30am-11.15am Parallel panels session D

Panel 1: Cantor 9024  Water
CHAIR: Veronica Fibisan
Ágnes Lehóczky - Place, Peril and Pool: to Undo the Uncanny?
Rachel Nisbet - Alice Oswald’s Sleepwalk on the Severn: A cosmo-centric ecodrama?
Nick Triplow and Gillian Hobson – Memories of water

Panel 2: Cantor 9025  Other than human
CHAIR: Andrew Jeffrey
Elspeth Tulloch - Comeback Kit: Transatlantic return tales of the beaver on the brink
Maria Moss - Unlikely Friendships: Prey and predator reconsidered
Beth Savage - Asymmetric Co-production: Strategies for collaborating with non-human entities
Anastasia Cardone - ‘Though not by words, it was a more than satisfactory way to the bridge of understanding:’ Communication with the Environment in Mary Oliver’s Ecopoetry

Panel 3: Cantor 9128  Birds
CHAIR: Harriet Tarlo
Brychan Carey - The Surprising Poeticism of Gilbert White’s Natural History of Selborne (1789)
David Borthwick - Flight Ways, Goose Music and Metamorphosis: Migratory Birds and the Transnational Tilt
Erin Kavanagh and Iain Biggs – The Crow Road

Panel 4: Cantor 9129  Landscape and cultural imagination
CHAIR: Eirini Boukla
Majella Clancy - Irregular activity: space, place and the Irish cultural imagination
Anne Elvey - Unsettling the ‘White Possessive’ – decolonisation and ecopoetics: a performative oral collage
Rob St John - Archipelago thinking: art-geography experiments on a Finnish island
Sharon Kivland – Freud’s walking holidays

Panel 5: Cantor 9137  Climate, energy and history
CHAIR: Richard Kerridge
Micha Gerrit Philipp Edlich - Drawing the Disaster, Mapping American Oil Cultures: Steve Duin and Shannon Wheeler’s Oil and Water
Matthew Griffiths - A Poetic Palaver: (Un)considered responses to ‘poetry and climate change’
Sam Solnick - Apocalypse Then: exploring environmental crisis through contemporary historical fiction

11.15am-11.45am Tea/Coffee Break
11.45am-1.00pm  Jonathan Skinner plenary - Vibrational Communication: Ecopoetics in the Seismic Channel
Cantor 9130  CHAIR: Harriet Tarlo

What if the language abyss between life forms, or the gaps between disciplines, were precisely what make communication necessary? Vibrational, or substrate-borne, seismic communication offers a model for signaling strategies in noisy environments, trading directionality for reach, and trading short loop, closed-circuit communications for what media theorist Douglas Kahn calls “earth magnitude” signals. In the seismic channel, non-representational, activist poetries open up contact zones, generative spaces and times not bound to the apocalyptic doom of human lifeworlds. When scientific and political discourses reverberate in poetry, and when poetry repercusses beyond human channels, something other than expertise might begin to communicate, disrupting efforts to sustain an illusion of control with the shared knowledge of ignorance. This talk proposes a turn from semblance to vibration, as theory of meaning for an ecopoetics able to sound the reach, and potential efficacy, of a range of practices by poets aiming, in their radical innovation, to take measure of the human ecological footprint.

Jonathan Skinner, who founded and edited the journal ecopoetics, has authored the poetry collections Chip Calls, Political Cactus Poems, Birds of Tifft and Warblers, in addition to critical essays on poets such as Charles Olson, Lorine Niedecker, Michael McClure, Ronald Johnson, Mei-mei Berssenbrugge, Bernadette Mayer, Cecilia Vicuña and others; translations of French garden theory; and essays on field recording and on contexts for poetry such as the third landscape or proprioception. Skinner is Associate Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literary Studies at the University of Warwick.

1.00pm-1.15pm  Collect picnic and depart on fieldtrips

Coaches for the trips will depart from Arundel Gate outside the main entrance to the University Owen Building. (All except Bunker Trip. People taking part in the bunker trip can eat their picnic lunch and then attend the pre-trip panel session starting at 1.30pm – see Trip 4 below.)

Trip 1: Sheffield Edgelands and Moss Valley (led by Andrew Jeffrey)
Hugh Dunkerley – Some thoughts on poetry and fracking (winner of the 2016 ASLE Hay lecture prize)
Elizabeth Hall - Valuing Nature: the use and impact of narrative in environmental valuation

Trip 2: The Entomological Imagination at Doncaster Museum (led by John Miller)
Rachel Murray - Bugs on the Battlefield: Insects, war, and the cultural imaginary
Jonas House - Insect eating and (In)humanity in Popular Film
Michael Malay - Of More Ancient Lineage Than Man: Insects in modern American and British poetry
Linus Slug Insect Librarian

Trip 3: Yorkshire Sculpture Park (led by Deborah Gardner and Andrea Thoma)
Lucy Burnett - Dead-time: exploring the lingo-physical ecopotentiality of abstraction through physical theatre and poetry
Deborah Gardner and Andrea Thoma - Textures of Place in context: from the far side of the moon to the immediacy of folded colour-space
Anna Stenning - Collaboration in the field – ‘Landscapes of the Imagination’ at the Master’s House, Ledbury
Trip 4: To the bunker! (led by Luke Bennett)

NB: This trip will be preceded by a 90-minute panel session at SHU, entitled ‘To the bunker: three views of cold war landscapes’ (commencing 1.30pm), featuring:

Louise K Wilson – The Eerie and the Banal
Matthew Flintham – Toras Forat: A speculative study of war architecture in the landscape
Stephen Felmingham – Peripheral Artefacts: drawing (out) the Cold War

A coach will then depart at 3.20pm to attend a private viewing of York Bunker (http://www.englishheritage.org.uk/visit/places/york-cold-war-bunker/) plus an authors’ panel event in which Ian Klinke (Political Geographer, University of Oxford) will interrogate a panel of contributors to the edited collection In The Ruins of The Cold War Bunker: Materiality, Affect and Meaning-Making, published by Rowman & Littlefield International in June 2017 as part of their Place, Memory & Affect series. Due to space constraints within the bunker there will be two sittings of the authors’ panel session (alternating with the bunker tour). The authors’ panel will comprise:

Louise K. Wilson / Stephen Felmingham (Artists) (alternating between presenter and chair)
Luke Bennett (editor of In the Ruins)
Arno Geesink (Architect)
Kevin Booth (Senior curator, English Heritage)

Trip 5: David Walker-Barker’s Studio and Elsecar Heritage Centre

Panel at Elsecar Heritage Centre: Surface and Underground (led by Dan Eltringham and David Walker-Barker)

Tom Baskeyfield and Mario Popham – Shaped by Stone
David Ainley - Mining, Quarrying and Process in Painting
Dan Eltringham and David Walker-Barker – Searching for Jossie: Surface and Underground in the Layered Landscape of Langsett and Midhope

Trip 6: Black Hill and the moors (led by Harriet Tarlo and Judith Tucker)

Panel at Choppards Mission
Karen Tobias-Green, Samantha Broadhead and Sharon Bainbridge - Telling and retelling our tales/tails from the Italian Alps to the Yorkshire Moors
Filippa Dobson and Mark Pajak – The First Cut
Adrian Tait - Island Life: a biographical reading of Jane Eyre at Moor House

Trip 7: River Don Walk (led by Chris Jones)

Chris Jones will be introducing text, poetry and images as part of the walk to contextualise the terrain. Along the way we’ll come across Thomas Paine, George Orwell, Carol Ann Duffy, Jarvis Cocker, Donald Bailey, huge piles of tyres, steel works, fig trees, and (hopefully) herons and kingfishers.

6.30pm-7.00pm Return from trips
Friday 8 September

9.30am-11.10am Parallel panels session E

Panel 1: Cantor 9024  Culture and custom
CHAIR: Dan Eltringham
Rebecca Ford - More than words? A dialogical approach to narratives and the naturalcultural world
Pauline O’Connell - The Politics of Narrative: speaking from the inside
Swetha Antony - Transcending the tiNai: a study of the literary, cultural and performative traditions of the Latin Catholic Community in Kerala

Panel 2: Cantor 9025  Digital matters
CHAIR: Louise K. Wilson
David Ingram - Eco-adaptation: Gone to Earth from novel to film
Brenda Hollweg - ‘A Questioning Situation’; Video-essayistic explorations of fragile planetary configurations
Helen Hughes - Radioactive documentary: Between science and popular culture

Panel 3: Cantor 9128  Stone and rock
CHAIR: Filippa Dobson
Nancy Ellen Miller - ‘Stone’: Tracing The Burren through visual poetry and performance
Tony Clancy - ‘From Rocks’ (video and discussion)
Dan Shipsides - ‘PATA-perception - a creative approach to landscape. Including examples from the Cove

Panel 4: Cantor 9129  Herbs, plants and seeds
CHAIR: Brycchan Carey
Gemma Curto - Aperion: accessing a jungle of Chinese illusionary gardens
Rosie Paice - Arguments about gardening: human companionship under threat in Milton’s Paradise Lost
Christine Mackey - Seed Matter: Re-seeding the herbarium
Alicia Carroll - Reading Across Transdisciplinary Digital Archives: the environmental story of an herbstrewer’s dress

Panel 5: Cantor 9137  Eco-activism and poetry
CHAIR: Richard Kerridge
Helen Moore - ECOZOA: A poetic revisioning of the Anthropocene
Terry Gifford - Interdisciplinarity in the Greening of Ted Hughes
Emma Must - The Ballad of Yellow Wednesday: eco-activism; eco poetry?
David Higgins - ‘I am the Universe’: Writing Climate Change – a critical-creative case study

11.10am - 12.30pm Tea/Coffee Break: take your tea and coffee to:

Cantor 9130  ASLE AGM: ALL MEMBERS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!
Cantor 9024  LAND2 members’ meeting
12.30pm-1.30pm Lunch

1.30pm– 3.10pm Parallel panels session F

Panel 1: Cantor 9024  Trees
CHAIR: Brycchan Carey
Evelyn O’Malley - Transplanted weathering: performing transcorporeal memory in Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig’s Snow in Midsummer
Michelle Poland - ‘And so we left our worldly goods / to make our home in these deep woods’: An ecogothic approach to the forests of the brothers Grimm
Camilla Allen and Robin Hamon - Richard St Barbe Baker: visionary environmentalist / interpreter of the Bible

Panel 2: Cantor 9025  Cross-species communication
CHAIR: Andrea Thoma
Helen Billinghurst - A Bestiary for the Anthropocene
Nadha Grewal - On the ‘Disassembly Line’ of the Human and the Nonhuman: storying hybrid forms
Lucy Stevens and Jonathan Skinner – Nightingale Variations

Panel 3: Cantor 9128  In Praise of Wetlands
CHAIR: Judith Tucker
Mary Modeen, Iain Biggs and Christine Baeumler – Similiarities and Differences: a three-way evocation of the richness and complexity of wetlands from two continents

Panel 4: Cantor 9129  Building an impact narrative
ASLE UKI postgraduate and early career panel
Led by Richard Kerridge
Convenors: Michelle Poland and Rebecca Ford
What is impact; how do we work cross multi inter trans to achieve it; how can it make a demonstrable difference, and how does the academy define impact?

Panel 5: Cantor 9137  Liminal Poetics
CHAIR: Harriet Tarlo
Veronica Fibisan - The Shoreline as Creative Space in the Anthropocene in Mark Dickinson’s Tender Geometries and Littoral
Franca Bellarsi - Walking the Ecopoetics of Art Nouveau
Frances Presley and Tilla Brading - Ada Lovelace at Ashley Combe

3.10pm-3.30pm Tea/Coffee Break
3.30pm-5.00pm Parallel panels session G

Panel 1: Cantor 9024 Land and violence
CHAIR: Veronica Vickery
Emily McGiffin - ‘The simple truth is they came to oppress’: Nontsizi Mgqwetho and Witwatersrand Gold
Saba Pirzadeh - Militarised Geography: war legacies and ecological precarity in post 9/11 Afghanistan
Joanna Dobson - Bomb craters, gravel pits and nests: rare birds and the re-imagining of post-war Britain

Panel 2: Cantor 9025 Crosspollination
CHAIR: Iain Biggs
Juan Ignacio Oliva - Crosspollination: Eco-mythical stories for changing consciousness
Eirini Boukla - Scattered recollections, a reflection on ‘Bal n vodi’
Charles M Pigott - Ecological Visions in Mayan and Quechua Literature

Panel 3: Cantor 9128 Versus
CHAIR: John Miller
John Parham – Biggish Data: Friedrich Engels, material ecology and the origins of data management
Richard Kerridge – Fear and Comedy in the New Nature Writing
Hannes Berghthaller - Claude Bernard’s ‘Milieu Intérieur’ and the possibility of a ‘free and independent life’

Panel 4: Cantor 9129 Cognitive Exercises
CHAIR: Andrew Jeffrey
Timo Maran - Dark Umwelts, Semiocide and Modelling with Imaginary Forests
Ron Milland - Applied Tentacularity: Collaborative for the post-Anthropocene
Wendy Wheeler - Avoiding Semiocide, Remembering Aesthetics: Meaning-making in nature and culture

Panel 5: Cantor 9137 Beyond Ourselves: Considering Interspecies and Environmental Empathy
Roundtable chaired by Diana Webber
One of the most important documents published in Canada during my lifetime is the 2015 Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC). Titled Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future, the report publicized the TRC’s lengthy investigation into Canada’s notorious Indian residential school system, a system of immersive pedagogy that aimed to assimilate First Nations children into mainstream Euro-Canadian culture. The report charges Canada and its major religious institutions with the perpetration of cultural genocide, “the destruction of those structures and practices that allow [a] group to continue as a group” (TRC 1). Although the residential school system was not established until after Canada became a semi-autonomous federal state in 1867, my talk will consider its antecedents in the British colony of Upper Canada circa 1800 to 1840, focusing, in particular, upon the role that environmental practices and representations played in both supporting and opposing the politics of cultural genocide. At the outset, I will consider representations of natural environments and environmental practices in contemporary Euro-Canadian and First Nations writings, paying particular attention to texts highlighting processes of métissage, cross-cultural exchange, and anti-colonial resistance. I will then focus on the Irish-Ojibwe poet Bemwewegizhigokwe (known among the English as Jane Johnston Schoolcraft), whose Ojibwe name has been translated as Woman of the Sound the Stars Make Rushing through the Sky. As products of the colonial contact zone, Bemwewegizhigokwe’s poems show the influence of her Ojibwe mother’s traditional environmental knowledge while also reflecting the Romantic environmental worldview she gleaned from her Irish father’s woodland library, which housed volumes by Hannah More, Walter Scott, Lord Byron, James Fenimore Cooper, and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. By highlighting the fascinating mixture of Ojibwe and Romantic perspectives informing Bemwewegizhigokwe’s poetry, I hope to illuminate aspects of Aboriginal resistance to cultural genocide in Canada’s pre-Confederation colonial history.

Dr. Kevin Hutchings is Professor of English and Canada Research Chair in Literature, Culture, and Environmental Studies, University of Northern British Columbia. He is the author of Romantic Ecologies and Colonial Cultures in the British Atlantic World 1770-1850 (2009) and Imagining Nature: Blake’s Environmental Poetics (2002). He is also co-author of the BC Book Prize-winning Birds of the Raincoast: Habits and Habitat (2004), and his co-edited books include Transatlantic Literary Exchanges 1790-1870 (2011) and Native Americans and Anglo-American Culture 1750-1850 (2009). He is currently writing a book entitled British Romanticism and North American Indigenous Governance 1800-1940. In his spare time, Kevin has recorded several indie music CDs, including Songs of William Blake, On the Bridge You Were Burning, and Light to Shine.