

Literature and the Environment

Ecole doctorale de la Conférence Universitaire de la Suisse Occidentale (C.U.S.O.)

University of Geneva 16-18 October 2009

Venue: Société de Lecture, Grand Rue 11, 1205 Genève

Friday 16 October

- 9:30 Registration and coffee
- 10:00 Opening: *Literature and the Environment: The Idea Behind the Conference* (Martin Leer)
- 10:30 Panel 1: *Writing Nature I – Between Justice and Utopia*
- Dr. Alexa Weik (Université de Fribourg), *Environmental Justice Ecocriticism: Considering Issues of Environmental Injustice in Literature and Film*
- Dr. Caroline Dionne (Revue *Tracés*, Lausanne), *Towards a Sustainable Architecture: 'Nature' in the Utopian Architecture of C.N.Ledoux and Buckminster Fuller*
- 12:00 Panel 2: *Writing Nature II – Between Water and Waste*
- Dr. Ursula Kluwick (Universität Bern), *Writing Nature in Contemporary Environmental Fiction*
- Dr. Roy Sellars (Universität Skt.Gallen), *Derrida's Environment*
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:30 Panel 3: *Navigating Rivers and Deserts*
- Dr. Rachel Hosein Nisbet (Université de Genève), *Navigating Doubled Terrain: Re-reading Literary Texts as a Geologic Record, and Earth History as a Literary Text*
- Dr. Rune Graulund (University of Copenhagen/ SUNY Stony Brook at New York City), *Entropy, Ethics and the Empty: Or the Difficulty of Being Human in a World Without a Biosphere (on Cormac McCarthy's **The Road**)*
- 15:45 Coffee

16:15 First Keynote: Professor Timothy Morton, UC Davis, *Ecology as Text, Text as Ecology*

18:30 Reception

Saturday 17 October

9:30 Second Keynote Address: Professor Timothy Ingold, University of Aberdeen, *Ways of Mind-Walking: Reading, Writing, Drawing, Painting*

10:30 Coffee

11:00 Panel 4: *Mapping the Environment*

Dr. Barbara Piatti (Institute of Cartography, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule, Zürich), *Towards a Literary Atlas of Europe: Categories, Symbols and Map Samples of an Imprecise Geography*

Arnaud Barras (Université de Genève), *Mapping **Carpentaria**: Aboriginal Dreaming, Trajectories and Environment in Alexis Wright's Novel*

12:00 Panel 5: *Writing on the Environment*

Susanna Gebhardt (Université de Genève), *'Though Written in Our Flesh, We Shall Remember': The Corporeal Body as Parchment in the English Renaissance*

David Warner (Université de Genève), *Writing on the Environment: The Practice and Theory of Graffiti*

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Panel 5: *Cities as Environments*

Dr. Louise Wilson (Université de Genève), *City Space and Romance Space in Francis Beaumont's **The Knight of the Burning Pestle***

Dr. Sylvain Briens (Sorbonne), *Paris as Garden City: Ecocriticism and Geopoetics in August Strindberg's **Inferno***

Anna Iatsenko (Université de Genève), ***Jazz and 'the City'** (Toni Morrison)*

15:45 Coffee

16:15 Panel 6: *Language and Space*

Dr. David Glyn Wilson (Universités de Genève & Neuchâtel), *The Utopian Environment in William Morris's Later Writings*

Ursula Caci (Universität Basel), *Locating Gender in Space: Emily Dickinson's Conception of Gender*

17:15 Third Keynote: Professor Helen Tiffin (University of Tasmania), *The Speech of Dumb Beasts: Voicing Animals in Literature for Adults*

Sunday 18 October:

9:30 Workshop I: Summing up and discussion of short handout of theoretical texts on topics covered in the conference (with convenor and keynote speakers)

10:30 Coffee

11:00 Workshop II: Discussion of short pieces of text, images and problems of research on the topic, provided by the participants, including participants whose primary area of research is not literature and the environment (with convenor and keynote speakers)

13:00 Lunch