



An evening in the English Garden, Munich (2023)
Photograph by Siddharth Pandey

Ecology, Aesthetics and Everyday Cultures of Modernity

A Workshop at the Käte Hamburger Research Centre global dis:connect

As the Anthropocene charges ahead with its bewildering array of challenges and numerous debates on ecology and the environment gather steam, it becomes impossible to think of our contemporary existence without paying attention to the presence and legacies of the natural world. This environmental heritage is not only configured ideologically and politically by human beings, but also habitually and aesthetically. Here, the concept of 'aesthetics' operates much more capaciously and ubiquitously than only conveying ideas of taste or judgment, additionally signalling the sensorial, the embodied and the lived. Thinkers working across the disciplines of new materialism, anthropology, sociology, art history, cultural studies, geohumanities, craft studies and environmental humanities have been drawing attention to the dynamic intermingling of natural and cultural spheres, often through the lens of the aesthetic everyday. This workshop brings together scholars from various areas of interest to deliberate the linkages between ecology, everydayness and aesthetics. Taking the modern period from the 19th century to the present as its broad temporal context, the event sheds a critical and creative light on the manifold ways in which the modern world experiments, challenges and accommodates socio-cultural expressions of ecological aesthetics.

Your participation is understood to imply consent to photographic and video recordings for internal purposes, scholarly communication and publicity.
Should you have any concerns, please contact Sophie Eisenried at sophie.eisenried@lmu.de.



Ecology, aesthetics and everyday cultures of modernity

#ecoaesthetics2023

Concept and organisation:
Siddharth Pandey



Please register by 3 July 2023:
<https://www.globaldisconnect.org/registration/>

10-11
July
2023

Käte Hamburger
Research Centre
global dis:connect
LMU Munich
Maria-Theresia-Straße 21
81675 Munich
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Programme

Monday, 10 July 2023

Venue: The library, global dis:connect

9:00 – 9:15 Registration

9:15 – 9:30 Welcome

9:30 – 10:30 Keynote
David Whitley (University of Cambridge)
Animated lives: modes of understanding the changing environment?

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:15 Panel 1 *The language of plants*

Sarah J. Moore (University of Arizona)
Trees speaking slowly in Manhattan: time landscape and ecological aesthetics

Vera-Simone Schulz (Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine)
Picturing plants: ecologies, aesthetics, and the deceitful display of tropical falsehoods

Moderator: Jonas Dahm (Stiftung Universität Hildesheim)
Respondent: Lachlan Fleetwood (global dis:connect)

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 14:45 Panel 2 *Geopolitical aesthetics*

Nicolas Holt (McGill University, Montreal)
Fertile media and mineral matters

Ananya Mishra (Queen Mary University, London):
Salu Majhi's Kashipur, 10 years on: reflections on an ongoing audiovisual archive

Moderator: Kaila Howell (Harvard University)
Respondent: Tom Menger (global dis:connect)

14:45 – 15:15 Coffee break

15:15 – 16:30 Panel 3 *Of form and feeling*

Nathalie Kerschen (McGill University, Montreal)
Expressing nature: on character, earth materials and eco-phenomenology in architectural design

Jane Boddy (State Arts Collection, Dresden)
Form-feeling and the aesthetics of nature around 1900

Moderator: Vera-Simone Schulz (Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine)
Respondent: Nikolai Brandes (global dis:connect)

16:30 – 16:45 Short coffee break

16:45 – 18:00 Panel 4 *Between the known and unknown*

Jutta Teutenberg (LMU)
I have virtually the same hands he had: experimental prehistory and the changing idea of human origins in the visual history of prehistoric man around 1900

Magdalena Grüner (University of Hamburg)
Abyssal visions: the science/fictions of the Bermuda oceanographic expeditions (1929-1934)

Moderator: Senne Schraeyen (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
Respondent: Cathrine Bublitzky (global dis:connect)

Tuesday, 11 July 2023

Venue: The library, global dis:connect

9:00 – 10:15 Panel 5 *The limits and edges of perception*

Jonas Dahm (Stiftung Universität Hildesheim)
How to listen in on posthuman becomings

Jessie Elizabeth Alperin (University of Chicago)
Viewing the Earth from above: imagining ecological seeing in Odilon Redon's *Le paravent rouge*

Moderator: Sarah J. Moore (University of Arizona)
Respondent: Siddharth Pandey (global dis:connect)

10:15 – 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 – 12:00 Panel 6 *The prism of the pastoral*

Mihir Kumar Jha (IIT Delhi)
Plateau, picturesque: the pastoral configuration of India's Chhota Nagpur Plateau in colonial literature (1857-1947)

Senne Schraeyen (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
Counteracting the polluted and the pastoral: Roger Raveel's attempts towards an engaged aesthetics of complexity

Moderator: Nathalie Kerschen (McGill University, Montreal)
Respondent: Arnab Dey (global dis:connect)

12:00 – 13:15 Lunch

13:15 – 14:30 Panel 7 *Ice tales*

Oliver Aas (Cornell University)
Arctic in the expanded field

Kaila Howell (Harvard University)
Romantic discord: a reading of Caspar David Friedrich's *The Sea of Ice*

Moderator: Ananya Mishra (Queen Mary University, London)
Respondent: Anna Grasskamp (global dis:connect)

14:30 – 14:35 Short break

14:35 – 14:50 Concluding remarks
by Camille Serchuk (global dis:connect)

14:50 – 15:15 Final discussion

15:30 – 17:30 A curated walk through the English Garden and Munich city centre by Raphaela Loosen (global dis:connect)