

# LANGUAGES OF THE ANTHROPOCENE 2024

organised by **FLORIAN MUSSGNUG**, **SIMONA CORSO** and **IOLANDA PLESCIA**  
Concept concert *The Languages of Water. Musical Blue Stories from Shakespeare to Now*  
curated by **MADDALENA PENNACCHIA**

18-20 JUNE 2024



Holly Hendry, "Talkie", 2018. Copyright Holly Hendry. Image courtesy of the artist and Frutta Gallery, Rome. Photography by Roberto Apa

## TUESDAY 18 JUNE

Sala Ignazio Ambrogio | Dipartimento di Lingue, Letterature e Culture Straniere  
Università degli Studi Roma Tre | Via del Valco di San Paolo 19 | 00142 Rome

11:20 WELCOME

11:30 INTRODUCTION

**FLORIAN MUSSGNUG** (University College London | Roma Tre University)

11:45 OPENING KEYNOTE LECTURE

**ANAIS MAURER** (Rutgers University | CAPAS)

*Fighting Nuclear Colonialism and Climate Imperialism from the Empire's Edge*

12:45 LUNCH

14:00 AGAINST CLIMATE COLONIALITY

Chair: **VINCENZO MAGGITHI** (Roma Tre University)

**CYDNEY PHILLIP** (University College London)

*Liquid Plantationocene: Narratives of Water from the U.S. Gulf Coast*

**ELEONORA ROSSI** (Birkbeck University London)

*Flows of Change: Resistance in Contemporary Indigenous Australian Fiction*

15:30 COFFEE

15:45 ENTANGLEMENTS, TEMPORALITIES, AND KINSHIP

Chair: **LUCA MARCOZZI** (Roma Tre University)

**GERO BAUER** (University of Tübingen), *Facing the Present: Narrative and Critical Moods in Times of Crisis*

**SILVIA VITTONATTO** (University College London) *Uomini e sterpi: Ecological Precarity and Plant-Human Entwinements*

17:15 CONCLUDING REMARKS (DAY ONE)

"Moby Dick", Via Edgardo Ferrati, 3a, 00154 Roma

**18:15 THE LANGUAGES OF WATER. MUSICAL BLUE STORIES FROM SHAKESPEARE TO NOW**

Concept concert curated by Maddalena Pennacchia (Roma Tre University), with Juliano Abramovay (fretless guitar), Chrysanthi Gkika (lyra), Stefano Nench (guitar), Stefano Nunzi (bass), Alessandro Luccioli (percussion), Maddalena Pennacchia (voice)

## WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE

Sainsbury Lecture Theatre | British School at Rome  
Via Antonio Gramsci 61 | 00197 Rome

9:00 WELCOME

9:10 VOICES OF THE ANTHROPOCENE

Chair: **COURTNEY QUAINANCE** (British School at Rome)

**MICHAEL DUNN** (Heidelberg University | CAPAS)

*Singing Through the Slothocene: The Voice(s) of Apocalyptic Prophecy*

**MADDALENA PENNACCHIA** (Roma Tre University) and **JULIANO ABRAMOVAY** (Durham University | Codarts University for the Arts)  
*Human Landscapes, Transcreation, and Music*

10:30 COFFEE

10:50 CREATIVE-CRITICAL INTERVENTION

**CAITRÍONA NÍ DHÚILL** (University of Salzburg)

*Andiamo / Let's Get Out of Here: Kinetic Thinking and Radical Relocalisation*

11:30 NARRATIVES OF DIVERSITY AND DISSENT

Chair: **CATERINA ROMEO** (Sapienza University of Rome)

**ROBERT FOLGER** (Heidelberg University | CAPAS)

*Cannibals: Indigenous Apocalypse and Colonialism*

**SIMONA CORSO** (Roma Tre University)

*Decolonial Indignation: Voices from the Caribbean*

13:00 LUNCH

14:00 SPECULATIVE TEMPORALITIES

Chair: **EMILIA DI ROCCO** (Sapienza University of Rome)

**GIULIA MAGRO** (Sapienza University of Rome)

*Future (Im)Perfect: Ecomediievalist Temporalities in Science Fiction*

**ABIGAIL BLEACH** (University College London)

*Out of Time: Nuclear Semiotics and the Medieval(ish) Anthropocene*

15:30 COFFEE

16:00 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES

Chair: **GIUSEPPE EPISCOPO** (Roma Tre University)

**BIRGIT NEUMANN** (Düsseldorf University)

*"Neatly Dismantled" Infrastructures in Speculative Fiction: The Pharmakon of the Anthropocene*

**RHYS WILLIAMS** (University of Glasgow)

*Feeling Our Way Through: Imaginaries, Communities, and Infrastructures of Energy*

17:30 BREAK

18:00 PUBLIC KEYNOTE LECTURE

Chair: **SIMONA CORSO**

**SHAUL BASSI** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)

*Othello in the Anthropocene*

19:30 DRINKS

20:00 CONFERENCE DINNER

## THURSDAY, 20 JUNE

Dipartimento di Studi Europei, Americani e Interculturali  
Edificio Marco Polo | Viale dello Scalo San Lorenzo 82 | 00159 Rome

9:00 WELCOME

9:15 CARTOGRAPHIES OF THE

(POST)MODERNIST ANTHROPOCENE

Chair: **IOLANDA PLESCIA** (Sapienza University of Rome)

**FLORIAN MUSSGNUG** (University College London | Roma Tre University) *Unlearning the End of History: from Postmodernism to Early Anthropocene*

**ASIA BATTILORO** (Sapienza University of Rome) *Ec[h]ologies of Modernism in Amy Sackville's Polar Novel The Still Point*

**ADAM STOCK** (York St John University | CAPAS) *Colonial Cartographies and Apocalyptic Imaginaries: Deserts at the End of the World*

11:15 COFFEE

11:45 GENRES OF THE (POST)MODERNIST ANTHROPOCENE

Chair: Ali Deharidad (Sapienza University Rome)

**ROSANNE GALLENNE** (University College Dublin)

*Sheila Wingfield's Ecopoetry: Preserving Class or Preserving Nature?*

**ANNAMARIA ELIA** (Sapienza University of Rome)

*Voices from the Elsewhere: Surrealism and Posthumanism in Antoine Volodine*

**DANIEL FINCH-RACE** (University of Bologna)

*Postmodern Currents in Beate Geissler and Oliver Sann's How Does the World End (for Others)?*

13:30 CONCLUSIONS AND LUNCH

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD: Florian Mussgnug (UCL | Roma Tre University), Simona Corso (Roma Tre University), Felicitas Loest (Heidelberg University), Luca Marcozzi (Roma Tre University), Maddalena Pennacchia (Roma Tre University), Iolanda Plescia (Sapienza University Rome), Courtney Quaintance (British School at Rome), Jenny Stümer (Heidelberg University)

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