New Ecotones
An international conference
June 11-13, 2015

PROGRAMME

Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier
Site Saint-Charles

Salle des colloques n°2 (Thursday June 11)
Salle des colloques n°1 (Friday June 12 & Saturday June 13)

Guest Writer
Romesh Gunesekera

Guest Film Director
Jayan K. Cherian

Keynote Speakers
Elizabeth DeLoughrey (UCLA)
Gaurav Desai (Tulane University)

Saturday June 13

9.45-11.00 Urban Cartographies of the Ecotone
Chair: John Hawley
Magali Compan (The College of William & Mary)
Street Art and Palimpsest Memories on Reunion Island
Frederick Staidum Jr (Muhlenberg College)
An American Ecotone: Post/Colonial Pastiche and Early Cartographies of the Louisiana Purchase
Charles Joseph (Université d’Angers)
Rereading the Origins of Postmodern Urbanity: Los Angeles Coming of Age or the Result of Mediatized Colonization

11.00-11.30 Tea and Coffee

11.30-12.30 Biopolitics and the Ecotone
Chair: Judith Misrahi-Barak (EMMA Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier)
Vanessa Agard-Jones (Yale University)
Body Burdens: Genealogies and Geographies of Biopower in Martinique
Anny-Dominique Curtius (University of Iowa)
Cannibalizing the Blue Guide and Conceptualizing the Morne: Suzanne Césaire’s Creolized Ecopoetics

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.45 From Destruction to Regeneration: Reenchanting the Ecotone?
Chair: Elizabeth DeLoughrey
Aparajita Nanda (UC Berkeley)
Destruction to Regeneration: Octavia Butler’s Oankali and the Hindu Trinity
Caroline Durand-Rous (Université de Perpignan et Université Bordeaux-Montaigne)
Going Places and Going Native: Reinventing Totems in David Treuer’s Novels
Bénédicte Meillon (Université de Perpignan)
Postcolonial and Ecocritical Readings of Liminality in Linda Hogan’s Solar Storms and People of the Whale

15.00-15.30 Concluding Remarks and Looking Ahead

Contact: Judith.misrahi-barak@univ-montp3.fr
**Thursday June 11**

**8.30 Registration**

**9.15 Opening of the conference by Prof Christine Reynier, director of EMMA**

**9.30-10.30 Setting the Stage (1): Material and Immaterial Ecotones**
*Chair: Maggi Morehouse (Coastal Carolina University)*
- **John Hawley** *(Santa Clara University)*
  Why Can't We All Just Get Along: Politics and the Tangibility of Place
- **Simanique Moody** *(Leiden University)*
  Contact Zones in Contact: Language and Liminal Spaces in Southeast Georgia

**10.30-11.00 Tea and Coffee**

**11.00-12.30 Setting the Stage (2): Material and Immaterial Ecotones**
*Chair: Thomas Lacroix (MIGRINTER Université de Poitiers)*
- **Sabine Sielke** *(University of Bonn)*
  Ecotoning Inter-and Transciplinarity
- **Marie Kruger** *(University of Iowa)*
  Memorial Spaces: Encounters between Witnesses, Curators and Visitors in a former Apartheid Prison
- **Jill Didur** *(Concordia University)*
  Walk this Way: Locative Media, Gardens as Ecotones

**12.30-13.15 Keynote Address by Gaurav Desai (Tulane University)**
Crabs that Rule the Tide of Destiny: Imagining the Ecotone in Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide*

**13.15-14.15 Lunch**

**14.15-15.00 Keynote Address by Romesh Gunesekera**
Finding the Line

**15.15-16.15 Transnational Ecotones**
*Chair: Nelly Mok (EMMA - Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier)*
- **Clara Rachel Bybalin Casséus** *(MIGRINTER – Université de Poitiers)*
  Creolization, Citizenship and Mobilities: The Case of Haitian Associations in Guadeloupe and Martinique
- **Claire Gallien** *(IRCL Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier)*
  From Colonial Condominium and Post-Colonial Nation-States to Literary Ecotone: The Reconfiguration of Space in Leila Aboulela’s *Lyrics Alley*

**16.15-16.45 Tea and Coffee**

---

**Friday June 12**

**9.15-10.30 Between Land and Sea: Troubled Winds and Waters**
*Chair: Maggi Compan*

**Anne Cirella-Urrutia** *(Huston-Tillotson University Austin)*
Transient Communities and The Edge Effect in Dominique Mwankumi’s *Picture Book*

**Srilata Ravi** *(University of Alberta)*
Liminality and Resilience: Tropical Cyclones in Mauritian literature

**Yvonne Reddick** *(University of Central Lancashire Preston)*
Delta Blues: Conflict, Pollution and Literature in the Niger Delta

**10.30-11.00 Tea and Coffee**

**11.00-12.00 Oceanic Economies**
*Chair: Srilata Ravi*

**Kathleen Flanagan** *(University of North Carolina Chapel Hill)*
Garden to Graveyard: American Samoa in John Kneubuhl’s *Think of a Garden*

**Megan MacDonald** *(Koç University Istanbul)*
When Water becomes Wall: A Critical Re-thinking of Liquidity in the Mediterranean

**12.30-13.00 Keynote Address by Elizabeth DeLoughrey (UCLA)**
Maritime Futures of the Anthropocene

**13.15-14.15 Lunch**

**14.15-15.00 Keynote Address by Romesh Gunesekera**
Finding the Line

**15.15-16.15 Transnational Ecotones**
*Chair: Nelly Mok (EMMA - Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier)*

**Claire Rachel Bybalin Casséus** *(MIGRINTER – Université de Poitiers)*
Creolization, Citizenship and Mobilities: The Case of Haitian Associations in Guadeloupe and Martinique

**Claire Gallien** *(IRCL Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier)*
From Colonial Condominium and Post-Colonial Nation-States to Literary Ecotone: The Reconfiguration of Space in Leila Aboulela’s *Lyrics Alley*

**16.15-16.45 Tea and Coffee**

**18.00-19.15 A Reading at the Auditorium du Musée Fabre**
Romesh Gunesekera, in Conversation with Judith Misrahi-Barak and Thibault Prieur

**20.00 Conference Dinner at the Restaurant Le Duo**