



**Netherlands American Studies Association
2021 Conference**

A Superpower by Nature: The Environment and American Studies

December 3-4, 2021

PROGRAM

(Note: Conference now entirely online)

You can register for this conference by clicking the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-superpower-by-nature-the-environment-in-american-studies-tickets-193367747137>

Friday, December 3, 2021

Panel 1 (9:30-11:00):

Ecological Poetics, Culture, and Power:

1. Nick Selby, University of East Anglia, *Limit and Scale: Robert Creeley's ecological poetics*
2. Elise Page, University of East Anglia, *"A Human(ities) Ecology of Post-9/11 New York: The Twin Towers' Legacy of Dust"*
3. Tim Jelfs, University of Groningen, *"Well, somebody has to do something!": First Reformed and Contemporary Liberalism*

Panel 2 (9:30-11:00):

(Re-)Claiming the Land:

1. Mark L. Thompson, University of Groningen, *"Whose Woods? The Struggles to Possess the Forests of Early Pennsylvania"*
2. Nathaniel Sikand-Youngs, University of Nottingham, *Wild Wealth: The Economy of Nature in the Conservationist Writing of Early Twentieth-Century California*
3. Jennifer Cowe, University of British Columbia, *'We are now in the mountains and they are in us': Solastalgia, Manifest Destiny and the Contemporary Ideological Battle for America's Environmental Legacy*

11:00-11:30 COFFEE BREAK

Panel 3 (11:30-13:00):

The Aquatic in American Studies:

1. Yesmina Khedhir, University of Debrecen, *The Deep: An Ecological Fable of the Transatlantic Slave Trade Memory*
2. Dorka Tamás, University of Exeter, *The Atlantic Ocean in Sylvia Plath's Writings*
3. Stephanie Sommerfeld, University of Göttingen, *The Racial Politics of the Blue Sublime in Contemporary North American Art*
4. Falana Gbenga, Obafemi Awolowo University, *Eco-activism, Indigenous Knowledge, and Endangered Nature: Musical Narratives of Flood Disasters in New Orleans and Ibadan*

Panel 4 (11:30-13:00):

Contemporary Environmental Activism:

1. Eleanor Griffiths, University of Nottingham, *Green New Deal in Appalachia*
2. Frank Mehring, Radboud University, *Art and Climate Change: Green Conceptual Art in Transatlantic Perspectives*
3. Jelte Olthof, University of Groningen, *Greta Thunberg delivered at the 2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit*

13:00-14:30: LUNCH

14:30-16:00: Keynote 1 and RIAS Environmental Lecture – Megan Black (MIT)

16:00-16:30 COFFEE BREAK

Panel 5 (16:30-18:00):

Flora and Fauna in the Anthropocene:

1. Barrie Blatchford, Columbia University, *Dispatches from "Anthropoid Ellis Island": Henry Trefflich's Mid-Century Monkey Business*
2. Scott Zukowski, Library of America, *Local and Global Ecologies in Poe's "Murders in the Rue Morgue"*
3. Leonor María Martínez Serrano, Universidad de Córdoba, *The Wisdom of Trees: Robert Bringham on the Persistence of Poetry and the Destruction of the World*

Panel 6 (16:30-18:00):

Environmental Frontiers:

1. Jason L. Newton, University of North Carolina, *Reexamining Turner's Frontier Thesis in American History: Connecting Labor and Nature*
2. Astrid Haas, University of Central Lancashire, *Landscapes and Lifeways: Engaging with Western Nature in the Autobiography of James Beckwourth*
3. Elisa Bordin, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, *'State' violence: Nuclear tests and eco-terrorism in The Secret History of Las Vegas by Chris Abani*

Saturday, December 4, 2021

13:30-15:00: Keynote 2 – Martyn Bone (University of Copenhagen)

Panel 7 (15:00-16:30):

Indigenous Environmental Justice:

1. Jeanine Quené, University of Cambridge, *A 'Civilized' Nature: Indian Boarding Schools as Sites of Environmental Knowledge Contestation*
2. Doro Wiese, University of Warwick/Radboud University, *Dwelling upon a Remembered Earth: Relational Aesthetics in N Scott Momaday's Earth Keeper (2020)*
3. Laura De Vos, Radboud University, *"The Constant Present Absence:" #NoDAPL and the Struggle against Settler Manifest Destiny on Indigenous Lands*

Panel 8 (15:00-16:30):

Environmental Activism, Politics, and Policy:

1. Elizabeth Hameeteman, Boston University, *Pipe Dreams: Desalination and the Promise of Unlimited Water and Power in the 1950s and 1960s*
2. Dario Fazzi, RIAS, *"Ban the Burn:" The Trans-Local Struggle against Ocean Incineration*
3. Megan Maartens, University of Groningen, *Planet Passivism: Reclaiming Power Amidst a Climate Crisis*

Organized by the **Netherlands American Studies Association** and the **Roosevelt Institute for American Studies**

